

The Whig Press, May 19, 1852

Hudson Presbytery. Old School Assembly...(was represented by)... Edwin Downer (of) Mount-Hope

The Whig Press, Aug. 30, 1853. p. 1

Mt. Hope Churches and Pastors. - There are five church edifices erected and dedicated for religious services within the limits of this town. One Old-School Presbyterian, located in the village of Mount Hope, under the pastoral charge of Rev. Luther Littelle [sic]. Two Methodest (sic) Episcopal—one located in the village of Otisville, the other near Finchville over both of which Rev. J. R. Adams presides. One Congregationalist, located about half a mile northeast of the village of Mount Hope, over which Rev. A. Downs presides, in connection with the neat and more recently erected edifice at Howell's; and one Old School baptist located at Vernon, under the pastoral charge of Elder Gilbert Beebe. This edifice is somewhat dilapidated, and a new church is now being erected in its stead.

The Whig Press, Jan. 31, 1855 MOUNT HOPE

There has been quite a brisk business going on recently in the selling of property in the village of Mount Hope. Among other, Rev. Edwin Downer, a highly-esteemed citizen, has disposed of his property, preparatory to his anticipated removal to Fairfield, Conn.

The Whig Press, March 21, 1855

Improvements in the Mountain Village. Otisville, March 17, '55

Mr. Hasbrouck – A great event has taken place with us, but before I relate the particulars I will say be not alarmed, it is nothing serious—on the contrary, it is an

event over which many in our village are rejoicing; and I feel sure you will agree with me when I say they have good reason to rejoice. Our citizens are not unlike the rest of mankind, and when an event like the one I am about to relate *does* happen, they will readily be excused if they give sudden vent to their feelings, when we consider how seldom such things occur. But, perhaps, you are getting impatient to know what has really happened; so I will keep you in suspense no longer.

Our enterprising townsman, E. S. Loomis, esq., who, by the way, is not the least tinctured with "old fogyism," has, within the past week, had surveyed and put in market about twenty new building lots on the west side of the village, fourteen of which have been sold. And I would here state that, if there is any person desirous of locating in our romantic little village, by immediate application, they may succeed in securing a desirable location. They must apply very soon, or they will be too late. Those who have purchased, I am informed, intend to erect beautiful dwellings upon their lots.

Who says Otisville is not progressive? On the corner of the new street to be opened, the erection of a new church is contemplated, and for which object a meeting is to be held in the village hall on Saturday next for the purpose of effecting an organization.

Yours, w.

The Whig Press September 24, 1856

(CHURCH DEDICATION)

"The First Presbyterian Church, Otisville, will be dedicated to the service of Almighty God, on Wednesday, the 24th of September inst. Dedicatory sermon by Rev. Augustus Seward, of Port Jervis. Services to commence at 11 o'clock, a.m. A general invitation is extended.

Orange County Press

May 1, 1867

"Otisville Church. – The congregation of the Presbyterian Church at Otisville have obtained the services of the Rev. Mr. Ferris [sic] as pastor of that church. No regular church services had been held there for the past two years, until quite recently. We understand that the congregation have raised \$1,000 for the services of the new minister, together with enough to purchase a new cabinet organ.

Orange County Press

May 20, 1870

Otisville Items.

Last Thursday afternoon, Mr. C. H. Wiggins and Agent Hayt, in behalf of the ladies of the Presbyterian Church of this village, presented the Rev. Mrs. Farries with one of Singer's superior Sewing Machines. ...

There will be no service in the Presbyterian church next Sunday, owing to the sudden death of Mr. Farries' brother, who was accidentally drowned in Canada on Tuesday last.

L.

Orange County Press June 3, 1870 DECORATION DAY AT OTISVILLE.

Floral Offerings – Addresses, & c., & c.
The citizens of Otisville paid great
honor to our fallen braves on commemoration
day.

At half-past five, P.M., the procession was formed in front of the Presbyterian Church, and then proceeded to the

MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY,

where sleep the honored dead. The procession was headed by a flag bearer, (the flag being at half-mast) and eight young ladies who carried the floral offerings, then the relatives of the honored dead, soldiers and citizens. The memorial services were introduced by strewing the grave of Lieutenant Willis, after which the Rev. Mr. Lit tell of Mt. Hope offered a very affecting prayer.

Willis H. Wiggins delivered the opening address.

ADDRESS BY WILLIS H. WIGGINS.

My countrymen and friends of the fallen brave; The time, the place, the surroundings, one and all, combine to weave around us threads of tenderest affections, and to imbue our souls with high and holy offerings. Today in union of sentiment and of felling, with thousands throughout our blood bought, persevered land, we have assembled together to pay our vows before the shrine of bravery; and to wreath the tomb of one who was true to himself and to his native country, and while we strew these choice gifts of Nature upon this mound, let us remember it is the grave of one who died that America might live.

Lieut. Willis was brave; he loved freedom; he trod the fields of carnage. He glanced upon the starry flag, his springing steps advanced, and he marched to the cannon's mouth, while the life blood warm and wet dimmed the glistening bayonets.

In the battle of Chancellorsville, most bloody and terrible of the war, five messengers of death pierced his flesh, and two passed through his garments.

AFTER THE ADDRESS

the graves of Private J. H. Corwin, J. H. Boyd and Seth Moore were decorated, the band which had previously arrived, played a dead march at each grave. After the graves

had been strewn, the procession returned to the tomb of Lieut. Willis, where addresses were then made.

MR. GEO. WIGGINS, JR.,

being introduced, said:

"How shall I describe the feelings of those who stand beside the graves of those dear to them, who had fallen battle. He spoke of Private J. H. Corwin as being doubly a soldier, for he fired the first gun in the Mexican war. He spoke of Private Boyd and Moore, as among that number who lingered upon beds of sickness in the Hospitals. He spoke of the ladies as being first at the tombs of our soldiers, to decorate their graves with flowers." The

REV. MR. FARRIES

followed with a few appropriate remarks. He said that "although he was not a citizen of this country yet, he approved of this day's observance." He entered into the spirit of the occasion, and spoke of the great victories that were achieved as a nation. Then the band gave some music, and

THE BENEDICTION

was pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Haggerty. As we left that sacred place where our nation's dead repose, we could not but feel that we had stood side by side with our fallen brave.

The young ladies upon the decoration committee who strewed flowers and garlands upon the graves of our honored dead, are worthy of many thanks for the great interest they manifested in regard to our fallen brave in this community. Their sad young faces as they stood over the soldier's grave, contrasted beautifully with the delicate hued flowers they bore in their hands. The music for the occasion was furnished by Mr. Geo. Beyea, of New Vernon, and others to whom many thanks are due.

Orange County Press

July 8, 1870, p 1

The Celebration at Otisville, Middletown, July 5, 1870.

Editors of the Press -- There being no general observance of the Fourth in this village, it afforded us the pleasure of visiting our neighboring hamlet, Otisville, and witnessing the patriotic demonstrations of her citizens in celebrating the National Anniversary. At 1:30 o'clock P. M., the bell of the Presbyterian Church was rung, to announce that the exercises were about to commence.

THE CHURCH

was soon filled to overflowing by a very respectable and intelligent audience. The building was handsomely decorated for the occasion, by having the American flag beautifully adorned with evergreens, and the portrait of Washington and the Continental soldiers. Upon the stage were seated the executive committee, the speakers, clergy, Prof. Campbell and choir, the New Vernon Band, and aged citizens. Sam. Vanton, Esq.

PRESIDENT OF THE DAY,

introduced the exercises by making a few appropriate remarks in regard to the observance of the day, advancing the noble truth that America and her free institutions were guarded by the Supreme Judge of the World; and as the Congress of seventy-six appealed to the God of Battles for the rectitude of their intentions, and as Washington bowed in the forest and asked his Maker to guide his country through the fire of war, so upon this occasion, beneath the roof of this sanctuary, he deemed it proper that prayer should be offered. The Rev. T. S. Haggerty, of the M. E. Church, offered a very impressive prayer for the welfare of the country.

THE READER

George Wiggins, Jr., Principal of the Public School, read the Declaration of Independence in a clear and distinct tone of voice. Its most interesting and eloquent passages were properly emphasized, bringing out the immortal document with all its inherent beauty and power, sending a thrill of delight through the audience.

Master Willie Mullock sang the origin of Yankee Doodle in a style that indicated he was fired with that youthful love of country which animated the youths of seventy-six.

THE ORATION

By School Com. B. F. Hill was one of the finest productions for the occasion that we ever listened to. He introduced his remarks by giving a historical account of the origin, progress and termination of the revolutionary war. He then spoke with earnestness and pride of the unprecedented rapidity of our country's development, of its intellectual and physical resources. He described with power and effect the influence of our free institutions upon other nations, and spoke more particularly of our educational advancement, and the means for promoting it. He paid a high tribute to pedagogical professions, saying that it was rising in dignity and character. He closed with a most beautiful apostrophe to the flag.

THE ADDRESS OF WILLIS H. WIGGINS

was truly eloquent and patriotic. He said that when Thomas Jefferson grasped the pen and wrote that great document, which liberated us from despotism, he left a land mark...

Orange County Press September 23, 1870

Religious.

--The Rev. Mr. Littell, Pastor of the First Presbyterian church in Mount Hope, late of the First Presbyterian Church in Deerpark, will on next Sabbath give a historical account of that church from the date of its organization in 1785, to the commencement of his pastorate in 1850, and in the following Sabbath will continue the account through his pastorate of twenty years.

Orange County Press October 7, 1870

HISTORICAL SERMON.

The Presbyterian Church of Mount Hope.

the removal of its families to the railroad The historical sketch of the Presbyterian church of Mount Hope, and the review of his pastorate of twenty years, recently delivered by the Rev. Mr. Littell, were listened to with interest by the congregation. Some facts stated may be of general interest.

