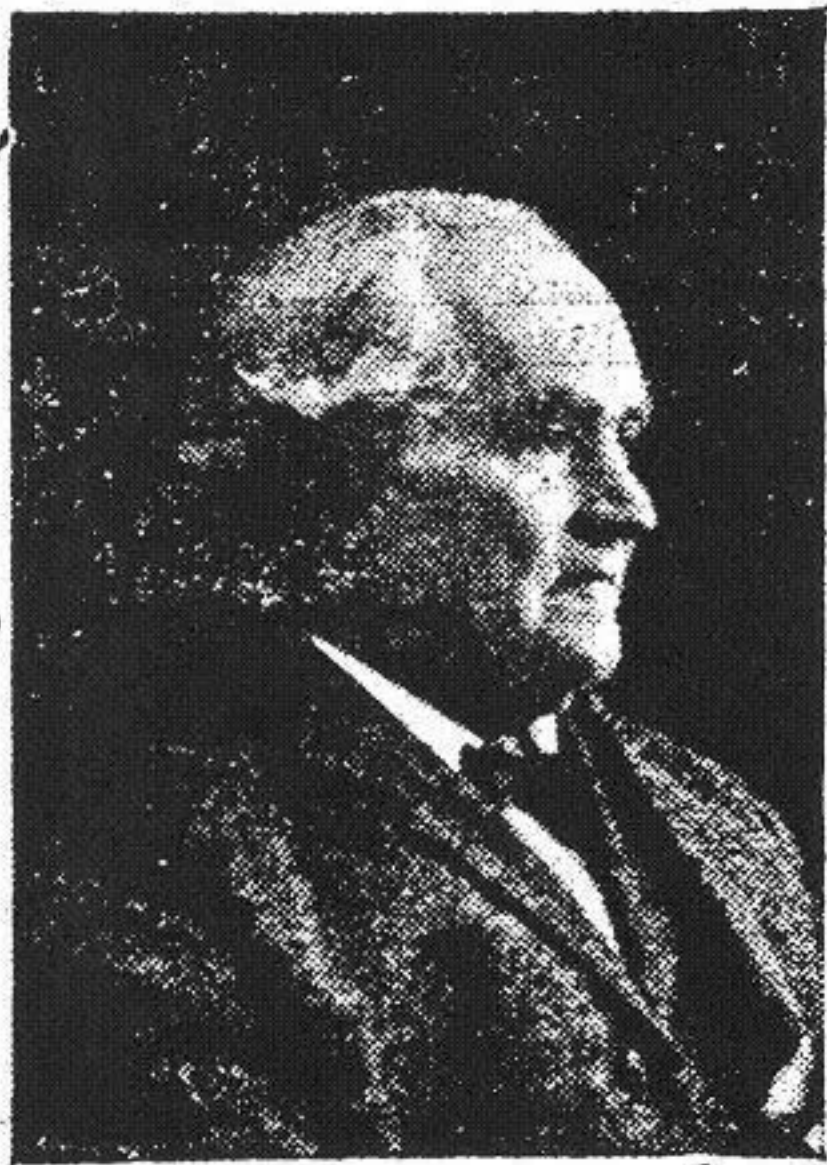


Passing of Martin V. Easterday.

Brief mention was made in this paper last week of the fact that Martin V. Easterday had died at Tacoma, Wash., on Thursday, April 22, 1915. He had been in failing health for several years and was confined to his bed for some two weeks in the final illness. The cause of death was disease incidental to age. He was aged eighty-nine years, seven months and twenty-four days.

Martin Van Buren Easterday, son of Christian and Anna (Stemple) Easterday, was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, August 29, 1825. His boyhood days were spent there, where he received the preliminaries of his education, which was completed at Muhlenburg college. Upon leaving college Mr. Easterday taught school for a few years, and then engaged in farming, which occupation was his during a considerable portion of the active years of his life. September 2, 1852, Mr. Easterday was married to Miss Margaret J. Huston of Jefferson county, and soon after their marriage, they



located in Montgomery county, Ills., purchasing a farm, where they continued to reside for seventeen years. During their residence in Illinois marked the epoch of the Civil war, and Mr. Easterday volunteered his services in the interests of his country, becoming a member of Company F, 126th regiment Illinois volunteers, at Springfield. He was twice promoted in this regiment, to second and first lieutenantcy, and was honorably discharged at the close of the war.

The Tecumseh Chieftain, Johnson County, NE
May 1, 1915

In 1871 Mr. Easterday and his family came to Tecumseh, and he invested in farm lands which were partly improved, improving the same and later engaging in farming here for a great many years. In an early day Mr. Easterday was engaged in the implement business here, and in 1877 he was elected treasurer of Johnson county. He was honored with re-election to this office in 1879. He also filled in a most satisfactory manner various school and township offices. In his early life Mr. Easterday was a member of the Lutheran church and in the days of twenty-five or thirty years ago both he and his wife were members of the Universalist church in this city. He was prominently identified with the Masonic orders for years, being a Knight Templar.

Mr. and Mrs. Easterday were the parents of eight children, all being born in Illinois. Four are deceased, Oliver C. dying at the age of twenty-one years, Horace H. in 1889, and the other two in infancy. Charles Milton, Stephen A. and Joseph H. reside at Tacoma, and Philip S. at Portland, Ore. Mrs. Easterday passed away December 9, 1908, at the age of seventy-six years, five months and ten days.

Mr. Easterday was a man of generous impulses, and never forgot the hospitable ways of the pioneer. The stranger, even though a beggar, invariably found food and shelter if he sought it at his hands. During his long life he had borne adversity bravely, and enjoyed prosperity quietly. He had experienced seeing a most remarkable development of this section during his residence here. He was public spirited, a good public servant, and interested in the events of the home community, state and nation, for he was a great reader and always well informed. He had filled the various relations of life — as son, husband, father, friend — and filled them well. Who can do more? His life was in accordance with the teachings of the Good Book as he saw them, and he was a bible student, and he died a firm believer in the future life, where his family, now so badly broken here, will be happily reunited.

The funeral was held at Tacoma on Friday of last week, after which the son, Milton, accompanied the remains east. At Lincoln he was joined by nephews and other relatives of the deceased, who came on to Tecumseh. A short service was held at the Presbyterian church here, at 3:30 o'clock, Monday afternoon, conducted by Rev. W. W. Alverson, pastor of the church. Many of the pioneer residents, old soldiers, members of the Masonic lodge, and others were in attendance. The burial was in the family lot in the Tecumseh cemetery.