

53

Anna Lang Tessman was born March 27, 1844, at New Hohenfields, Mecklenburg-Schwerin. She was married to William Tessman, May 10, 1867. In 1871 they came to Michigan. The year 1874 they came to Sunfield, settling upon the farm where they have since lived, and which she with her own hands helped to clear and build their home. She departed this life Thursday, Nov. 11, 1897. Her disease was tuberculosis. Five children were born to her; two died in infancy, Adolph the first born, tenderly nursed and cared for his mother, through her last illness, not only assuming but discharging the household duties as well. Ella, who is the wife of C. W. Fay and in her own home, Louis, a lad of fourteen years. Soon after coming to Sunfield, she with her husband united with the Presbyterian church, of which she has ever since been a devoted member. She was a consis-

tent Christian, worthy of emulation, and throughout her whole life, she displayed a firm unflinching faith in the Christ whom she knew. She was buried from the church of which she was a member Sunday, Nov. 14, the interment being in the Freemire cemetery. The Rev. Joseph Swindt, her pastor, assisted by Rev. J. V. N. Hartness of Lansing, performed the last sad rites. The music by the choir was touchingly rendered, the selections chosen for the occasion. The opening hymn was "Asleep in Jesus," while as the casket which contained all that was mortal of the beloved wife and mother was borne from the church, the hymn "Some sweet day" was feelingly sung by the choir. The undertaker was Ambrose Cooper, the pall-bearers were Messrs. Geo. Swick, J. K. Hunter, Wesley Brown, C. S. Childs. The flowers brought by her Detroit friends were most beautiful, and were an evidence of the love which they bore their sister, who had left their hearts so desolate. The day was one of the worst for a funeral, yet despite the rain and chilliness, the church was well filled, thus quietly attesting of the esteem in which she was held by her friends. But it is in the home where her voice was once heard, that mourning is felt; the home now saddened and darkened; she who was the center, the life, the light, is gone, the bereaved husband mourns as only those mourn who realize their loss, and in this sketch, the sorrowing ones desire to express their heartfelt thanks to the friends who came to the rescue in the hour of fiery trial, to the ministers for the words of comfort, to the choir for their choice selection of, and beautifully rendered music. They feel they cannot in words express their deep gratitude to their neighbors who proved to them that "a friend in need, is a friend indeed." Mrs. Tessman was beloved and respected by all who knew her, and this feeble pen cannot portray her many virtues and charities. A beautiful custom prevails among a class of Germans, that of burying with the wife, the bridal wreath worn at her own wedding. It was observed in this instance.

"Dearest mother we must lay thee
In the peaceful grave's embrace,
But thy memory will be cherished,
Till we see thy heavenly face."

D. F. CHILDS.