This church was incorporated in the year 1785. Its first house of worship was erected on "the Plains" in 1791, its second in the village of Mount Hope in 1834. During the period of eighty-five years since its organization it has had eight pastors, and several stated supplies. These pastorates have all been short, except the present one, varying from two to eight years. The pastorate of Mr. L. has been for the most part harmonious and pleasant. The church has suffered much by constant drain in towns. As evidence of this change by death and removal, as far as could be ascertained, there were only twelve persons

present on the recent anniversary Sabbath who attended the services of ordination twenty years ago. During this period the pastor stated he had preached not less than 1,500 sermons, besides evening lectures and short addresses. There had been four seasons of special religious interest and revival, resulting in additions to the church of ten, twenty, twenty-five and sixty persons, successively. When he took charge of the church there were 100 members, since that time 178 persons have been received, making an average of about nine a year. The report to Presbytery last Spring showed a membership of 158. The Sabbath school has advanced in the number of its scholars from forty to over one hundred, while the contributions to the benevolent enterprises of the church, and its other pecuniary resources, have increased more than 100 per cent. He has attended 238 funerals, riding hundreds of miles in fulfilling this service, and has married 272 persons.

The church has a convenient and commodious parsonage, purchased but a few years since. Its house of worship is at present in need of considerable repairs, which it is hoped it will soon receive. And the hope is that the future of this ancient church may be a least no less prosperous than the past.

Orange County Press December 2, 1870

China Wedding at Mount Hope.

The twentieth anniversary of their marriage was celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Mapes, of this town, on Monday evening, 21st ult. A company of some 250 persons were present, and all seemed to enjoy the occasion with much zest. Cheerfulness was the order of the evening. The bride of twenty years was clad in a dress of pearl silk, the same she wore on the occasion of her marriage, and it was remarked by some of the guests that the happy couple appeared will

nigh as young now as then. Numerous elegant gifts from friends, in the way of sets of china, silver goblets, vases. Family Bible, etc., were placed upon the table. Refreshments were abundant, as usual in their home, and were attended to with eagerness.

During the evening congratulatory remarks were made by Rev. Mr. Littell, their pastor, and numerous good wishes were offered by their numerous friends. It was understood to be also the twentieth anniversary of Mr. L.'s first attempt in saying the marriage ceremony, since they were the first couple he united in the holy bonds.

At least three recent brides, with their bridal wreaths, were observed in the company. The whole affair was a success, and the numerous friends departed, late in the evening, leaving many kind benedictions with the happy couple and their interesting family.

Orange County Press May 26, 1871

Otisville Items.

At a meeting held in Good Templars Hall Saturday evening, May 20, Dr. R. Farries was called to the chair and C. J. Tymeson appointed, Sec'y.

It was resolved that Decoration Day be observed in this place. The procession will form in front of the Presbyterian church, and then proceed to the Mount Hope cemetery. Rev. R. H. Craig will make an opening prayer, after which the graves of the departed Heroes will be decorated.

Addresses may be expected from Rev. L. Littell, J. B. Brady, C. J. Baxter, and Geo. Wiggins, Jr. Ladies will please contribute flowers &c., and consider that it is for a good cause and that it is for those who laid down their lives in defence of their country. Contributions of flowers &c. may be left at the store of F. S. Tymeson, on Tuesday morning.

W.

Orange County Press June 9, 1871

DECORATION DAY AT OTISVILLE.

Interesting Ceremonies – Addresses – The Graves Decorated.

Correspondence of the PRESS.

The citizens of this village and vicinity paid great respect to the honored dead on Commemoration Day.

The procession formed in front of the Presbyterian Church at 5 p.m., and thence marched to the Mount Hope Cemetery. At the grave of Lieutenant Willis, Rev. Mr. Craig made an impressive prayer. The floral committee—Misses Ella Wheat, Etta Fields, Mary Quackenbush, Frances Vanduzer, Ida Tymeson, Emma Beyea, Emma Wiggins, Carrie Buchanan, Mary E. Braun, Mary Beyea—decorated the graves of the fallen brave, the band playing a dirge as they went from grave to grave. After strewing the mound of Lieut. Willis, the unknown soldier, and privates Corwin, Boyd, Burns, and Moore, Rev. Mr. Littell spoke of this observance as being very beautiful. "The flowers that we placed upon the soldier's grave had a language. There we place the little forget-me-not, which shows that the honored dead will ever live in the hearts of their countrymen. Four of the gallant dead who sleep beneath this sod I have known. I have been to them a pastor, and have pointed them to the great Captain—Christ Jesus."

Rev. Mr. Brady was next introduced. He said that he was a stranger to the brave boys who gave their lives to the nation, yet he knew they were true to the great interests of the country, for this day's observance proved that they were brave and valiant soldiers. He alluded with a great deal of feeling to the grave of the unknown soldier. The peroration was grand, eloquent, sublime, and impressive.

C. J. Baxter, teacher of the public school of Otisville, was the next speaker. Mr. B. having been a soldier in the army, knew well

what his fallen companions had suffered. He spoke as follows:

"Friends of the town of Mount Hope: I am happy to be present on this occasion; happy to meet you all and to have heard the pleasing and appropriate address of the speakers who have preceded me. As I came up to this place, keeping step to the time of martial music, and engaged in the beautiful and appropriate service of strewing the graves of the patriot dead with flowers, my thoughts were carried back to the spring of 186l, to the time when passions fierce and dark raged

He spoke of the cause of the war, showing that some who were in positions of honor and trust were found plotting treason, and also showed the beneficent influences that have resulted from the great civil war; "and this day we look forward to an honorable and a long-abiding peace. Then meet it is that we should strew the soldier's resting place with flowers—beautiful flowers—for worthy are they of the fairest that the green earth bears."

in men's hearts."

George Wigging, Jr., then followed in a short address:

"Another year has rolled away, and we have again assembled within the quiet cemetery to pay our tribute of respect to those who gave their lives that we might enjoy the precious boon of liberty, This occasion recalls to mind the days when the bugle notes

of war echoed and re-echoed throughout our domain. It recalls the answer that our brave boys gave when the summons came, 'To arms! to arms! your country is in danger!' It brings to remembrance the true and worthy daughters of the republic who did everything in their power to comfort, cheer, and inspire our brave boys, who were fighting to defend our country."

Then, addressing the Decorating Committee, he said:

"My young friends, when war raged in our land, you were too young to realize the danger and to give words of cheer to our brave boys. But now that the bright star of peace has returned, you come with flowers, culled by your own hands, and deck the soldier's grave. This is a worthy deed, and it is one that I hope you will never forget,' but write it indelibly upon the tablets of your memory. Fellow-citizens, by the memory of the honored dead, and in justice to the empty sleeve, the weeping widow, the mourning child, and the unmaimed soldier, let us be true to our country, and

"Year after year our hands shall bear Immortal flowers in vernal bloom, To adorn the soldier's tomb, Till God shall call us home to share Immortal life beyond the tomb."

The New Vernon band played patriotic tunes between the addresses.

The young ladies upon the Decoration Committee are deserving of many thanks for the great interest they manifested in regard to the fallen braves in this community, and also to others who gave their aid to promote the cause. We would return thanks to Mr. John Mullock and Master Albert Ketcham for their most valuable services.

The Orange County Press February 2, 1872

Otisville.

Uncle John Willis, of Otisville, has presented a valuable "Regulator" clock to the Presbyterian Church in this village. This is not the first generous present which he has recently made to the same church. Many thanks to him

Orange County Press January 9, 1874

Otisville.

The Sabbath School children of the Presbyterian Church in Otisville were treated to their annual Christmas entertainment on Wednesday evening. 24th ult. The decoration of the church with evergreens and mottoes was more than usually attractive, and the Christmas tree bore more abundant fruits than ever before. The house was crowded with the friends of the school, and the children enjoyed the occasion remarkable, especially the distribution of the presents from the tree. The school is in a flourishing condition, and can commend the good and regular attendance of its teachers and scholars as well as any other school in the country. Judging from the value of the presents given in this pleasant way we can infer that purses in Otisville are not difficult to open in the frosty days about Christmas.

The Orange County Press May 15, 1874

Otisville.

A grand wedding took place in the Presbyterian Church Thursday afternoon of last week at 5 o'clock—Mr. A. R. Gumaer of Port Jervis to Miss Ella Mulock of this place. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Luther Littell, of Mount Hope. The bride was dressed in a traveling dress of gray poplin. Immediately after the ceremony the newly married couple started for Washington on Train 2. The bridesmaid was Miss Lizzie Corwin, of Howells, while the groom was backed up—so to speak—by Mr. George St. John of Port Jervis.

The Jubilee Singers, a colored troupe, will sing in the Presbyterian church, May 19th. Part of the proceeds for the benefit of the

Parsonage Fund, and the other part for the benefit of a colored school in Wilmington, N. C.

The Orange County Press September 18, 1874

Otisville.

The peach and ice cream festival came off in the basement of the Presbyterian Church as advertised. It was truly a delightful occasion, and we observed that during the entire evening there was not to be seen a single person so stoical as not to enjoy the pleasure of the evening or one so temperate as to refuse a dish of peaches or a plate of ice cream. The company was highly respectable, as usual, and the fare was unexceptionably good. The proceeds, we understand, amounted to between \$50 and \$60. L. A. Seybolt, one of the oldest residents of Otisville, was buried on Friday last. The funeral services were conducted at the old homestead where Mr. Seybolt had been born and died. The company was large. The deceased was 79 years old.

Middletown Daily Evening Press, April 14, 1875

Mount Hope.

The pulpit of the Presbyterian Church in this village was some time since the recipient of a timely gift, in the form of an elegant new Bible and Hymn Book. The Bible, a large quarto, was procured through an agency by the pastor's son, C. H. Littell, while the Hymn Book is the gift of the young people of the congregation, procured by the efforts of Mrs. Hattie M. Ketcham and Miss Lillie Mapes. The latter is the "Presbyterian Hymnal," the new hymns and tune book published a few months since by the Presbyterian Board of Publication, under the direction of an able committee of the General Assembly. It is an admirable book, believed to

be equal, if not superior, to the best of the books of the kind heretofore offered for use in the churches. Its great popularity is evinced by the fact that over 80,000 copies were sold during the first four months after its publication. It has been introduced as the book of praise in the following eight churches of Hudson Presbytery, viz: Ramapo, Monroe, Chester, Goshen, Hamptonburgh, Otisville, Mount Hope and Milford, while the matter of its introduction is under advisement in some other of the churches.

Middletown Daily Evening Press

Thursday, April 29, 1875

Otisville.

