

**William Alexander Smiley** (23 Jun 1833 – 15 Mar 1902), Peoples Advocate and Press, Wednesday, March 19, 1902, New Bloomfield

**William A. Smiley**, one of Carroll Township's most highly respected citizens was found dead in one of his fields Friday evening last week.

**Mr. Smiley** shortly after dinner remarked to his wife that he was going out to a field to clear up brush, etc., and fix the fences, preparatory to beginning plowing the next day. The day wore on and Mr. Smiley did not come to the house until the supper hour, when his son Louis, who is teaching at the Pine Hill School, came home, and upon not finding his father at home proceeded to feed the stock. The father still not appearing he became anxious and went to the field in search of him. He found the body still in death near a brush fire, so near that the face of the dead man was begrimed with smoke. Neighbors were hastily summoned and the body tenderly borne to the house.

**William A. Smiley** was born at Shermansdale June 23, 1833, and at his death was consequently 68 years, 8 months, and 21 days. He was the son of **William** and **Ann (Wilson) Smiley** and grandson of **John Smiley**, one of the pioneer settlers of Perry County, who died at the advanced age of 97 years.

Mr. Smiley received a common school education, supplemented by a course in Bloomfield Academy. He began teaching in early manhood and was engaged in that profession for thirteen years. He learned the trade of blacksmith with his brother, **Wilson Smiley**, at Shermansdale, and worked at his trade at Baltimore, Md., New Bloomfield and Shermansdale.

Deceased was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years and was thoroughly grounded in the tenets of his church. He was a man of far more than ordinary intelligence and was a clear and logical thinker.

**Mr. Smiley** was married to **Miss Martha Adair**, of Madison Township, who survives along with the following children; **Rev. L.C. Smiley**, of Gettysburg, Pa.; **W.A. Smiley**, of Chicago, Ill.; **Mrs. Laura L. Woods**, of El-Reno Oklahoma; **Annie L. Smiley**, of Chicago; **Louis A. Smiley**, at home. A sister, **Mrs. Jane R. McCaskey**, of Shermansdale, and **Benjamin F. Smiley**, of Carlisle, also survive. The following brothers and sisters are dead; **Wilson, John M., Rev. James and Margaret**.

The remains of the deceased will be interred today at Mt. Gilead, where services will be held by his pastor, Rev. T. Simpson Stansfield.