We are called upon this week to chronicle the death of one of the oldest settlers in Elk township, John Lindsay Hall, whose death occurred last Thursday morning, December 31st, 1903, at his home in Hawkeye where he and his family moved from north of Wood only a few weeks ago. He has spent the greater part of his life in Elk township where he could count his friends by the score. He was an honest, upright citizen, loyal to his country and to his flag as his war record will show, and the announcement of his death is received with sadness by all who knew him.

JOHN LINDSAY HALL was born in Davie county, North Carolina, October 20th, 1830. When he was about three years old he moved with his parents to Jackson county, Indiana, and lived there until he was seventeen years old when he moved to Iowa and settled in Clayton county. He served as a volunteer in the Civil War in Co. D. of the 27th Iowa, from October 12th, 1864, to May 30th, 1865.

He was married to Elizabeth Rizer July 28th, 1853. To them were born thirteen children—three boys and ten girls. Five of them, one boy and four girls, preceeded him to the grave. His wife, who lived with him for more than fifty years, eight children, thirty-two grandchildren, one great-grandchild, two sisters, one brother, survive him.

The children living are John Hall, Margaret Nelson, Mary Ladrick, Luella Arnold, Effie Hall, Minnie Smock, Elmer Hall, Nellie Smock.

John Hall was a thorough christian man. He was converted and joined the Methodist church when he was seventeen years of age and during the fifty-six years he held membership in that church, there was no time during that period that he could not get a church letter of good standing. He was an enthusiastic member of the G. A. R., and his comrades of Hawkeye and Edgewood acted as pall bearers at his funeral service.
Early in September he was taken with a violent bleeding at the nose caused by the bursting of an artery. In order to get better medical aid, he moved to Hawkeye Nov. 9, and it seemed that he would soon be well again. On Dec. 21 he was suddenly taken worse and his life was despaired of, but he rallied and seemed to be again on the road to recovery. But early Monday morning Dec. 28, he again took worse and it seemed he could only last a few hours. He lingered, however till Thursday morning, about 4 o'clock, when he fell asleep. He was conscious every moment of the time till the end and talked freely with those about him. He said, “It is not hard for me to die, I’m just waiting to go home.”

At his request his pastor, Rev. H. S. Kester of Hawkeye, preached the funeral sermon from Phil. 1:21. It was also his desire to be buried on the old homestead east of Edgewood where the funeral services were held on Saturday, Jan. 2, 1904 and he was laid to rest beneath a large cedar tree planted by his own hands fifty years ago. He was 73 years, 2 months and 11 days old.

The Journal wishes to extend its deepest sympathy to the true and loving wife and her children in the dark hour of sorrow, and earnestly commends them to God for peace and consolation. Father will be waiting for you on the other shore.