

## Mrs. Dorcas Hawks

Feb. 4 - 1912

Dorcas Vant was born in East Kent, England, August 27, 1821 and died in her home at Arlington Heights, Sunday, February 4, 1912 aged 90 years 5 months and 7 days. She came from England with her parents when nine years of age. They settled at Volney, Oswego County New York. This was her home until married September 19, 1841 to Alenzo Hawks. They came to Illinois, September 1848.

These were the days of pioneers. They came to brave the hardships of the western wilderness. Friends in the east never expected to see them again. There were no railroads far west as Chicago. They made the trip by the lakes. It was a perilous journey overing six weeks. Chicago was then a mere hamlet or trading post. For more than half a century they lived on a farm five miles northeast of Arlington Heights.

They braved the rigors of climate, endured the trials of pioneer civilization, and suffered the sorrows and privations of those early days in Illinois in the true heroic spirit. They builded a home, became a mighty faction for righteousness and left an abiding influence for truth, purity and holiness.

In May 1903 they moved to Arlington Heights. In April 1907 Mr. Hawks died.

Mrs. Hawks was the mother of five children, beside an adopted daughter; three preseeded her in death, one in infancy: Richard a son in youth, and Frederic in young-manhood, also the adopted daughter Millie. She is survived by her son Rev. M. C. Hawks, an honored member of the Detroit Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church and Miss Ida Hawks who has been the faithful care taker and constant companion of her parents in their

Mrs. Hawks was a poet by nature and in her earlier days contributed many couplets and stanzas for epitaphs. She was a lover of the beautiful and a great admirer of flowers. Her gardens were the delight and wonder of the neighborhood during her life upon the farm and up to her death the home was made more attractive by the verdure and blossoms of flowers.

She possessed a rich sense of humor and often keen in wit. This brightened life's labors and softened the sorrows and cares.

Mrs. Hawks was a very religious woman. Her father was a Baptist lay preacher. When a young woman she personally accepted the Christian faith and continued steadfast in the same unto death. In 1875 she and her husband united with the Methodist Episcopal church of Arlington Heights. Sunday Aug. 27, 1911 she commemorated her 90th anniversary by attending the morning service.

The home loses a fond and tender mother, the church a saint and the community a faithful friend.

Funeral services were held at the home Tuesday Feb. 6, 1912 at 1:30 conducted by Rev. Peter Jacobs, pastor of the Methodist church. Mrs. Chas. Lorenzen an intimate friend of the family sang two solos one of which, "Let me Go", was a favorite with Mrs. Hawks.

Among those from out of town who attended the funeral were; L. O. Brockway and Miss Clara Keyes, of Waukegan, Richard Vant Deerfield; Fred Vant Emmington; Geo. Vant, Mrs. F. Reynolds, Mrs. C. Christie and Mrs. Chantrill of Chicago and Misses Laura and Emma Dunton of Evanston.

At the final services, Rev. H. F. Lawler, a former pastor, delivered the address in which he paid the highest tribute possible to be paid any woman.

Rev. Samuel Taylor, pastor of the church, also had a part in the service. Mrs. Charles Lorenzen sang two of the songs Miss Hawks loved.

Interment was in Arlington Heights cemetery.