A spelling match took place on Thursday evening of last week in the basement of Presbyterian church, under the management of Prof. Goldsmith. Twenty-five words were chosen by Rev. Mr. Craig to be spelled by all who had a desire to win the prize—a gold pen awarded by our friend John Fields, Esq. The prize was won by Miss Nellie Easton. They then changed the programme by standing up and spelling down. A youth by the name of Hurbert Ketcham had the honor of standing up the longest. ...

Rev. Mr. Craig has moved into the new parsonage. It is a very large and commodious house.

Orange County Press March 31, 1876

Otisville.

(From our special correspondent.)

The Orange County Press April 7, 1876

Otisville.

From our regular correspondent. 1776—centennial tea party—1876. The ladies of the Presbyterian Church propose to have a centennial tea party in the basement of the church on Thursday evening, April 13th. If stormy, the next fair evening. The various committees on dress, supper, relics, &c., have been appointed. A pleasant time is expected.

Middletown Daily Press July 3, 1876

Otisville.

[Correspondence of the Press]

Services in commemoration of our National Anniversary were held in the Presbyterian Church last evening. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Graig, gave a history of the church for the past hundred years. Addresses appropriate to the occasion were also made by Prof. Willis H. Wiggins and Geo. Wiggins, Jr., Esq. The music was well rendered by the choir—Mrs. A. S. Dodge presiding at the organ.

[Note: Identical article appeared in *The Orange County Press*, July 7, 1876]

The Orange County Press November 10, 1876

Otisville.

[Correspondence of the Press]

The congregation and friends of the Rev. R. H. Craig, of Otisville, were prompt in their attendance at the parsonage on Thursday evening, October 26th, and left behind then a substantial token of their

liberality in the shape of \$130. Evidently neither Centennial excursions nor politics, nor even "hard times" have in the least tightened the purse strings of the good people of Otisville in making up a present for the pastor.

The Orange County Press November 1876

A FIRE IN OTISVILLE,

[Correspondence of the Press]

Thanksgiving day, a little after one o'clock Charles W. Loomis' barn was discovered to be on fire. He succeeded in removing his three horses and some of his farming tools. His hay, a two-horse wagon, horse rake, land roller, a quantity of potatoes and turnips were burned. Origin of the fire unknown. Insured for \$500 on the building and \$300 on the contents. About fifty feet from the barn stands the Presbyterian Church, which by the efforts of the people and the favorable direction of the wind, was saved. Considerable damage was done to the inside of the church by taking our stoves, carpets, etc. If the church had burned, nothing could have saved the main part of the village, from Northrop's corner to Galen Otis' house. Elder Uptegrove's house being in the direct line of the fire, had the burning shingles on the roof several times, but water was promptly used, and no damage was done. Fire was also kindled between Wm. H. Hill's blacksmith shop and the M. E. Church, but was discovered in time to prevent any damage.

It is very unfortunate for Mr. Loomis, and one of the luckiest escapes for Otisville possible.

Orange Co. Press March 6, 1877

Communion services were held in the Presbyterian Church Sunday morning. Four were admitted to membership. In the evening the service was devoted to song. Without wishing to be invidious, while everything was meritorious we cannot withhold the need of praise due to Mrs. Harry Reed, Mrs. A. W. Dodge, Miss Mary Wickham and John L. Wiggins. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Craig, made some well chosen remarks, but the crowning feature of the occasion was the solo, "Arise and Shine," by Miss Katie Halstead. It was a beautiful production, appropriate in sentiment, and Miss H. rendered it in a manner that few can equal and none excel. Miss Emma Wells presided at the organ.

(publication unknown)

March 29, 1877

Rev. Luther Littell of Mt. Hope, today by the Erie brought home his son Charles who was recently stricken with paralysis at Princeton College. The young man is recovering slowly and bore his journey well.

Middletown Daily Press June 26, 1877

PERSONAL NOTES.

Rev. Luther Littell, of Mount Hope, was yesterday called to Summit, N. J., the residence of his brother, where his son Charles was taken ill after graduating at Princeton. Although unable to finish his studies entirely on account of his health, President McCosh very properly allowed his degree, which he went to Princeton to take. The excitement and exertions of

commencement week seem to have overcome him.

Middletown Daily Press July 3, 1877

The Funeral of Charles Herbert Littell.

The funeral services of Charles Herbert Littell were held at the New Providence Church, N. J., on Saturday afternoon last at 2 o'clock. The procession moved from the house of Mr. William Littell, uncle of the deceased, after the reading of the Scriptures by the Rev. J. D. Bruen, and prayer by the Rev. Charles Beattie. At the church addresses were made by the Rev. D. N. Freeland. Ludlow D. Potter, D.D., and Rev. Charles Beattie, while other services were taken by the pastor of the church, the Methodist minister of New Providence and the Rev. Mr. Bruen; after which the remains were borne by the hands of relatives, all young men, among whom was the Rev. William L Littell, of Setanket, L. I., a cousin of the deceased. The whole occasion was one of tender interest to all, but of deep sorrow to his parents, and yet of rich consolations. He was a young man of fine talent and noble impulses, whose collegiate course had been a very successful one, in which he had won signal honors; who was at the same time an earnest Christian, and hoped to serve his Master in the ministry of reconciliation. Cut down in the bright morning of his life, the blow seemed a crushing one to those who were looking for him to be their successor in carrying forward the Master's work, yet He who had called him to all these honors and usefulness on earth, bade him come up higher, and although to remain might seem more needful to those who loved him so well, yet to him it is better to be absent from the body that he might be present with the Lord.

The remains were laid in the cemetery of the New Providence Church, where also rest the ashes of his ancestors and of his brother Frank, who died about six years ago, and a sister who died in her infancy. Our afflicted brother has the deepest sympathy of his friends to this crushing grief.

Middletown Daily Press July 13, 1877

Rev. and Mrs. L. Littell have returned from New Jersey, where they have been stopping since the burial of their son.

Middletown Daily Press September 7, 1881

A meeting was held Monday evening in the basement of the Presbyterian Church to arrange for a singing school this fall and winter. After a careful canvas of the sentiments of those present, Mr. Campbell was elected teacher of the school by a large majority.

Middletown Daily Press March 10, 1884

The necktie party at Mrs. Green's takes place on Wednesday evening, 12th inst.; not on Tuesday evening, as one of the Otisville correspondents erroneously stated in Friday's PRESS... The ice storm has done considerable damage in this vicinity. The telegraph wires from Dr. Writer's to Mount Hope are down in a number of places...Rev. R. H. Craig filled the Rev. Mr. Botsford's pulpit at Port Jervis Sunday...

(The Press, in a follow-up, detailed that the party would be at Mrs. I. Y. Green's on Tuesday, March 11th and for the benefit of the Presbyterian Church)

Middletown Daily Press March 13, 1884

Resignation of Rev. R. H. Craig Accepted.

The congregational meeting called by Rev. R. H. Craig and held in the Presbyterian church, Otisville, on Tuesday evening last, decided to comply with the pastor's request by uniting with him in asking to Presbytery of Hudson to dissolve the pastoral relation between him and his church. Presbytery meets there to decide whether Mr. Craig shall remain with his present charge or be released and transferred to the Presbytery of Lackawanna, in order to become pastor of the Hawley Presbyterian Church.

Middletown Daily Press March 17, 1884

The Resignation of Rev. R. H. Craig –Complimentary Resolutions.

The following resolutions were adopted at a meeting of the congregation of the Presbyterian Church at Otisville, of which Mr. J. J. Hickok was Chairman on Sunday evening March 16th:

WHERAS, The Rev. R. H. Craig acting under what he believes to be the direction of the Head of the Church has asked this church and congregation to unite with him in obtaining a dissolution of the present pastoral relation, with a view to the acceptance of a call to a church in another Presbytery.

Resolved, That while we concur with him in this request we do it with great reluctance, believing that the severance of a relation that has been so pleasantly maintained for nearly thirteen years, is a serious detriment and disaster to the church.

Resolved, That we .put on record this expression of our hearty appreciation of the services he has rendered us as a faithful expounder and preacher of the word of God, a diligent pastor, in the care he has taken of the interests of his flock, a sympathizing friend in adversity, an upright citizen, and a gentleman.

Resolved, That we commend him to the confidence and esteem of the church that has been so fortunate as to secure his services and will follow him with our prayers

That the blessing of God may complete the work he has begun while here, and prosper Him in all future undertakings.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Rev. Mr. Craig, and also to the PRESS.

Middletown Daily Press March 27, 1884

Otisville (Correspondence of the Press)

-- The Ladies' Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church will give a New England supper in the basement of the church on Wednesday evening, April 2d. All are cordially invited. If stormy the supper will be held the next fair evening.....Rev. R. H. Craig preaches his farewell sermon next sabbath.

Middletown Daily Press April 8, 1884

Otisville. (Correspondence of the PRESS)

The pulpit of the Presbyterian Church is now declared vacant.

Middletown Daily Press June 19, 1884

Mr. Alsop L. Corwin, a prominent citizen of Otisville and elder in the Presbyterian Church made a pleasant visit to his former pastor, the Rev. R. H. Craig, at Hawley, Pa., as he passed through, early in the week, on his way to visit relatives at Pittston, and other parts of Pennsylvania. The congregation of the Presbyterian Church at Hawley, Pa., has just built a new stable and carriage house for the pastor Rev. R. H. Craig

Middletown Daily Press June 25, 1884

How They Treat a Former Orange County Pastor in Michigan.

The friends of Rev. Luther Littell, acting pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Holt, arranged for him and his wife a genuine "surprise" on Saturday evening last. But a day or so previous, one of the energetic ladies of the church had casually learned from Mrs. Littell that that day was the anniversary of her marriage. With this fact as a starting point word was passed around quietly but rapidly among the people to gather at the parsonage on Saturday evening. Accordingly about eight o'clock, as the pastor and his wife were sitting quietly at their table, engaged in reading, the quietude was suddenly broken by the sound of

voices just outside the door, singing a familiar Sunday school song. Hastening to the porch, what was the pastor's surprise to seek by the pale moonlight a crowd of his friends, filling the yard even out to the gate. With a start and exclamation at the sudden apparition, the company were invited in by the pastor, and soon filled the house to the number of some 75 or 80 persons, bearing packages, boxes, bundles, etc. It proved to be a real "surprise," and all seemed thoroughly to enjoy their complete success in this regard.

