

## TAPS SOUND



JOHN HART

## FINAL TAPS SOUND FOR JOHN HART, 102

Hancock's Last Veteran of  
Civil War Succumbs  
to Apoplexy

### FUNERAL TO BE FRIDAY

Venerable Resident Once  
Refused Insurance as  
"Poor Risk"

John Hart, who for several years had been Hancock county's last remaining member of Stoker Post, G. A. R., is dead. Having celebrated his 102nd birthday March 7, he was the last of the members of the old 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry to answer taps.

Living far beyond man's normal span of three score years and ten, this veteran of the war between the North and South clung to life until its last moments with the tenacity and zest which marked all of his living. Conscious until the last, he died at 6 o'clock Wednesday morning in his home, 508 North Main street, six days after he had been stricken by apoplexy.

Until he suffered the stroke last Thursday evening Mr. Hart had been in exceptional health and was looking forward, just as he had for so many years, to the Memorial Day services. In the past several years he, alone, has represented the Grand Army of the Republic.

#### Born in Portage Township

Born March 7, 1843, in a log cabin in the wilderness of Portage township, Mr. Hart was a son of Abraham and Elizabeth (Linn) Hart, true pioneers of

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Hancock county. He was the first born in that primeval homestead. He lived all of his life in Hancock county, moving from Portage township to Liberty township, and then 50 years ago to Findlay.

He was married Oct. 1, 1868, to Eliza Jane Taylor, who died Feb. 21, 1921.

Three children were born, Charles A. Hart, of Findlay; Mrs. E. A. Bunts, who made her home with him, and Eva B. Hart, who was burned to death in 1938.

Grandchildren are Glen Hart, Mrs. Helen Rogers, and Robert Hart, all of Findlay and First Lt. Frederick Bunts, of Redlands, Calif. There are four great-grandchildren.

#### Once Listed "Dead"

Mr. Hart was the last of a family of six. Two incidents in his life were contradicted by this venerable man who lived to be one of Hancock county's oldest residents. While hospitalized in Nashville, Tenn., during the Civil War a physician remarked he would not see another sunrise. Years afterwards when applying for a pension, it was found that government records had listed this man, who outlived nearly all of his comrades, as dead. In his early 50's another physician refused him life insurance, declaring him to be a "poor risk."

Mr. Hart enlisted in the 21st O. V. I. when he was 19 years old. He served two years and returned home only to re-enlist in the "100 day" contingent. While with the 21st O. V. I. he participated in the memorable battle of Stone river, 30 miles from Nashville, Tenn.

Mr. Hart was a former councilman and one time member of the board of equalization.

He was the oldest member of the First Presbyterian church and before moving to Findlay was a member of the Blanchard Presbyterian church.

The regimental flag, made from silk by the wives of several members of the regiment and treasured through the years by Mrs. D. D. Dukes, will be draped on the casket. This flag of silk shows the ravages of years but has been neatly darned and preserved with care since it was made in 1861.

#### Services Friday

The body was taken to the Barnhart funeral home and will remain there until 2 o'clock Friday afternoon when it will be taken to the church to lie in state until time for the services.

The funeral will be held at 4 o'clock Friday afternoon in the First Presbyterian church. Dr. Joseph M. Broady will officiate. Burial will be in Maple Grove cemetery.

Sons of Union Veterans will serve as pall bearers. Members of other military organizations are invited to attend the services in a body and places will be reserved for them at the church. A firing squad of company C, Ohio State Guard, will give the salute at the grave.