

Then raising the lamb to his breast he strode
 Sturdily down the lengthening road.
 "Now God be my helper," he cried, "and lead
 Me safe with my charge to the souls in need.
 Through fire and flood, through dearth and dole;
 Though foes assail me and war clouds roll,
 To the city in want and woe that lies,
 I will bear this lamb as a sacrifice."

Bela Elderkin, eldest son of Vine and Lydia Elderkin, was born in Windham, Ct., Feb. 3d, 1770. Susan Bates was born in Nunda, Livingston county, N. Y., March 19th, 1782.

They were married in 1795. They had ten children, six boys and four girls.

Susan Elderkin died at Newtown Flats, on Tionesta Creek, Venango County, Penn'a, Feb. 12, 1826, six days after the birth of her youngest child.

Bela died at Siverlyville, Venango Co., Penn'a, Aug. 3, 1853, aged 83 years.

Bela, when a boy, attended common schools, and spent two terms at the Windham Academy, and then learned the trade of house joiner. He left Windham Aug. 22, 1793, for the far West, which at that time was any place west of the Hudson River. He carried with him the following introduction and recommendation addressed by Hon. Jabez Clark, a prominent lawyer of Windham, to his brothers, Dr. Deodotus Clark and Grastus Clark, attorneys, at Clinton, N. Y. :
 "Dear Brothers—The bearer of this is Mr. Bela Elderkin, a son of Capt. Vine Elderkin. He is a young man who desires to push his fortune in a new world. By trade a house joiner. I can recommend him freely as promising fair to be a useful man and valuable inhabitant of your country, and desire your friendship and influence in his favour, should he settle in your neighborhood. Any kindness shown to him will be considered as done to your friend and brother."

"JABEZ CLARK."