

Peter Lightner, (6 Mar 1812 – 25 May 1905), Advocate and Press, May 31, 1905, **Peter Lightner** Dead at the Great Age of 93 Years

Tuesday morning, May 23, 1905, **Peter Lightner** took seriously ill and continued to grow weaker until Thursday at 11.30 a.m. when he died at the residence of his son, **Jas. F. Lightner** who farms the old homestead situated one mile west of Landisburg, which he owned since 1861.

The deceased was born in Tyrone Township on the farm now owned by **Simon S. Sheibley** of now Spring Township, March 6, 1812, and was consequently aged 93 years, 2 months and 19 days. He was the third son of **Jacob** and **Susan (Sheibley) Lightner**, and spent nearly all his days in Tyrone Township. At the age of 18 he went to Landisburg and learned the trade of shoemaking with a man by the name of **Reese**. He went from house to house, as the custom was in the early days, and made the shoes for the family. The later years of his life were spent in farming until the infirmities of old age compelled him to relinquish it.

His opportunities for an education were meager in the rural district in those early days. He went to school two months after he was married, at the age of 25 years. He was in the war of the rebellion and enlisted Aug. 13, 1862, and was mustered out with the company, May 25, 1863. He served as quartermaster of Company H under Captain D. L. Tressler, 133rd Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, Colonel S. B. Speakman, Humphrey's Division of the Fifth Army Corps.

He was twice married, to **Miss Ann Wetzel** December 9, 1836, died June 9, 1846. To this union the following children were born: **Martha Jane**, who died in 1840; **Andrew Jacob**, who died May 22, 1858; **Catherine E.**, who resides in Harrisburg, Pa. He married **Eliza Jane Kiner**, June 19, 1847, who died Dec 26, 1876. To this union the following children: **Wm. A.**, **James F. W. Scott**, **Anna B. (Mrs. Samuel H. Sundy)**, **Jesse A.**, died June 21, 1878; **Jennie S. (Mrs. Samuel A. Dum)**, **Edward L.** All but **Edward L.** reside in Tyrone Township, who is a resident of Lebo, Spring Township.

He united with the Church of God in Sheaffer's Valley in early manhood, to which church he contributed liberally many years. In politics he was a republican since the organization of the party. There was none in his township did more for the upbuilding of the Republican Party than he. He never missed an election since he cast his first vote until last fall, when he was too feeble to go to the polls. He voted at every presidential election since the day of Jackson until McKinley's second term. He was a school director and supervisor at different times. He was a strong advocate of the free school system from its incipiency.

Mr. Lightner was the father of ten children; there are also twenty-one grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He is also survived by two brothers, **Henry** in his 96th year and **Samuel R.** in his 78th year. Four sons and three daughters survive.

He was a kind neighbor, a good citizen, a kind and good father, ever thoughtful for the welfare of his children. He was industrious, frugal and temperate of his habits. He was generous; he never turned anyone away hungry from his door or refused the lodging.

The funeral services were held at the home of his son Jas. F., with who he made his home, Sunday morning at 10.30 o'clock. Rev. W. H. Dressler of the Church of God officiating, who took as his text, Philippians 1:23. Six of his grandchildren acted as pallbearers as follows: **Howard M., Clark, Mervin N. and Noy I. Lightner, Amos Dum and Frank Sundry.** Interment in the graveyard in Sheaffer's Valley.

The funeral was one of the largest ever held in this place.

He answered the last roll call in the army on May 25, 1863, and on the 42nd anniversary from that date answered the last roll call in this life. Peace to his ashes.

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