Scarcely was this first act over the house lighted and the company settled down to lively social chat, when surprise No. 2 took place. An elegant lounge of solid walnut moldings and richly upholstered, was rolled into the room in front of the surprised pastor and his wife. A neat speech was made by Prof. Geo. Decker, principal of the public schools of the place, conveying the congratulations of the company in view of the wedding anniversary and presenting the elegant article of furniture, together with a set of silver knives and forks, in the name of the assembled friends, as tokens of their warm regard and high esteem. Feeling response was made by the pastor, expressing gratitude for the valuable gifts, and warm appreciation of the kindness of the donors, shown in ways so pleasant, and involving, by prayer, heaven's blessing upon their hearts and homes.

Refreshments were then served to the company by the ladies, in a style and with an abundance to prove their ability and skill to provide a first class entertainment on the shortest notice. After two or three hours of genuine social enjoyment, the company bade the surprised couple good night, and separated to their homes. The surprise was voted a complete success and the occasion one of real enjoyment.

Ingham Co. News

Middletown Daily Press July 14, 1884

Otisville.

Correspondence of the PRESS.

The Presbyterian Sunday school goes with the Presbyterian School of Middletown Thursday to Shohola Glen. All are invited to go; 75 cents for the round trip. A grand time is anticipated....

Middletown Daily Press August 16, 1884

Mount Hope.

Correspondence of the PRESS

The summer festival of the Mount Hope Presbyterian Church was held in the church building on Wednesday evening last. It was a very successful affair, and formed the leading social event of the week. The church was tastefully decorated with flags, myrtle and other evergreens. Peaches, cream and other delicacies were provided in abundance and met a ready and appreciative reception from the large number of people present. The receipts were about \$70. The net proceeds are to be applied to a fund being raised for repairing and painting the church—a work that is much needed.

Middletown Daily Press November 3, 1884

Mount Hope (Correspondence of the PRESS)

...Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald invited the male members of his congregation to take dinner with him, Friday, Oct. 24th, at the same time giving them a gentle hint that his corn was not husked. About twenty accepted his invitation and did ample justice to a very substantial

repast and before they left nearly finished husking a three-acre field of very fine corn.

Middletown Daily Press November 13, 1884

Otisville.

(Correspondence of the PRESS.) The congregation of the Presbyterian Church have called a pastor, Rev. John Service. His installation will take place in the Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, Nov. 19th, at 1 p.m., when a commission of the Presbytery of Hudson will conduct the installation services, the Moderator to preside. Rev. Mr. Cobb will preach the sermon. Rev. Mr. Bonner will deliver the charge to the pastor, and Rev. Mr. Forsyth will deliver the charge to the congregation....

The Daily Argus February 18, 1885

Otisville

Correspondence of the ARGUS and MERCURY.

Rev. R. H. Craig, formerly of this village, now stationed at Hawley, Pa., buried his little son Edward, one of his twin children, at this place yesterday.

Middletown Daily Press February 19, 1885

Otisville.

Correspondence of the Press

There will be a dime party at the house of Daniel G. Beyea, on next Tuesday evening, Feb. 24tth, for the benefit of the Presbyterian Church. All are cordially invited to attend. ... Rev. R. H. Craig, of Hawley, Pa., formerly of this place, brought one of his twin children here for interment Tuesday.

Middletown Daily Press February 20, 1885

Mount Hope

(Correspondence of the Press)

Edward P., infant son of Rev. R. H. Craig, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Hawley, Pa., died of congestion of the brain on last Saturday at 3 o'clock. The funeral services were held in Otisville on Tuesday of this week, and were conducted by Rev. Thos. Fitzgerald, of Mount Hope. The interment was in the Mount Hope cemetery. The father left Hawley early on Tuesday morning with the remains. Owing to the severe storm of Monday, trains did not connect and he was delayed 3 hours. A large number of friends, nearly all of Mr. Craig's former congregation, together with the pastors of the village churches waited anxiously at the church and railroad depot from one till half-past three for the arrival of their former pastor, who was bringing his dead back to them for burial. And when he came, they crowded around, grasping his hands with many expressions of love and sympathy. When the casket was opened, there were not loud expressions of grief, but as the bereaved pastor took his last farewell of all that was mortal of his beloved child, tears proved how deeply every heart in that assembly was touched.

"It is well with the child." God grant that the stricken father as he returns to his sorrowing household, may be enable to say with Scotland's great pulpit orator on returning from the funeral of a beloved child:

"We shall all go home to our Father's house,

To our Father's house in the skies, Where the hope of our souls shall have no blight,

Our love no broken ties.

We shalt roam on the banks of the river of peace,

And bathe in its blissful tide, And one of the joys or our Heaven will

be

The little boy that died."

Middletown Daily Press January 28, 1886

Otisville

Correspondence of the PRESS

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church will hold a dime social Thursday evening at the residence of Mr. Daniel Beyea. All are cordially invited. ... The Rev. Mr. Ferris, of Ottawa, Canada, who has been for some time out of health, and who is at present the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Dodge will preach next Sabbath morning in the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Ferris was formerly pastor of this church, and many will have the opportunity of hearing him again. Sabbath evening there will be a service of song.

OBITUARY

Alsop L. Corwin

Correspondence of the Press

Mr. Alsop L. Corwin died at his home at Otisville, yesterday afternoon at 1:30. His funeral will be held at the house Thursday afternoon, 3d inst., at 1:30 with interment at Hillside cemetery, Middletown,

Mr. Corwin was born in Mt. Hope township, nearly 80 years ago, and here he has lived all his long life. Few men have had better health for so many years. He had been very well, for one of his age until four or five months ago. For the last two months he had been confined to the house. Heart failure brought on general debility, and he grew weaker and weaker until he quietly breathed his last. He will be greatly missed by his friends and neighbors, and all his neighbors were his friends. He was an honest, kindhearted man, an industrious, useful and highly respected citizen. Having made a public

profession of his faith in Christ in early life, he has lived and died a humble, consistent Christian. For nearly 25 years he served the Presbyterian Church at Otisville, as ruling elder, and he was active in every good word and work.

Middletown Daily Press July 17, 1894 OTISVILLE

(Special to the Press)

The famous cantata of "Red Riding Hood" will be rendered in the Presbyterian Church, by the children of Otisville under the direction of Prof. C. H. Campbell, Thursday, and Friday evenings, July 19th and 20th. There will be laughable scenes. The wolf and grandmother are a host in themselves, and well worth the price of admission. Tickets 25 cents, reserved seats 35 cents, children 15 cents. Proceeds for the benefit of the Christian Endeavor society.

Rev. Frank Chadwick and wife have gone to visit the bride's parents in Bayonne.

Middletown Daily Press February 14, 1895

(Special to the PRESS)

Remember that the Mount Hope singing school closes its season by a concert, to be given next Tuesday evening, Feb. 19th, in the Presbyterian Church, at that place, with a chorus of 75 voices and several soloists. The concert will be under the direction of Ernest T. Winchester. Admission, 25 cents, children, 15 cents. If stormy, the concert will be held the following Tuesday night.

Middletown Daily Times June 1895

Correspondence of the Times.

On Tuesday night, June 11 the Sunday school will give a lawn festival at the home of the Supt. Of the school, Mr. E. E. Cortright. Refreshments consisting of ice cream, strawberries, cake, bananas, oranges, candies, lemonade etc., will be served. The spacious lawn will hold a great many people – let it be filled. Let all come and enjoy themselves.

The Argus June 18, 1895

Correspondence ARGUS and MERCURY

- -- The C. E. festival was fairly attended. In a financial way the society has done better, but the young people had the satisfaction of serving a very fine quality of cream of their own manufacture to all those who were present, and the praises received were very gratifying to them as beginners.
- -- Rev. S. R. Queen preached his last sermon as pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Sunday morning. The evening service was conducted by the C. E. Society. Reports were read by Misses Edna Beyea and Mira Green, delegates to the county convention at Monroe. The reports were well written and helped to make the meeting a very interesting one.
- -- A large number of the friends of Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Queen, were at the depot, Monday morning, to wish them "bon voyage." The Sunday School class of which Mrs. Queen had been teacher was well represented. She is a lady of exceptional worth, and those who knew her best loved her most. They have gone from our village carrying with them the best wishes of many

friends. They sail on June 29th, intending to spend a year abroad.

--The Ladies' Aid Society will meet with Mrs. Frazier, Thursday afternoon.

Middletown Daily Times June 25, 1895

Mt. Hope.

Correspondence of the Times.

June 24. – The Mount Hope, Maple Dale and Finchville schools together with the Mount Hope Sunday school will picnic at Midway Park, Saturday Aug. 29. It is expected that a large delegation will attend and a good time will be had. Those who are to take the special cars provided by the company will meet at Franklin Square at 9:30 a.m.

- -- The ladies' monthly missionary meeting will be held at the parsonage on Wednesday, at 2:30. Subject, "Africa." All ladies cordially invited.
- --Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald preached in the Presbyterian Church at Otisville, on Sunday, and will preach again on next Sunday declaring the pulpit vacant.

Middletown Daily Times July 1895

Correspondence of the Times. July 6 -- A lawn party will be held at the residence of Mr. Chas. Loomis July 11. Half the proceeds will be laid aside for the organ fund. If stormy it will be held the next pleasant eve.

Middletown Daily Times May 8, 1896

Mount Hope.

Correspondence of the Times.

May 7 – Rev. Luther Littell attended the burial of Mrs. Sidney Hulse on Saturday at the Plains Cemetery, and the funeral of Mr. Robertson in Centreville on Sunday.

-- Rev. Luther Littell is spending a few days this week at Princeton and New Providence, N. J.

-- Mrs. Littell, who was taken ill after Mr. Littell left town, is improving.

Middletown Daily Times May 15, 1896

Mount Hope.

Correspondence of the Times.

May 13 – Rev. Luther Littell gave an account of his visit to Princeton at the Sunday evening service.

-- Mr. Everett Cortright attended the Sunday school convention at Chester on Wednesday. Mrs. Cortright took charge of the school for the day.

--Miss Kate Woodward attended the Sunday school convention at Chester.

--Rev. Luther Littell attended the funeral of Mr. James B. Hallock on Tuesday.

