

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Jacobson and babies Harold and Ardis of Lansing visited her parents Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Eitel, and sister Della, Sunday.

Miss Addie Corey graduated from Lansing Business University, Friday March 2.

Mrs. Una Moss left on the fast train this forenoon for Grand Rapids and Grandville. Her son-in-law who is in Butterworth Hospital, is not improving much.

Mrs. Arza Barnes of Eaton Rapids is visiting her mother Mrs. Lake from Friday until Sunday.

Mrs. Nellie Fuller returned from Grand Rapids, Sunday, her son Roy and family motoring here with her and spending the day.

Little Alberta Dean, one of the three months old twins of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Dies, of Charlotte, passed away at seven o'clock Sunday morning. Three sisters and four brothers survive. Funeral services were held Tuesday at one o'clock at their home and burial was made at Woodlawn cemetery, Vermontville.

Mr. and Mrs. Glee Best and family of Nashville were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Thompson. Mr. and Mrs. Fred P. Hill were afternoon callers.

Mrs. Louis Boyles was taken ill Friday and was confined to her bed several days, but is improving.

Mrs. Cecil Powers and Kenneth were in Battle Creek Sunday to see the 7 1/2 lb. boy at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Campbell, who arrived Sunday, February 26th. Mrs. Campbell was formerly Erma Powers.

Mr. and Mrs. Luban Barnes were Thursday evening guests, and Wellington and Alton Barnes and wife visited Monday evening at Mr. and Mrs. Ho Ferris'.

March 15, 1928

Kansas City
Mrs. C. S. Snell received the sad news about noon Wednesday that her brother, Mr. E. S. Waite, had passed away at his home in Portland, Maine. He had been sick for several months.

A. L. Barningham had a felon on the second finger of his right hand last week which became more painful Friday, and blood poison developed. He has been having a serious time, but we are glad to report him improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Harley Dorman of Detroit were callers at Cecil Powers' Sunday.

Miss Mary Thrun will be home from Toledo in a few days for a week's visit.

O. B. Tubbs will move off the farm and has rented the Fred Rawson house on West Main street hill.

Mrs. Una Moss returned Tuesday morning from Grandville. Howard Cronk is improving nicely and expects to leave Butterworth hospital the last of the week.

Donald E. Carey of the Caledonia school has signed a contract to remain as Superintendent of Schools at Caledonia, making the seventh year.

The General Contract for the school building was let last week to Elmer M. LaRue of Midland. Mr. LaRue's contract does not include Heating and Ventilating or plumbing. Bryce and Co of Toledo has the Contract for heating and ventilating. General Contract is for \$32,225 Heating and Ventilating is for 9,529 Plumbing Estimated not to exceed \$2,000 has not been let as yet. Total \$43,754.

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On page one, part two in this issue you will find extracts from Vol. 1, No. 1, of the Vermontville Enterprise, our first paper published Oct. 16, 1874. It has shipping new school notes and many other items of interest.

The passing of Miss Jennie Downing takes from our midst one who has been prominent in the religious, social and business interests of Vermontville for many years. As assistant postmaster, she was able to serve the village and surrounding community as few people have been able to do. She was painstaking and conscientious and won the respect and esteem of all. Her close confinement to her work no doubt was the cause of so much suffering during her long sickness, but she bore it with Christian fortitude, never complaining. During the months at Miss Naomi Andrews' home where she was made so welcome and was so tenderly cared for, she spent many happy hours in spite of intense suffering at times. Too much cannot be said in praise of Miss Andrews and the unselfish care she gave Miss Downing. Nothing was left undone to make the last days of Miss Downing pleasant and happy, and not only Miss Downing appreciated it, but her many friends rejoiced with her that Miss Andrews was given strength to care for her to the last. She passed away shortly before eight o'clock Sunday morning, March 18th.

Among those from away to attend the funeral of Miss Downing were: Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Downing and son Carl of Grand Ledge; Mrs. Lura Niles and daughter Helen of Olivet; Dale Downing, and Harold Niles of Lansing; Mrs. Ines Walsh and Mr. and Mrs. Doty of Grand Ledge.

Jennie Downing was born at Troy, New York, May 29, 1845. At the age of five she was adopted by a cousin, and for twenty-two years lived at Taunton, Mass. At the age of sixteen she united with the Baptist Church, and was an active member.

When Abraham Lincoln called for teachers for the Freedman in 1863, she was among the first to respond, but did not receive her commission until June, 1864 from the Freedman's Bureau, Boston, as teacher and from the Baptist Home Mission society as helper with sick and wounded soldiers (too young to go as a nurse). She was sent to Portsmouth, Va., remaining until June, 1865. After the close of the War it was deemed unsafe for teachers to remain South so she returned home.

In 1872 she came to Michigan with her brother John C. Downing and located at Bismark, having another brother and sister living there. She came to the village of Vermontville in the 80s with her brother J. C. Downing and wife, and for more than forty years in business and private life she has lived among us doing her share for the upbuilding of the community. She was assistant postmaster for eleven and one-half years, and was ever ready to help those who needed assistance. It was always a pleasure to her to do for others, and her advice was often sought.

She united with the M. E. Church in 1921, and was ever ready to use her influence for all that which elevates and makes for righteousness. She was broad and charitable in her religious opinions and will be greatly missed in the church. She was also an active member of the W. R. C.

Miss Downing had many warm friends who will ever cherish her memory. She was very fond of children and young people, and was especially fond of her brother's children and grandchildren.

She passed away Sunday morning, March 18, 1928, her six brothers and six sisters all having passed on before. She leaves one nephew Mr. Wesley Downing of Grand Ledge, and one niece, Mrs. Lura Niles of Olivet.

Funeral services were held at the Downing home Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock, conducted by her pastor Rev. C. H. Phillips, assisted by Rev. Mitchell. Mr. and Mrs. K. R. Weiler sang, "Rock of Ages", Miss Martin accompanist. Postmaster Loveland and carriers Grant Hawkins, Allen Faust, Tom Dancer and Harry Hammond, and K. R. Weiler acted as bearers.

Burial was made at Woodlawn cemetery.