

## REV. M. GREGSON PIONEER OF THE COUNTY, DIED

Passed Away Tuesday Night at the  
Home of Daughter in Mar-  
shalltown

HE FIRST SETTLED IN  
UNION TWP IN 1854

Mr. Gregson Was Founder of Little  
Mount Church and Will Be  
Buried There Today ....

Rev. Martin Gregson, a pioneer preacher and farmer of Poweshiek county, and organizer of the Little Mount Baptist church, seven miles west of Montezuma, of which he was pastor forty years, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ray Butler, 907 East State street, at 8:30 Tuesday night. Rev. Mr. Gregson died of weakness brought on by extreme age. He was 91.

In 1854, when 22, Mr. Gregson, having gone with his father to Texas, came alone to Union township, Poweshiek county, and settled. He bought a timber tract, cleared it, reared a

family of ten, organized the Little Mount church in the spring of 1856, became its pastor and continued to preach until 1896. He was of the rugged religious type of settler, a leader in the community, noted for his integrity and Christian character, and it was with reluctance that his congregation finally consented to his leaving them. Mr. Gregson has lived here fifteen years since retiring from work.

Mr. Gregson was born in Owen county, Indiana, July 10, 1832. He was twice married, both wives being dead, but all ten children born of his marriages survive. They, in addition to Mrs. Butler, are Mrs. Will Pilgrim, Detroit, Mich.; D. P. Gregson, sheriff of Poweshiek county, Montezuma; A. B. Gregson, New Sharon; M. M. Gregson, Grinnell; Rev. E. M. Gregson, Eldon; L. L. Gregson, Marshalltown; Mrs. Frank Falkenberg and George T. Gregson, Spokane and C. A. Gregson, Newton. Rev. Mr. Gregson was the last of a family of ten.

The body is to be taken to the Little Mount church and there the funeral will be held at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

*1st M. MARY Jane Liberton 1851  
2nd ELIZA CARPENTER 1858*

GREGSON, REV. M.—Was born July 10, 1831, in Owen county, Indiana, where his father remained for five years thereafter, and then moved into Morgan county. In 1854 the whole family, excepting a brother and sister, journeyed to Texas and resided in Kaufman county. There seemed a disposition to settle in a more desirable locality, accordingly in the fall of 1855 they turned their steps northward and safely reached the settlement in Union township, Poweshiek county, Iowa, where the subject of this sketch now resides. He married Mary Jane Robertson, June 15, 1851, in Owen county, Indiana. By this marriage there were two children: Theodore P. and America Ann. Theodore P. died at the age of five. America Ann married W. H. Harris, and now resides in Chapin, Iowa. Mr. Gregson was married the second time September 30, 1858, to Eliza A. Carpenter. There are ten children by his present wife: Mabel A. (born October 20, 1859), Commodore G. (born August 30, 1861, and died March 1, 1862), Mary J. F. (born March 26, 1864, and died September 3, 1865), Dayton P. (born September 4, 1866), Amos B. (born November 25, 1868), Morton M. (born February 23, 1871), Eli M. (born May 15, 1873), Levi L. (born September 28, 1875), Nellie E. (born September 5, 1877), Sarah A. (born December 2, 1879). Rev. Gregson was licensed in 1852, and ordained to preach the gospel in the regular Baptist Church in 1854. He became pastor of the Baptist Church in Union township, Poweshiek county, Iowa, in the spring of 1856, and with the exception of two intervals of about five years in all, has acted in this capacity until the present time. For the past six years he has presided over the little flock with no intermission. He has been so well esteemed for his integrity, christian character and valuable services rendered the church and congregation, that they have not consented to his leaving his charge. It is now twenty-five years since he commenced to minister to this people—a length of time seldom known in the history of any church. He owns a fine farm, well watered by a never failing stream, considerable timber, a large orchard, cattle, hogs, a good house, and all things for comfort.