Middletown Daily Times May 30, 1896 PRESBYTERY OF HUDSON

A Pastor Ordained and Installed at Otisville,

CLERGYMEN WHO PARTICIPATED

Next Stated Meeting to be Held at Amity—Rev. Mr. McGowan to Go to Pine Plains—

Monticello Church to be Supplied for Six Weeks.

Correspondence of the Times.
According to appointment Hudson
Presbytery met at Otisville, Tuesday, May 19, at 11a.m. Revs. Luther Littell, J. C. Forsythe, C. H. Park, Chas. Beattie, Britain, Bonner, Taylor, Yeomans and Pape and Robert I. Crawford were found present. The moderator, Rev. Adolph F. Pape, of Nyack German church, presided. The examination of Rev. Robert Joseph Diven, a graduate of Auburn seminary, recently received into the presbytery, was completed and sustained. The call to him, and his ordination and installation constituted the afternoon service of the day.

In this service the moderator presided. The sermon was preached by Rev. Chas Beattie, D. D. of Middletown, from Acts. 3, 1. The charge to the pastor was given by Rev. D. F. Bonner, D. D. of Florida, and to the congregation by Rev. Luther Littell of Mount Hope. The ordaining prayer was by Rev. Edward Miller, a son of this presbytery and now professor of Church history in Auburn Seminary. Bro. Diven, by his examination in presbytery and his recent associations with Otisville church, has made a very favorable impression.

Middletown Daily Times July 24, 1896

Mount Hope.

Correspondence of the Times.
July 23 –The funeral services of Ollie Fuller were held at his father's home on Friday afternoon and were conducted by Rev.
Luther Littell, assisted by the Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald. Friends were present from Port Jervis, Otisville and Middletown. The gifts of flowers were numerous and handsome. The little white casket was thickly covered with them. It was carried from the house by four of his young schoolmates. Ollie will be missed

very much from school and Sabbath school, as he was a constant attendant at both.

Middletown Daily Times July 28, 1896

Mount Hope

Correspondence of the Times.

--Charles H. Mattison assisted Rev. Luther Littell with the services on Sunday evening and gave a good discourse on the subject of "Personal Responsibility."

-- A treat has been secured for the people of our vicinity. The Y.P.S.C.E. has arranged for a first class stereopticon exhibition to be given in the Presbyterian Church in this place, Thursday evening, July 30, at 8 o'clock. The popular "Ben Hur", will be illustrated by 78 magnificent dissolving views, beautifully illuminated with the new light acetylene. Prof. Fisher will give a short exhibition of fancy club swinging under colored lights. A wagon will be run from Otisville to bring those who have not conveyances and will carry free those who present tickets. The lecture is highly commended and we hope that everyone will take advantage of the unusual opportunity. Proceeds will be devoted to church expenses. Admission: 25 cents, children 10 cents.

--Rev. Luther Littell and wife expect to go away the last of the week and remain over two Sabbaths, so the church will be closed for the first two Sundays in august. Prayer meeting in the school room, as usual, under the direction of the C. E. Society, Wednesday evening. The meeting will be led by Mr. E. E. Cortright, and the following week by Dr. Kinch.

Middletown Daily Press January 8, 1898

TWO MINISTERS NEARLY FROZEN.

REVS. LITTELL AND FITZGERALD HAVE A ROUGH EXPERIENCE.

They Get Fast Into a Snow Bank While on Their Way to Mount Hope From Middletown—Recovered After Being Thoroughly chilled.

The Revs. Luther Littell and Thomas Fitzgerald, of Mount Hope, the former the pastor of the Presbyterian Church there, the latter now living on a farm just east of the village, not having any charge at present, had a severe experience in attempting to reach their homes, Saturday night, and both were nearly frozen to death.

The reverend gentlemen had driven to this city in the morning, where they put their horse out and proceeded by train to Montgomery to attend the funeral of Rev. Dr. Forsythe, which was held Saturday afternoon. They returned to this city in the evening and called at the home of Rev. Dr. Beattie. Mrs. Beattie insisted on their remaining all night, remarking that the roads might be badly drifted and that it was a cold night.

Messrs. Littell and Fitzgerald concluded they would brave the elements, however, and started for Mount Hope during the early evening. They proceeded as far as the neighborhood of the home of the late Silas Vail, and there their horse ran into and became fast in a snow drift. The dominies worked hard in trying to get their rig out of the drift, but their effort was too much for them. After working for about an hour and finding that they were becoming numbed with the cold, it was decided that Mr. Fitzgerald should make his way to Mr. Chas. Vail's home and seek assistance. Mr. Vail's hired man happened to look out of his window and

saw a man making his way through the snow toward the house. He called Mr. Vail's attention to the fact and Mr. Vail told him to open the door and see what he wanted. When Mr. Fitzgerald staggered up to the door, he was well nigh exhausted. Mr. Vail recognized him and invited him in. He was so chilled that he could hardly tell what had happened, but managed to make the fact known that Mr. Littell was out in the sleigh.

Mr. Vail and his man hastened to the rescue of Mr. Littell, and got him to the house. They then shoveled out the snow and released the horse and sleigh, and put them up for the night.

Messrs. Littell and Fitzgerald were so chilled with the cold that it was two hours before they got warm. They were given good care at Mr. Vail's home, where they remained over night, and proceded home Sunday morning. Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald's ears were frozen.

Orange County Press May 27, 1898

Resignation of Rev. Luther Littell. Rev. Luther Littell on Sunday presented his resignation to the congregation of the Mt. Hope Presbyterian church, and it was reluctantly accepted. Mr. Littell has been in poor health since he came near freezing to death last winter, when attending the funeral of Rev. Mr. Forsyth, of Montgomery. He was present at the service Sunday, which was conducted by Rev. Mr. Diven, of Otisville, but was so feeble that he could hardly read his resignation.

Rev. Mr. Littell was installed pastor of the Mount Hope church on Sept. 25, 1850, and has been the pastor continually since, except a few years when he was in Michigan. It was his first charge and very naturally the deepest affection has always existed between himself and his people. He has been an earnest, faithful servant of the Master and he closes his

ministry at the age of 74 with a record of duty well done. Such as one may well be proud of.

Middletown Daily Press December 8, 1899

Mount Hope

(Special to the PRESS.)

--Rev. F. E. Taylor will preach in the Presbyterian church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, and the quarterly communion service will be observed. ...

--Rev. and Mrs. Luther Littell spent Thanksgiving at the home of Mr. Alsop Dodge in Otisville....

Middletown Daily Press December 27, 1899

HYMENEAL

Mapes-Beyea.

The marriage of Mr. Jesse E. Mapes, of New York city, youngest son of Mr. Oscar W. Mapes, of Mapledale, to Miss Edna Marsh Beyea, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. Wright Beyea, was solemnized at 2 o'clock this afternoon, at the bride's home in Otisville. Only relatives and immediate friends witnessed the ceremony which was performed by Rev. R. J. Diven, of New Hamburgh, N. Y., a former pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Otisville, assisted by the present pastor, Rev. F. E. Taylor. The obligations were sealed with a ring, carried by little Willie Smith of Brooklyn, acting as page. Bessie B. Mapes, the bright little daughter of Mr. Winfield S. Mapes, was maid of honor.

The bride was also attended by her Sunday school class all attired in the purest of white. They carried streamers of evergreen between which the bride and groom were ushered into the presence of those assembled as witnesses

the happy event. The bride appeared very charming in a gown of white.

After a fine wedding repast Mr. and Mrs. Mapes left on Erie train 2, which stopped at Otisville on a special order. They will divide their honeymoon between the metropolis and Poughkeepsie.

The groom is the junior member of the firm of Mapes Brothers, engaged in the dairy business in New York. He associated himself

Middletown Daily Press December 29, 1899 Obituary.

Rev. Luther Littell. (Written for the Press.)

Rev. Luther Littell, for many years pastor of the Mount Hope Presbyterian Church, died at his home in that village about 6 o'clock Thursday morning, aged 76 years.

"Of all the thoughts of God that are Borne inward unto souls afar Among the Psalmist's music deep, Now tell me if there any is For gift of grace surpassing this, 'He giveth his beloved sleep."

Thus after a quiet night at the dawn of Thursday morning, the spirit of Rev. Luther Littell was called home. Rev. Mr. Littell was born April 21, 1824, at New Providence, N. J., and was the seventh of a family of ten children born to John and Mary (Conkling) Littell. His father was also a native of New Providence where for many years he was engaged in the mercantile business. He served as an elder in the Presbyterian church for many years. Death occurred when he was 64 years of age.

Rev. Mr. Littell's grandparents were also natives of New Jersey, and the family history dates back to Anthony Littell who came from near London, Eng. to this country about 1700. An uncle of the deceased for

whom he was named was a colonel in the war of 1812.

Mary Conkling, the mother of the deceased, was born at Basking Ridge, N. J. She died at the age of 87 years.

Rev. Mr. Littell was married on the 3d of May 1853 to Mary A. Hall of Penn Yan, N, Y., who still survives him. Three children were born to them all of whom have passed to the better world. Charles H. died at the age of 23, one week after graduating from Princeton college Frank H. died at the age of 14 years. Anna M. died in infancy.

When a boy, Mr. Littell attended boarding school at Plainfield, N. J., also at Bloomfield and Madison. At the age of seventeen he entered Princeton College, from which he graduated in 1844. He then taught three years before entering Princeton Theological Seminary, from which he graduated in 1850.

Later that year he came to Mount Hope and was ordained an installed pastor of the church, Sept. 25, 1850. This pastorate extended to 1881, followed by a call to the Presbyterian Church of Holt, Mich., where he remained five years.

About this time a call was extended to return to Mount Hope, which he accepted and he was pastor of the church till February, 1898, when because of ill health he resigned.

It will be two years Monday, Jan. 1st, since Rev. Mr. Littell in company with Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald attended the funeral of Rev. Mr. Forsythe at Montgomery. On their return they found they could not make their way through the drifted snow, and nearly frozen, they sought shelter at the residence of the late Silas Vail. This shock produced a strain on the heart from which Mr. Littell has since suffered. He, however, kept up good spirits and at no time was confined to the bed but was ready to talk pleasantly with those whom he saw, and to perform any duty to the best of his ability. He possessed a wonderful faculty of remembering faces and names, and made one feel he had an interest in him

personally and he wanted everyone to live a true life. He not only was a friend to many, but many were friends to him too. He was always well remembered by friends now living away from our village when his congregation gave him a reception, and the last Christmas tide, he received \$50 from friends and relatives. Mr. Littell will long be missed by many.

