

THE LITTLETON GUIDON.

Forty-Second Year

Littleton, Mass. Saturday, October 9, 1909.

No. 4. Price Four Cents

Augustus P. Hager passed away last Saturday morning at the home of his son, John H. Hager, in Gardner, where he had been affectionately cared for by Mr. and Mrs. Hager during the last five months or more. Death was due to senile debility. For two years the infirmities of age had been sapping his strength and clouding his mental vision. It was indeed pathetic to see their rapid inroads upon a physique that had remained intact for more than sixty years without a hint of disease or ailment. It is supposed that Mr. Hager suffered the last of several shocks a week ago last Sunday, when he fell, injuring one hip so badly that he was obliged to take his bed. From that time he failed rapidly until the death angel peacefully closed his eyes from terrestrial scenes.

The body was removed to his Littleton home, where the funeral was held Monday afternoon. Many relatives and friends were present to pay a final tribute of respect to their highly esteemed townsmen. Rev. H. B. Drew conducted the services, and Mrs. Priest and Mrs. Hartwell rendered two favorite selections, "Lead, kindly light," and "Nearer my God to thee."

The abundance of beautiful flowers mutely expressed the esteem and sympathy of loyal friends. The body was laid to rest by the side of his wife just as the last rays of sunlight were giving place to the evening shadows.

Augustus P. Hager was born in Boston ~~January~~ 31, 1831. When he was about ten years old his parents moved to Pelham, N. H., and later to Lowell, where he was educated. At the age of eighteen he became a travelling salesman selling dry goods and small wares in Maine and New Hampshire. With his parents he moved to Wilton, N. H., where they lived until Augustus was about twenty-two. He then bought what is now known as the Teele place in West Acton and carried on that farm until he was twenty-six years old, when he disposed of it in order to purchase of the late Edwin Robinson the Littleton farm, on which

he lived with the exception of the last few months through the remaining fifty-two years of his life.

In connection with his farming he conducted various lines of business. He carried on the meat business many years, started and continued in the retail ice business for seventeen years, held a real estate agency with an office in Boston for five years, and for five years more was the senior partner of the Hager firm in the Center grocery store. He dealt extensively in cattle, and for more than fifty consecutive years drove large herds to and from his pastures in Stoddard, N. H.

The deceased was active in town affairs and held several important offices, some for many years; among them were those of collector, treasurer and constable. He took a keen interest in the lyceum and held office also in that organization.

He was a member of the Baptist church for sixty years, acting as superintendent of its Sunday school for a long time, and contributing much by way of service and funds when the church edifice was rebuilt and repaired.

Mr. Hager was married January 1, 1859, to Miss Roxanna Byam of Chelmsford, whose death occurred October 25, 1902. To them were born three sons, Frank J. of Ironwood, Mich., John H. of Gardner, and Leslie of Nashua, N. H., all of whom are married and conducting a profitable business. Through his death B. S. Hager of Littleton is now the sole representative of a family of three brothers and one sister.

A. P. Hager was so well and favorably known that a lengthy eulogy hardly seems called for here. In his home, on the farm, in business, town and church affairs he was conscientious, faithful, accommodating, progressive and under all conditions optimistic. In the memory of his fellow-townsman his life and character will ever be revered.