

Jacob Crist, (1 May 1818 – 28 Jan 1897), People's Advocate and Press, February 3, 1897, New Bloomfield, Pa

Jacob Crist dies suddenly.- The community was startled Thursday morning to learn of the sudden death of **Mr. Jacob Crist**, at his residence, in this place, from heart disease. He had been to prayer meeting service on the evening previous, and complained that his steps were uncertain; however, he said nothing more about the unusual feeling.

Thursday morning, he arose early as usual, and a hearty breakfast, but said that he had a cramp in his breast, something to which in late years he had been subjected. Thinking that it was muscular, and he would pass away as it had done before by exercise, he sold a few sticks of wood. The pain grew worse, and after his son **Willis**, who had called to see him, left, he had his daughter **Miss Emeline** quickly prepare a mustard plaster for his breast. Hardly had she finished the application, when he suddenly without a word fell off his chair by the stove, dead. A physician was summoned, who quickly found that all life was extinct.

Jacob Crist was born in Saville Township, this county, May 1, 1818, and was consequently a 78 years 10 months and 11 days. With his parents he came to Bloomfield in 1829, where he remained until 1841, when he removed to Loysville returning to this place, with his family in 1866. While a resident here, he learned the trade of wagon making with **John Humes**, and was always recognizes a first-class workman, accurate and exact. He worked at his trade until he retired from active life.

In 1840 he was married at Loysville to **Miss Mary Ann Tressler**, the sainted Rev. John William Heim officiating. His wife preceded him in the spirit world, December 11, 1879. From this union, the following children sprung; **George W. Crist** (deceased), of Harrisburg; **Willis Crist**, of this place; **Mrs. W. H. Nielsen**, a Center Township; **Miss Emeline Crist**, of this place; **Mrs. W. H. Zimmerman**, of Madison Twp.; **J. H. Christ**, Esquire, of Santa Fe New Mexico; **Mrs. W. B. Shoaff**, of Newport. Two sisters also survive the departed, **Mrs. Michael Smith**, of Oliver Township, and **Mrs. Henry Comp**, of Newport.

In August 1835, under the Ministry of Father Heim, of the Lutheran Church, **Mr. Crist** was confirmed in the old Union Church, this borough, and was a member of the church for about 62 years. Ever since his return to this place, in 1866, he had held the office of the church and was an elder at the time of his death, having been such for the past 15 years. He was also treasurer of the church and honoring superintendent of the Sunday school. In the early 60s, **Mr. Crist** served for a term of three years, as trustee of the Lutheran seminary at Gettysburg.

Since **Mr. Crist's** retirement from active work in our midst, he had taken but little part in public matters. He was a man of broad and liberal views, and his sound judgment was often sought for guidance by his juniors. In church work the deceased was ever most active until death claimed him. When the present Lutheran Church was being built he was one of the most generous contributors and held largely in the manual way in its construction. He was the largest single contributor to this church up until his death, and in many ways was a veritable pillar. He loved his church, and was a constant attendant at all church services unless extreme physical ailment prevented. In Sabbath school and prayer meeting, Father Crist, as his fellow members reverently

called him, was always present and was first and foremost in presenting the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. His death is a great loss to the church and his demise will be felt by many a day. In the private walks of life, **Mr. Crist** was a good example to follow. No man could say aught against him and his influence, more especially among the younger generation, who has listened to his teachings are marked his daily life, walking conversation, will live in after days to the spirit show betterment of them all.

Mr. Crist was a man of more than ordinary intelligence and literary ability, which found expression in its later years of leisure and frequent valuable historical contributions to the local press as well as poems full of thought, though all of which ran the fervent exalted piety of the man.

His remains were interred in the cemetery, in this place, on Monday afternoon, a large number of relatives and friends follow the body to the place of internment. Services were held in the Lutheran Church, being conducted by Rev. A. J. Rudsill, pastor, assisted by Revs, F. T. Wheeler, of this place, and G. M. K. Defenderfer, of Newport; the text was taken from Rev. 14:13. The pallbearers were; **L. H. C. Flickinger, Henry Metz, Henry Fleisher, Samuel Dunbar, Daniel Briner** and **Philip Roth**. A beautiful flower tribute was sent by his class.