

EATON LITTLEFIELD DEAD

The Demise Occurs Shortly After Midnight

Another One of Quincy's Pioneer Pastors
Avery—For Years Prominent as a Build-
ing Contractor and Real Estate Owner—
Constructed Many Prominent Buildings.

Eaton Littlefield breathed his last at the family residence, 220 South Twenty-fourth street, at 12:10 last midnight.

Two years ago he was attacked with the then prevalent grip and from its effects never fully recovered. For the past three months he had been perceptibly failing, and for ten days had been confined to his bed with what from the first friends realized would prove his last illness.

Deceased was one of the pioneers of Quincy, coming from New England in 1838. He was by trade a carpenter and for years Littlefield & Banghman was one of the leading contracting firms in that line, not only in this city, but in this part of the country. Mr. Banghman died several years ago. The shops and lumber yards of the firm were at Fourth and York, and at Fifth and York Mr. Littlefield made his home—the place at present occupied by R. W. Nance. The carpenter work of Governor Wood's palace, now Chadwick College, shows to good advantage the manner of work this pioneer firm of wood-workers turned out, as do a number of houses on East Maine and Hampshire streets. It is a quarter of a century since Mr. Littlefield retired from business and he had lived a quiet life since then. He was a member of the Congregational Church, and a matter of forty years ago sang in the choir there.

Among the prominent buildings in which the firm of Littlefield & Banghman took part in construction in addition to the John Wood place mentioned above, were the residence of John Senman, the Quincy House and Wells building.

Before and during the war he aided with the Abolitionists but did not take the active part in assisting fugitive slaves that his wife's father, J. K. Van Dorn did. Mr. Van Dorn and others were prominent

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slave friends and assisted many a darkey with food, clothing, shelter and money. Mr. Littlefield made a room especially for their reception and safe-keeping in the Quincy House, donating the material and work, but otherwise was not prominent in the movement. Mr. Van Dorn and his co-workers were at the head of the projected underground railroad scheme that was to assist fugitive slaves to reach freedom. Pending its construction they assisted the fugitives here and sent them to Galesburg where a similar enterprise took charge of them and forwarded them to Chicago, whence they made their way to Canada, hundreds of them settling between Windsor and London. Between these two points at Burton, in Kent County, Ontario, a colony of them settled and they or their families are still there.

Had he lived another month Mr. Littlefield would have attained the eightieth anniversary of his birth. His was a thrifty nature and he took up large land claims, at one time owning about all the realty lying between Maine and State and east of Twenty-fourth to the limits, and a fine farm out on Broadway. From the sale of this and other lands and from the profits of his business he amassed a fortune. He dies possessed of a competency of \$75,000 or more.

He was married fifty-four years ago to Miss Van Dorn. She survives with an adopted son, Frank, formerly a letter carrier here, now employed in the C., B. & Q. railroad shops at Aurora. He arrived last night in answer to a dispatch announcing the approaching demise of his father parent. Mrs. W. G. Berry is a sister of Mrs. Littlefield. Deceased leaves one brother.

The older generation of residents of Quincy knew Mr. Littlefield more intimately than does the younger. Those who knew him best have only kind words to speak of him. He was honest in all his dealings and practiced in every-day life the Christianity which he professed. His was a familiar figure in the city from its hamlet days and with its removal there goes one of the human landmarks, the ranks of which are yearly being thinned by death.

A. A. & Co. Undertakers and Embalmers

Error
4th & Kentucky