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Samuel Helm, Pioneer Dies, Husband of Sarah Smith Helm

Early settler of Adams County, dies Wednesday at age of 84 years.

Samuel Helm, 84, one of Adams county's earliest pioneers died at 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, December 12, 1928, at his home east of the city, from infirmities of old age. Mr. Helm had been failing for the past eighteen months, but only during the past five weeks had he been confined to his bed.

Samuel Helm was born on April 12, 1844, in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. He was the son of John and Catherine Helm. When he was a boy of three years, he traveled from Pennsylvania to Adams County, Indiana, in a covered wagon with his parents. The trip required a period of three weeks. The family settled on a farm just one mile northeast of the present old home place, which is located three and one-half miles east of Decatur. Here they made a clearing and built a one room log house, which was significant in that it had one room, one door, and one window. Here the family resided for many years.

On August 24, 1862, Samuel Helm united in marriage with Sarah Smith his surviving widow, and they have enjoyed 66 years of companionship together. Sixteen years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Helm had the pleasure of celebrating their golden anniversary. Five generations exist in the Samuel Helm family.

Surviving, besides the aged widow, are two sons, Dan and John Helm, both of whom resided with their parents on the old homestead. One daughter died in infancy. Seven grandchildren, twenty great grandchildren and two great, great grandchildren also survive. One sister, Mrs. Mary Bunker, resides at Pleasant Mills.

Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock at the Helm home, and 2 o'clock at the First Evangelical Church in this city, the Rev. M.W. Sundermann officiating. Burial will be made in the East Salem Cemetery. The deceased was a member of the Salem Evangelical Church, never having transferred his membership to the church in this city. He was the last surviving member of the building committee that built the East Salem Church and was a member of the board of trustees of that church.