(Levi H)

MRS. EDITH H. MARSH, our estimable subject, who has resided at Grinnell, Iowa, since October, 1854, was born at Springfield, Vt., June 15, 1815, being the daughter of Daniel Hall, a native of Jeffrey, N. H., the latter a son of Nathan Hall, born in Connecticut. The grandfather was a farmer and early settler, and the father was a farmer, and was chosen a selectman. The latter died at the age of eighty-eight years. Mrs. Marsh's mother, Annie (Dutton) Hall, was born in Westmoreland County, N. H., being the daughter of Stephen Dutton, born in Chelmsford, Mass., the last-named having been an hotel-keeper at Chester, Vt., who died at Rockingham, Vt. The mother of Mrs. Marsh died in Vermont, at the age of seventy-eight. She was the mother of eight children, our subject being the sixth, and only two of them are living.

Our subject was reared at Springfield, Vt., where she attended the common schools and afterward was a student in the Chester Academy for ladies. She was married at Hartford, March 29, 1842, to Levi Hazen Marsh, a native of Hartford or Quechee, Vt. He owned and operated the same farm that his father and grandfather had owned. He was a successful husbandman, and had a contract on the Vermont Eastern Central Railroad, which proved profitable. Mr. Marsh owned a woodland tract at Sharon, and engaged in the wood business; also set up a sawmill, and embarked in the lumber trade, continuing in the latter until 1852, when he went to Kenosha, Wis., and settled upon a farm. Then, in May, 1854, he reached Iowa and bought a farm in the present corporate limits of Grinnell, paying $2.10 per acre, the tract containing one hundred and twenty acres.

Upon this land the husband of our subject planted eight acres in forest trees, from which he afterward cut fence posts. The family reached Grinnell October 6, 1854, and Mr. Marsh applied himself diligently, improving the land and buying more, continuing to buy and sell land until his death, in May, 1886. At one time his widow had nine hundred acres. During his busy life he had a contract for one mile of construction of the Iowa Central Railroad, through the city of Grinnell. The home of Mrs. Marsh has always been in Grinnell, during the lifetime of Mr. Marsh as well as since her widowhood. Their first home was the largest house in the place, except the hotel, and during the war they boarded recruits for the army. Mrs. Marsh owns one hundred and sixty acres in Jasper County, and three valuable residences. She is the mother of five children, and is spending the evening of her life at Grinnell, where she has lived thirty-nine years, finding solace in her children and pleasure in the society of her many [illegible]

Mrs. Mary E. Buck, the eldest child, resides in Jasper County, Iowa. George, the second, is a graduate of Iowa College, and holds the degrees of A. B. and A. M.; he graduated from the theological seminary at Chicago with the degree of B. L., then took a one-year course at Yale, from which he graduated, and has been located as a missionary in Bulgaria since 1872. Charles H., the third child, was educated at Iowa College, and is a farmer in Sugar Creek Township, where he has twelve hundred acres in one body; he is a stock dealer and a land speculator. Miss Ella E., the fourth, is a graduate of Iowa College, of the Class of '68; she has taught in various parts of Iowa, and is quite prominent in missionary and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union work. Hammond L., the fifth, is a graduate of Iowa College and of the Theological Institute at Chicago, and pastor of the Congregational Church at Denmark, Iowa. Our subject is a useful and consistent member of the Congregational Church, in which two of her sons are most earnest and popular ministers.

4-17-1903 (LEVI)

MRS. EDITH HALL MARSH

It was on Wednesday last, the 15th inst., that the funeral crape on the house built by Levi H. Marsh indicated that another had passed on into the Unseen. Mrs. Edith Hall Marsh, on that morning, closed an earthly life of almost eighty-eight years and a residence in Grinnell of forty-eight and a half.

Her native place was Springfield, Vt., and her birthday was the day of death for thousands at Waterloo. She had the common advantages of Vermont girls, and better as a student in a ladies' seminary, and like many of them she worked in a factory and taught school.

She became the second wife of Levi H. Marsh, March 29, 1842, and a mother to his seven year old daughter, now Mrs. Elmo L. Clapp of North Grafton, Mass. She joined Mr. Marsh in Quechee, on the farm opened by his grandfather, where her first four living children were born, viz., Edna, now Mrs. G. H. Hock of Gravette, Ark., George D. of Philippopolis, Bulgaria, Charles H. of Redfield, So. Dak., and Ella E. of Grinnell. Her son, Hammond L., now a pastor in Ottawa, Kansas, was born here.

After a residence of about two years in Sharon, and one and a half in Wisconsin, the family came to Grinnell through information gained from Mr. Lewis C. Phelps, Sr.

Her arrival here was on October 6, 1854, the year of Grinnell's beginning. She had the earliest possible introduction to all the discomforts of the pioneer hamlet by moving four times in their first three weeks in town. The fourth removal was into their own house, if that is the proper name for a structure built out of two feet of pine boards on three sides with shafts on the fourth, and a roof that seemed much like a sieve when it rained. It taxed her ingenuity to protect the children from the storms by night, and required all her strength to provide for her family by day, a family so often increased by newcomers or travelers.

Ten years later the Marsh house was "the largest private one in town." The Provost Marshal's office was in Grinnell in 1861. Soldiers gathered here and must be fed. Mrs. Marsh did not refuse that service, for the government demanded the use of the house, and, if it was to be used, she preferred to use it herself. More than sixty men were sometimes given meals and lodging there at one time.

The Marsh family has always been noted for laborious industry. Every child was trained to be "diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord," and the parents taught by precept and by example. Through all her early privations and through years of often annoying toil, she carried the same sweet spirit, the same gentle voice and attractive smile, and beneath and through it all was her serene, uplifting faith in her divine Father that all things were working together for good.

She became a christian through the influence of Evangelist Burchard in New England, was a charter member of the church then organized and also of the Congregational church here.

More feeble for the last few years she was especially so during some two weeks at last, and then dropped off somewhat suddenly in the end. Her sweetness and helpfulness now all beets during her life, and when she needed care her youngest daughter was in her home to be her ministering angel. It was a great pleasure to her, also, that her only children were so near her, and the children of her oldest son came back from the Bulgarian missionary field to be in our home. Her life has been a spiritual benediction to us. The wanted her daughter, two years ago, suggest the volume of her history, "Happy in her friends, her children, her hopes, our mother's placid saint, abides in the home she has so long blessed." Happy greetings above in these homes.

The funeral services were conducted from the home this afternoon at 3 o'clock by Rev. E. M. Vittum and Prof. L. F. Parker, and the interment was in Hazelwood cemetery, the grandsons of the deceased as pall bearers, tenderly placing her in her last resting place.

his account was wrote Turner, at the newspaper and is studious in admin as m. of Iowa Co.

The funeral gregational The services E. M. Vitt. Musselstine, ion and Pr priately.

LEVI (HAZEN)

MARSH, Mrs. Edith H., b. Springfield, Vt., 1815, daughter of Daniel Hall of Jeffry, N. H., he the son of Nathan Hall of Connecticut. Her mother, Annie (Dutton) Hall b. Westmoreland, N. H., daughter of Stephen Dutton of Chelsford, Mass. She m. at Hartford, 1842, Levi Hazen Marsh. Mother of five children, Mrs. Mary E. Buck, George, Charles H., Ella E., and Hammond L. Edith Hall Marsh d. at Grinnell Apr. 15, 1903, at her home, aged 88, a resident of Grinnell 48 years. She was the mother of five children, four of them b. in Quechy, Vt., on the farm of his grandfather.

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