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Lucinda Lenore Merriss Cornell Collection
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Obituary for Mrs. Minerva Straight née Haymaker

Minerva Straight

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Obituary.

The maiden name of Mrs. Straight was Minerva Haymaker. She was born near New Albany, April 9, 1830. Her father dying, her mother afterward married Mr. Beaver.

In 1854 Miss Haymaker was married to Mr. George R. Straight. Soon after they moved to the state of Iowa, where they spent ten years, returning to this country in 1864, and the rest of her life has been spent in this vicinity.

She was the mother of six children, one, a son, died in infancy. Of the five daughters, one died at the age of 15 years. Four daughters survive and were all present with their mother when she died, one coming from Kansas, when summoned, to be present at these closing scenes. Mrs. Straight professed religion in early life. While in Iowa she was a member of the Methodist church. While residing here she became a member of this church (Presbyterian) under the pastorate of Brother Nave.

One of her prominent characteristics was her special readiness to care for the sick and her peculiar adaptation to the ministrations of the sick room, with her patient care for the suffering. She sometimes would return home from such a season of friendly service, herself to need for a time the services of others.

Such was the case in her last sickness. She watched faithfully upon a young lady, a connection of the family, in her last illness, she dying in her arms. Returning to her home she was obliged soon to take her bed, from which she never rose. Her sickness proved to be typhoid malarial fever. She patiently endured the slow wasting away through the hot days and wearisome nights, assured in her own mind that she was not to recover. She gave directions to different members of the family about matters that were now to be left in their care. She not infrequently spoke of her departure, and has even previous to this sickness shown that she was anticipat-

ing. She was resigned to go. The care of an aged mother, infirm a part of the time from a serious injuries by a fall, has kept her closely at home for many months past. Still she sometimes found opportunity to meet her christian friends in the house of God and the circle of prayer.

She died August 14, 1888, at 10 p. m., aged 58 years, 4 months and 5 days.

from his carriage near the caisson and was soon surrounded by clergymen and acolytes.

Father Foley recited a prayer, and then taking a green branch from the hands of the acolyte, with it sprinkled the grave. Again raising his voice he consecrated the grave.

The casket was then lowered into the trench. Father Foley recited another prayer and the priests and acolytes joined in chanting a hymn. The casket was then sprinkled and the religious service was closed with prayer. Immediately the cannon posted on the road below began booming. A salute of seventeen guns was fired. When this was over three musket volleys were fired. Then a bugler stepped forward near the grave. He lifted his bugle to his mouth and broke the silence by blowing the "taps," or good night call. That was the end. The troops moved back, the funeral party returned to their carriages and the concourse of people were soon on their way home. General Sheridan's last resting place is in one of the most beautiful spots in the vicinity of Washington.

Fell 900 Feet,

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Aug. 13.—John Thomas, thirty years of age, while at work lining the air-way at the head of Shaft No. 1 of the Susquehanna Coal Company, Nanticoke, Saturday, stepped from the platform upon which he was standing and fell headlong down the shaft, a distance of over 900 feet, to the bottom. In the fall through the shaft the body was stripped completely of all its clothing. Every bone in his body was broken, and the flesh was rendered soft as jelly, making it impossible to tell man's head from the trunk, so terribly mashed. A sad circumstance in connection with the tragic death of Mr. Thomas is the fact that he was to have been married yesterday to an estimable young lady of Nanticoke.

Labor Lecturers Start Out to Work

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Aug. 13.—James Wright, of this city; C. A. Hall, of Marshall, Texas; A. W. Wright, of the *Labor Reformer*, Toronto, Canada, and Morris Wheat, of Colfax, Iowa, who were selected by General Master Workman Powderly of the Knights of Labor, received final instructions Saturday from Mr. Powderly at the headquarters of the Order in this city. The men were each given a certain territory to cover, and left yesterday to begin their labors, which will be continued without interruption until November. It is the intention of the lecturers to make addresses to the public as well as to the assemblies. They will, it is thought, strengthen the membership.