In his political views Mr. Littell was a staunch Republican and took quite an active part in local politics. But it was to the ministry that his talents were given. For nearly half a century he proclaimed the gospel of the Son of God, and the good he has done and the souls that he has saved will never be known until eternity.

The funeral will be held Monday Jan. 1st, at 2 p.m., at the Presbyterian church Mount Hope. Friends will meet at the parsonage at 1:30 p.m.

Middletown Daily Press January 9, 1900 OTISVILLE

(Special to the PRESS.)

The large congregation at the Presbyterian church Sunday morning heard an interesting monthly report from their trustees. Each report of the board has been encouraging. At the Christmas exercises of the Sunday School lately the people of the church were pleasantly surprised by the Otisville Dramatic Club in the form of a large street lamp. Appropriate acknowledgement was made qt the time by the president of the board of trustees. In their last meeting the board decided on a course which, if carried out, will be more acceptable doubtless to the dramatic club than thanks. They propose, that if six other citizens of the village will do as much they will have the lamp before the church lighted every evening. This is a forward move. Who will be the first six?

The union service of the two churches held in the Methodist church in the evening, was well attended. The united choirs led the congregation inspiringly in the singing....Union meetings will be held each evening this week, except Saturday. The service Tuesday night will be in the Methodist church. Tomorrow (Wednesday) evening wagons starting from the Methodist church at 7 o'clock, will take many to the union meeting at the Mount Hope church. After Wednesday the services will be held in the Presbyterian church of Otisville....There is a rumor that a Literary and Musical Society is to be organized in our town. Success to it.

Middletown Daily Times February 13, 1900

Mount Hope

Correspondence of the Times Feb. 12.—Messrs. Southwell, Cooper, Coxe and Pratt of the Middletown Y. M. C. A., were at the Presbyterian Church, Sunday evening, and took leading parts in the worship. The remarks of the first three gentlemen were not only enjoyed, but earnestly heard and, by many, considered. A large congregation was present. Mr. Pratt and Percy Northrup, of Otisville, swelled the volume of the music with their cornets. Special meetings will be held in the church every evening this week except Saturday. Rev. Dr. Beattie may be present one evening. The pastor's brother, Rev. R. H. Taylor, of Westtown, will speak Thursday and Friday evenings.

A successful sociable was held at the home of John Seybolt, Thursday evening last, under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society, of the church. Notwithstanding the inclement weather about forty persons were out, and a good time was had.

The Y. M. C. A. boys were pleasantly entertained at tea Sunday evening by Miss Woodward, assisted by Miss Langdon and Mrs. Edward Smith.

[in the same issue]

Otisville.
Correspondence of the Times

Feb. 12. – No prayer meeting will be held in the Presbyterian Church Wednesday evening on account of the special meetings in progress in the Mt. Hope church. Some wagons will take those ...(unreadable)...who wish to go, to the meetings at Mt. Hope.

--No worship will be held in the Presbyterian Church next Sunday evening. The Board of the church suggested that the pastor be left free to be at the meeting at Mt. Hope that evening.

--The series of meetings were continued successfully in the Methodist Church last. Week.

--The ladies of the Presbyterian Aid Society have been busy the past week recovering the cushions of the church pews.

Middletown Daily Times Feb. 13, 1900

.....-No prayer meeting will be held in the Presbyterian Church Wednesday evening on account of the special meetings in progress in the Mt. Hope church. Some wagons will take those ... who wish to go, to the meetings at Mt. Hope.

No worship will be the in the Presbyterian Church next Sunday evening. The Board of the church suggested that the pastor be left free to be at the meeting at Mt. Hope that evening.

Middletown Daily Times February 15, 1900

--Several vehicles conveyed members of the Presbyterian Church to Mount Hope, Sunday evening, to attend worship in that village, where a series of revival meeting are now in progress.

--Rev. Frank Taylor preached a very able and impressive sermon in the Presbyterian Church Sunday morning. The text chosen was, "They Crucified Him." It was a thoroughly enjoyable and beneficial sermon.

Middletown Daily Times March 6, 1900

Otisville.

Correspondence of the Times. March 5 - Over thirty persons assembled at the Presbyterian parsonage Saturday afternoon to meet Mrs. C. A. Goodale-Fairchild, and Miss Emma B. Shafer, the President and Secretary respectively of the Orange County Women's Christian Temperance Union. Owing, as was afterwards learned, to illness, neither of the ladies was able to be present. Mrs. White consented, at the last moment, to fill the breach with the report of the last State Convention of the Union held at Binghamton. In addition to this the following persons took part in the program: Miss Mae Updegrove began the exercises with a pleasant piano solo, which was followed by the devotional portion, led by the President, Mrs. E. E. Taylor, who asked Rev. Stuart Molineaux to lead in prayer. Revs. Taylor and Molineaux sang a duet. This was followed by a stirring recitation by Miss Otto. Miss Drake played a piece on

the mandolin, and the program closed with an instrumental duet by Mrs. Tymeson and Miss Nellie Robbins. After a brief business meeting refreshments were served, and those present engaged in a pleasant social time. ...

The Literary and Musical Society held its second meeting at the Presbyterian parsonage Friday evening. The meeting was largely attended. A constitution was adopted. The following officers were elected: President, Louis Mapes; Secretary, Mrs. Andrews; Treasurer, Mrs. Molineux. An interesting program was given. All present seemed enthusiastic in their interest in the society. The next meeting will be held at the Methodist parsonage March 23. ...

The Christian Endeavors will hold an oyster supper in the social rooms of the Presbyterian Church, Friday evening, the ninth inst.

Middletown Daily Press March 20, 1900

Otisville

(Special to the Times.)

...At the Presbyterian church last Sabbath, eight were received on profession of faith, seven of whom were baptized. ...

The Sunday school of the Presbyterian church conducted service in the church, Sunday evening. The attendance was good, and the program was much appreciated. Next Sunday morning the Littell Mission circle will have charge of the church service. That Circle held a very interesting and helpful meeting at Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Tymeson's, Saturday afternoon. ...

The choir of the Presbyterian church with a number of friends, were pleasantly entertained at Mr. King's home last Friday evening. After the customary drill, refreshments, music and social intercourse were heartily enjoyed by all. ...

Middletown Daily Press March 31, 1900

OBITUARY.

Mrs. Mary Littell.

Mary, widow of Rev. Luther Littell, died Friday night at 8:30, at her home in the Presbyterian parsonage at Mount Hope. Death was due to a stomach trouble, which with one of her advanced years soon resulted fatally. She was stricken Tuesday night and appeared to go into a semi-conscious state.

Mrs. Littell was about to remove to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where she has several nieces residing. Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald was assisting her in making the arrangements for her departure.

Deceased was 81 years of age. Her maiden name was Mary Ann Hall, and she was married May 3, 1838, at Penn Yan, N. Y. Three children, now all deceased, were born to the couple. Charles H. died one week after graduation from Princeton College, Frank H. died at 14 years of age, and Anna M. died in infancy. Rev. Mr. Littell died December 27th last.

Funeral notice appears elsewhere.

Middletown Daily Press

(Date of publication unknown) **IN MEMORIAM**.

James Craig, of Otisville
Editors Press: - Sir: It is with deep regret I read the obituary of my friend, Mr. James Craig, of Otisville, which appears in your issue of the 20 inst. Mr. Craig moved to Otisville early in my ministry there and from that time till the end of pastorate he was one of my most sincere friends. He was seldom absent from public worship and was always

most appreciative of my pulpit ministrations. A close intimacy was soon formed between us, and it grew stronger as the years passed. I found him to be a man of remarkable ability—well read, a clear thinker and able to form a just judgment on all questions of the day. He was a man of fine sensibilities true to his professions and generous to a fault.

When I left Otisville and moved to Pennsylvania we kept up our intimacy by regular correspondence. Mr. Craig's letters consisted not of local gossip and trifling personalities but discussed questions which occupied statesmen, philanthropists and theologians, written in such perfection—of grammar, spelling and diction—that they might have been set up in type without editorial correction. Indeed, I have sometimes read his letters critically to see if I could detect and error of any sort, but not one have I ever found.

It is some months since I had the pleasure of seeing him last, but then, though confined to his bed, his thoughts were still running on intellectual subjects, and he called me back to his bed side more than once to ask my opinion regarding the "two witnesses" spoken of in the eleventh chapter of Revelation. For a hard working man, Mr. Craig, saw a great deal of the world in his busy life. He told me that he was in London at the coronation of Queen Victoria, and was so near her carriage in the procession that he saw the large drops of perspiration on her face and could have almost touched her as she passed by.

I much regret that I shall see his face no more; but I rejoice at the same time that he has met again that loved one, whose memory he cherished with remarkable tenderness all through these years as the young wife of his first and unchanging affections.

R. H. Craig. Amity, N. Y., March 23, 1900.

Middletown Daily Press April 6, 1900

OTISVILLE

(Special to the PRESS.)

-- Rev. Homer Tope, Ph. D., of Poughkeepsie, delivered an eloquent lecture in the Presbyterian church last Saturday evening in the interest of temperance. Mr. Tope is superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League for this and several adjacent counties.

---The annual meeting of the Presbyterian church was held Wednesday. The reports of treasurer indicated a healthy condition of the church financially. A vote of thanks was given the trustees and also to the women of the Ladies' Aid Society for renovating the cushions in the pews and making several new ones; also to Mrs. Bailey in particular, who contributed the material for this work. Mr. C. J. Tymeson was re-elected trustee. Rev. F. E. Taylor was elected for the ensuing year. A unanimous vote was taken not to ask financial assistance from Presbytery.

--The W. C. T. U. will meet with Mrs. Park, Saturday at 8 p.m. Worship in the Presbyterian church Sunday at 11 a.m. The Christian Endeavors will have charge of the evening service.

Middletown Daily Press April 13, 1900

MOUNT HOPE

(Special to the PRESS.)

---Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald, Mr. John Littell and son returned Wednesday evening from the burial of Mrs. Luther Littell at New Providence.....Rev. F. E. Taylor will preach in the church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The mid-week prayer meeting has been changed from Wednesday to Thursday evenings.

--The household goods of the late Rev. Luther Littell will be sold at auction at the parsonage some day next week......Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald has sold several tons of hay and is delivering it to the State Hospital at Middletown.

Middletown Daily Times April 8, 1903

Otisville

Correspondence of the Times April 6 –The following named persons have been appointed to act as a committee in purchasing a piano for the parlor of the Presbyterian Church viz: G. H. King, S. J. Boyd, Rev. F. E. Taylor, Misses Nellie Robbins, Iva Loomis, Mrs. Ella Tymeson.

--Services appropriate to Palm Sunday were observed in the Presbyterian Church Sunday. An excellent sermon was preached by the pastor, Rev. F. D. Taylor. There was an organ voluntary by Miss Nellie Robbins vocal quartet –"Thy will be done" --- by Misses Taylor and King. Mrs. Alfred Ketcham and Mrs. White and vocal solo – "Green palms" – by Iva Loomis.

Middletown Daily Times April 9, 1903

Otisville.

Correspondence of the Times.

---Mrs. Ella Tymeson, the Superintendent of the L. T. L., gave a reception in the lecture room of the Presbyterian Church, Saturday afternoon, from 3 to 6 p.m. Seventy-five children were served with refreshments. During the afternoon Misses Northrup and Beyea gave several recitations, Miss Iva Loomis a piano solo, Miss Reta Northrup rendered a vocal solo. Games were indulged in by the pastor and children. It was near sunset, and something of the early evening glow rested on the tiny guests. On all sides was the rare beauty of the Shawanga Mountains, and the setting sun shed a golden glory on the white walls of the church, which was surely a beautiful picture to photograph in memory.

Middletown Daily Times April 18, 1903

Otisville.

Correspondence of the times.

April 16. ... The Easter service held in the Presbyterian Church Sunday evening was one of great rejoicing and praise. As usual it was largely attended. The edifice was beautifully decorated with Easter lilies, palms, Boston ferns, potted plants, etc. "The Conquering Redeemer," a complete service for Easter, was rendered in a charming manner by the Sabbath school and choir. Among those who took part in the program were Ella Norrthrup, Emma Horton, Nellie Carter, Agnes Carter, Reta Northrup, Horace Ketcham, Carrie Ketcham, Jesse Otto, Reta Northrup, Harriet Beyea, Elizabeth White, Rev. F. E. Taylor and Rev. Dr. E. F. Fowler. Miss Nellie G. Robbins was organist.

Middletown Daily Times April 21, 1903

Otisville.

Correspondence of the Times.

--The junior singing class meets every Monday afternoon in the lecture room of the Presbyterian Church, with Rev. F. E. Taylor as instructor. It is earnestly hoped all the children will take an interest in music and be present at every meeting.

Middletown Daily Times Sept. 9, 1904

Musicale at Otisville.

Held in the Presbyterian Church – Program was Well Rendered – Social and Financial Success.

(From our Otisville Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding the fact that a large number of our citizens were out of town Monday, a large audience was present at the musicale held in Otisville Presbyterian church. The church was prettily decorated with tropical plants, sweet peas, lilies, etc.

The following program was well rendered:

Piano duet, Dropping Violets, Millicent Ketcham, Nellie G. Robbins; vocal solo, "Blue Bell," Sarah Loomis; recitation, Miss Kitty Smith, of Wurtsboro; piano duet, Mrs. Bethel, of New York and Miss Reta Northrup; vocal duet, Maud and Helen Greenleaf: paper, Life of Chopin, Mrs. Charles Loomis; vocal solo, Anna Cockrill;; recitation, Frances Ogden; piano solo, Miss Mae Uptegrove, of Schenectady; vocal solo, Redemption, Millicent Ketcham; paper, Life of Padersiski, Mrs. Edward Robbins; vocal solo, Enter at the gate, Mr. Flanning, of Lakewood, N. J., recitation, Mis Lulu Northrup; piano duet, Miss Clara Manning, of Guymard, and Miss Mae Uptegrove; vocal solo, "For all Eternity," Retya A. Northrup; recitations, Miss Sadie McClurd.

The singing by the little tots was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The piano duets received loud applause, and numerous encores.

The recitations were rendered in a creditable manner. The piano solo by Miss Uptegrove was full of tenderness and expression. The vocal solos by Misses Northrup and Ketcham were sung very sweetly. Especial mention should be made of Mr. Flanning, who traveled two hundred miles in order to fill his engagement. He possesses a full, flexible, baritone, which was

greatly admired. Next year he will complete his musical studies in Paris. We hope he may favor us again.

The ushers were Misses Clara Greenleaf and Carrie Cockrill.

We wish to extend our thanks to all who contributed or assisted in any manner, and to Mrs. Bethel, who is stopping at Hillside Manor, for her kindly assistance.

It proved to be a success both socially and financially.

Middletown Daily Times September 30, 1904

Otisville.

(Correspondence of the Times.)

The autumn leaf social will be held in the lecture room of the Presbyterian Church instead of the manse as previously announced. A regular supper will be served for 25 cents. As this is for a worthy cause, it is hoped there may be a large attendance. An interesting program will be rendered. Remember the date, Tuesday evening, Oct. 4....

--Rev. Theron Brittain occupied the Presbyterian pulpit Sunday morning and gave an interesting sermon.

Middletown Daily Times September 30, 1904

--Services will be omitted in the Presbyterian Church Sunday.

Middletown Daily Times October 18, 1904

Otisville.

(Correspondent of the Times.)

Oct. 17.—Mrs. Wheeler, of Newburgh, County Superintendent of L. T. L. Work, will reorganize a branch of the above in this village, Friday afternoon, at the close of the public school, in the lecture room of the Presbyterian Church. All young people are requested to be present. She will also hold a

mothers' meeting at 7 p.m. at the above mentioned place. Mrs. Wheeler will be heartily welcomed by all.

-- Rev. Jacob Klaasse, of Illinois, is expected to arrive in town this week and will occupy the Presbyterian manse, which is being renovated prior to his occupancy. He will occupy the pulpit Sunday morning, Oct. 23. It is earnestly hoped he may be greeted by a large attendance. We sincerely hope those who have been complaining because we have had no regular pastor or service will be present every Sabbath.

Middletown Daily Times October 18, 1904

...The C. E. expects to hold a fair near the holidays for the purpose of obtaining money to have the Presbyterian Church repainted. Give them a call before visiting the city for gifts, as we are sure your wants will be satisfied. ...

Rally day was appropriately observed in the Presbyterian Church Sunday evening and was largely attended. The church was prettily decorated with autumn leaves, flowers, fruits and vegetables. The following program was well rendered:

Processional **Opening Chorus**

Song—Praise the Lord

School

Responsive Reading.

Prayer: Rev. Dr. Fowler

Song - A Sound in Every Breeze

School

Recitation --- Doing Duty Nellie

Carter

Exercise - Basket of Summer Fruit Five girls

Theodore Writer Recitation

Song – Christ our Captain School

Exercise - Little One and Larger Ones

Five Children

Recitation Ansel King

Song - O, Heavenly King School

Exercise - Sheaves Seven Girls

Recitation – Corn and Lilies (sic)

Emma Horton

Flag Exercise Six Girls

Song – To the Harvest School

Recitation Allen King

Song – Dewdrops Bright Four Girls

Recitation Horace Ketcham

Song - Our Father's Praise School

Offertory.

Remarks Rev. Dr. Fowler

Recitation - Treason Paul Otto

Exercise - In Union There's Strength

Six Girls and Boys.

Hiram Elliott Recitation

Song—Marching On

School

Recitation

Florence Boyd

Exercise – Flag and Cross

Nine Boys

and Girls.

Song - We Will Follow Thee

School

Many thanks are extended Misses Lulu Northrup and Grace Boyd for their untiring effort, and to Rev. Dr. Fowler for his kindly assistance.

Middletown Daily Times December 6, 1904

THE DRIFTWOOD SALE.

Held in Presbyterian Church at Otisville Last Week - Middletown Merchants Contributed Liberally.

(From our Otisville correspondent.)

The Driftwood Sale, which was held in the Presbyterian church Thursday and Friday evenings under the direction of Miss Lulu Northrup, President of the E. E. Society, was a grand success both socially and financially, the receipts amounting to \$140.35

The room had been beautifully decorated for the occasion by Decorator Dromgoole and presented a charming spectacle as on entered. Among the most noticeable were the Ladies' Home Journal booth, consisting of red and black crepe paper; the Fancy Article Booth of yellow and white crepe paper; the useful and Ornamental Booth of lavender and white paper; the Candy Booth of national colors.

The tables were enclosed in the luncheon room by an artistic and attractive fence of black and red crepe paper. A chicken pie supper was served the first evening which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who partook. All the booths did a thriving business.

The second evening another large audience was present to enjoy the farce, "Not a Man in the House," which was given by Mrs. Arthur Tymeson, Misses Reta Northrup, Jessie Otto and Antoinette Loomis. All acted their different parts to perfection and were loudly applauded. The above was given under the direction of Mrs. Alonzo Ogden.

The following program was rendered: Piano duet, Nellie Robbins, Lena Cockrill; vocal solo, Sara Loomis; recitation, Carrie Ketcham; vocal solo, Eva Miller; recitation, Paul Otto, vocal solo, Anna Cockrill; piano duet, Reta Northrup, Nellie Robbins. Light refreshments were served.

Following is a list of the Middletown merchants who donated articles: France & Hathaway, Kernochan, Youngs, Morris B. Wolf, Hanford & Horton, The Mohican Store, McMonagle & Rogers, Charles Wolff, Jr., Leo Barnett, Edmond & Van Sickle, Dayton, Galloway, Ayres & Galloway, L. R. Wallace, F. M. Pronk, Brink & Clark, Weller & Demerest, Startup & Quackenbush, Ogden & Shimer, Brink & Clark, A. Samuels, Charles A. Ketcham, James A. Smith, Carson & Towner and L. Stern.

Many thanks are extended for the generous donations, also for the liberal patronage of the public and to any who assisted.

