

December 24, 1912

### JEPHTHA CUMMINS

When the body of Jephtha Cummins, late of Leslie, Mich., was consigned to its last resting place in Groton Union Cemetery last Friday afternoon, the last honors were paid to one of those early Dakota pioneers who helped to make history in the early settlement of this region.

More than thirty years ago, in the rush to Dakota Territory of 1881, Mr. Cummins and family were a part of the vast Michigan immigration who came to plant the standard of civilization and development on these wide prairies, and he did well his part.

Coming to the territory, he settled in the locality which was known as the vicinity of Yorkville ferry and postoffice, but after the building of the Great Northern road, it became the Putney region. That Mr. Cummins was active in things calou-

lated to promote the best type of manhood and womanhood, the fact is noted that in his locality was erected the first school house in Brown County—in fact the first within a radius of hundreds of miles—and he was also principally instrumental in the organizing of one of the first Sunday schools in this county, many of its sessions during that historic summer of 1881 being held in the open air for want of room in any available building.

The Cummins family consisted of nine children, two of whom died in infancy. Of the seven living only one brother was absent from the funeral held at Leslie, Mich., on Wednesday of last week.

Deceased had reached the advanced age of eighty-five years. So completely finished was his earthly mission, that when his final sickness came, he asked that no effort be made to prolong his life, saying that he was ready to go.

The body was brought back by his eldest son, C. E. Cummins, of Aberdeen. The casket was taken to the home of Mrs. B. F. Dickerson, sister-in-law of the deceased, to allow local relatives and old time friends to pay their last tribute of respect.

Mrs. Cummins died in 1887 and was buried in Groton Union Cemetery, and Jephtha Cummins returned to