

Obituary

Miss Sargent was born at Seaport, Maine, at the head of Penobscot Bay. Her great grandfather, John Sargent, moved to Maine from Beverly, Mass., in 1804. The family was of English descent on both the father's and mother's side and she was also of Quaker ancestry on her mother's side. Her Great Grandfather Sargent raised a large family of honorable men and women of whom Miss Sargent's grandfather was the oldest.

W. W. Sargent, her father, came to Grinnell in 1856. He was the oldest son of his father, John Sargent, Jr., and was the only one of his family who came west. He was influenced in moving by the decline in American shipping, he being a master seaman and navigator and also influenced by the settlement of the west opening at this time and many of his fellow townsmen joining the pioneers.

The family were Congregationalists, her Great Grandfather Sargent being a charter member of the First Congregational Society of Belfort, Maine. On her mother's side the family was Quaker and Methodist. Miss Sargent graduated from high school in Grinnell and attended college until her junior year, when her health failed while she was teaching country schools as a result of too much walking and exposure to the weather. Her aims in life were thus changed by years of invalidism.

In a paper which she left giving a few details of her life, she wrote in closing: "I never injured a human being. All I wanted was a chance but I never got it. It is not the words said of us after we are gone that make our record in the hereafter, for we make our record as we go. It is not the most worthy who get the highest praise, I have lived to know, at least in this world. I only hope there is One who keeps the right record."

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Emma Sargent's Life Is Ended

(By W. G. Ray)

Emma Sargent is dead. Her father and herself were among the old timers in Grinnell and she knew the history of this city in the sixties better than almost any other person. She has been a mine of information to the senior of The Herald in writing up the stories of the early days. I remember well the first time I ever met her; so does Arthur Neely. It was at a party at the home of Henry Barnes just west of town. While I did not meet her much in those earlier days, as the years went by I came to know her as having a mine of information about early days from which I could learn much.

She was a fine woman. Misfortune came to her in her later days and loss of property made her an inmate of the Eastern Star home at Boone. From this point the senior of The Herald has received many letters from her.

Grinnell has lost one of its strong and active women especially in her early life and one whose influence was always for good.