

Clark. Elijah B.,

Was born in Connecticut, November 23, 1792. He left home when a boy of thirteen and became an apprentice to a ship carpenter. When about 18 went to Wayne County, Penna., where he followed farming, carpentering and millwright for several years. In 1830 he came to Michigan, and in June of that year located and entered land in Orion Township and received a deed signed by President Jackson. He returned home that fall and in June 1831 came by canal and team to Buffalo, thence by lake to Detroit and teamed the rest of the way. Here he built a log-cabin. He was one of the first settlers in that part of what was known as the Territory of Michigan. The Indians were his most numerous and frequent callers, and an ox-team was his fastest span.

He was a Whig in politics and served in the Legislature in 1846-47, the last session of the Legislature that assembled in Detroit. He was well known throughout all the region and was highly respected. He served at one time as supervisor and also as Treasurer of the township.

He lived to a ripe old age and died July 10, 1884, at the age of ninety-one years and seven months. His father was Josiah Clark, a farmer of Connecticut. His wife was Miss Mary A. Yerkes, who was born in Pennsylvania, January 23, 1798. She died Jan. 3, 1864. To them were born ten children.

It is claimed that he received his degrees in Connecticut. Grand Secretary Buck states that a Elijah B. Clark petitioned St. James Lodge No 23, of Norwich, Conn., in 1794 for membership by transfer but of course it could not be this E. B. Clark because he was not born until 1799. He became a charter member of Orion Lodge No. 46, January 10, 1851.