Middletown Daily Times December 29, 1904

A large audience was present at the Presbyterian Church Saturday evening to greet Kris Kringle. At the conclusion of the program, which was heretofore published, sleigh bells were perceived and with a whoa! The dear old fellow entered and made a direct route for the Christmas tree, which was pronounced by all beautiful. All were kindly remembered, including pastor and wife, superintendent, teacher and pupils, ten teachers, nineteen on the cradle roll. A vote of thanks is extended...Mrs. Charles Roesch and her assistants who labored so faithfully to have it a success, and to Miss Antoinette Loomis for the Christmas decorations, which were charming and consisted of evergreens, Christmas bells, a background of dark material concealed by stars the most prominent being the Star of Bethlehem, a bank of evergreens on which "A Merry Christmas" was firmed, After the distribution of gifts, Santa departed and all returned to their respective homes wishing all "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

... Miss Mary Simonds, of Grand Rapids, Mich., has arrived at the Presbyterian manse, where she expects to remain during the winter. ...

The members of the Presbyterian choir will meet at the home of Miss Pearly Beyea Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Middletown Daily Times April 21, 1905

Several men from Port Jervis have been engaged in repairing the Presbyterian Church steeple, which was damaged by lightning last summer. ...

A party to which all the children of the community are invited, will be held at the Presbyterian parsonage Saturday, April 19. All children welcome.

Middletown Daily Times May 5, 1905

A young gentleman from the Wanamaker Church in Philadelphia called at the Presbyterian Sabbath school Sunday morning.

The men from Port Jervis who repaired the Presbyterian Church steeple are anxious to accumulate wealth rapidly, having charged \$58. Unless they return and complete their task properly they will not receive the stated sum.

The choral class will meet in the Presbyterian lecture room Monday evening, May 8.

Middletown Daily Times May 9, 1905

Otisville

(Correspondence of the Times)

May 8. – A red, white and blue social will be held at the residence of Mr. Morse, Tuesday evening, May 9th. An interesting program will be rendered. Supper will be served for twenty cents. Proceeds to purchase new hymnals for the Presbyterian Church as the present ones are in a badly dilapidated condition.

Middletown Daily Times May 26, 1905

Otisville.

(correspondence of the Times.)

Presbyterian choir rehearsal will be at the residence of Mrs. Roesch Saturday evening, at which time the Children's Day music will be practiced. All members attend without further notice. ...

-- The many friends of Rev. Frank E. Taylor, of Tallapoosa, Ga., will be delighted to learn that he contemplates visiting the scenes of his dear old home in town. While

here he will occupy the Presbyterian pulpit in the morning; in the evening at Mt. Hope.

Middletown Daily Times May 29, 1905

Otisville.

(Correspondence of the Times.)

May 29. – The members of the Presbyterian choir and their friends were charmingly entertained by Mrs. Charles Roesch, Saturday evening. Photographer Herbert Sayer took a flash light of the party after which light refreshments were served. All declare Mrs. Roesch to be an ideal entertainer. ...

- -- The W. C. T. U. will meet with Mrs. Charles Wheat Saturday at 3 p. m., at which time reports will be given by the superintendents of the different departments.
- -- "Junetide," a program for Children's Day will be rendered in the Presbyterian Church Sunday, June 4th. All are welcome.
- --Probably twenty automobiles passed through here Sunday.
- -- A strawberry and ice cream festival will be held in lecture room of the Presbyterian Church, Friday evening, June 2nd, under auspices of the C. E. A cordial welcome is extended the public. ...
- --Persons who are willing to contribute flowers towards the decorating of our dead heroes graves, kindly leave same at the Presbyterian Church early Tuesday morning as the L. T. L., and all the children of the village are invited to march to the cemetery and place them on the last resting place of our fallen brave.
- --Members of the Choral Class are respectfully invited to meet Monday evening in the Presbyterian Church for rehearsal at 7:30 o'clock.

Middletown Times Press September 25, 1906

Otisville

--Mrs. Bailey, national speaker and reformer, addressed a meeting in the Presbyterian and M. E. churches, Sunday, which was very interesting and instructive.

--Nine members of the W. C. T. U. attended the convention held at Middletown the past week. ...

--Mrs. MacEldowney, of Boston, charmed the audience in both the M. E. and Presbyterian churches, Sunday, by sweetly rendering "The City Beautiful."

--The members of the Presbyterian congregation were amazed Sunday to learn that Rev. Frank Diehl, the pastor, had severed his connection with the church rather abruptly, which was a great surprise to his many friends.

Middletown Daily Press

(Date of publication unknown) *IN MEMORIAM*.

James Craig, of Otisville.

Editors Press: - Sir: It is with deep regret I read the obituary of my friend, Mr. James Craig, of Otisville, which appears in your issue of the 20 inst. Mr. Craig moved to Otisville early in my ministry there and from that time till the end of pastorate he was one of my most sincere friends. He was seldom absent from public worship and was always most appreciative of my pulpit ministrations. A close intimacy was soon formed between us, and it grew stronger as the years passed. I found him to be a man of remarkable ability—well read, a clear thinker and able to form a just judgment on all questions of the day. He was a man of fine sensibilities true to his professions and generous to a fault.

When I left Otisville and moved to Pennsylvania we kept up our intimacy by regular correspondence. Mr. Craig's letters consisted not of local gossip and trifling personalities but discussed questions which occupied statesmen, philanthropists and theologians, written in such perfection—of grammar, spelling and diction—that they might have been set up in type without editorial correction. Indeed, I have sometimes read his letters critically to see if I could detect and error of any sort, but not one have I ever found.

It is some months since I had the pleasure of seeing him last, but then, though confined to his bed, his thoughts were still running on intellectual subjects, and he called me back to his bed side more than once to ask my opinion regarding the "two witnesses" spoken of in the eleventh chapter of Revelation. For a hard working man, Mr. Craig, saw a great deal of the world in his busy life. He told me that he was in London at the coronation of Queen Victoria, and was so near her carriage in the procession that he saw the large drops of perspiration on her face and could have almost touched her as she passed by.

I much regret that I shall see his face no more; but I rejoice at the same time that he has met again that loved one, whose memory he cherished with remarkable tenderness all through these years as the young wife of his first and unchanging affections.

R. H. Craig. Amity, N. Y., March 23, 1900.

Middletown Daily Press March 31, 1900 OBITUARY

Mrs. Mary A. Littell.

Mary, widow of Rev. Luther Littell, died Friday night at 8:30, at her home in the Presbyterian parsonage at Mount Hope. Death was due to a stomach trouble, which with one of her advanced years soon resulted fatally. She was stricken Tuesday night and

appeared to go into a semi-conscious state.

Mrs. Littell was about to remove to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where she has several nieces residing. Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald was assisting her in making the arrangements for her departure.

Deceased was 81 years of age. Her maiden name was Mary Ann Hall, and she was married May 3, 1853, at Penn Yan, N. Y. Three children, now all deceased, were born to the couple. Charles H. died one week after graduation from Princeton College, Frank H. died at 14 years of age, and Anna M. died in infancy. Rev. Mr. Littell died December 27th last.

Funeral notice appears elsewhere.

Source unknown-

Obituary for pastor in Otisville 1871-1884. D. Sept. 11, 1913

REV. ROBERT HOUSTON CRAIG, LL.D.

Born in County Antrim, Ireland, of Scotch Covenanter stock.

'Brought up in the Presbyterian Church, becoming a member at the age of sixteen.

Educated in the local school and the classical academies of Ballymoney and Belfast, also by private tutors, one of whom was W. E. Mulgan, Vicar of Templecarran and Kilroot. Took full course of training in Dublin National Training College, 1864. Taught in Mosside, Belfast and Kilroot until 1868, when he resigned to enter Princeton Theological Seminary, in 1868. Remained three years, graduated 1871. Licensed to preach by New Brunswick Presbytery 1870 Ordained by Presbytery of Hudson June 27, 1871, as pastor at Otisville, N. Y. Released 1884. Presbytery Lackawanna installed, Hawley, 1884; released 1888; Presbytery Lackawanna installed, Bennet Church, 1888; release 1892; Presbytery Hudson installed, Amity, N. Y>,

1892; released 1909. Retired to Plainfield, N. J.

Wrote general articles for New York "Observer" for thirty-six years, poetry and prose, Belfast "Witness," Ireland, "Church at Home and Abroad," "Christian at Work," "American Messenger," secular papers.

Gale College, Mrs. Legum Doctor (LL.D.), 1900. Married July 31, 1873, Miss Rachel McFetridge. Attended General Assembly in Brooklyn, St. Louis and Kansas City.

Moderator Hudson Presbytery 1878-1897, moderator Lackawanna Presbytery 1887, Treasurer of Hudson Presbytery and chairman of Committee on Ministerial Relief for many years.

While in Plainfield his health gradually declined until on September 1, 1913, he was stricken with apoplexy, from which he never recovered. Died September 11, 1913, and his remains were interred in Hillside Cemetery, Plainfield. His pastor, Rev. C. E. Herring, Ph.D., assisted by Rev. Lewis Bond, conducted the funeral services at his home, 259 Leland avenue, and accompanied his remains to the cemetery.

Particularly sympathetic with sick and suffering, he was greatly revered as a pastor and preacher and was noted for his success in promoting the temporal as well as the spiritual prosperity of the people under his charge. In Otisville a new parsonage was built and paid for; in Hawley the church building renovated; in Bennet, also, a fine, new parsonage was erected, and in Amity the church building was improved and a pipe organ installed.

He was a man of peculiarly engaging personality and made many friends during his residence in this city.

He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

Middletown Times Press April 22, 1914

OTISVILLE

...Rapid progress is being made on the new High School building.

While in the discharge of his duties at the sanatorium, James Runnalls was kicked by a horse which has necessitated his remaining at home for several days. Mr. Runnalls is also employed as sexton of the Presbyterian Church, which office he has filled for nearly 40 years. On account of the above-mentioned injury, it was necessary for Theodore Writer and Jesse Runnalls to ring the church bell and pump the pipe organ, which they did remarkably well. ...

Presbyterian Church Notes. ... The teachers' meeting, which was held Friday evening, was largely attended. ... Prayer meeting will be held Wednesday evening.

-END-