

James Spencer

Grinnell Herald March 22, 1877

SPENCER.—On Monday, March 21st, at his home in Grinnell, of consumption, Mr. Jas. Spencer, aged 36 years. The deceased has been a resident of Grinnell for about twenty years, and leaves a wife, but no children. The funeral will be held in the M. E. church to-morrow at 10:30 A. M.

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From the notes of Dan Kaiser, Grinnell historian:

James Spencer (1851?-3/21/1887) was among the first African Americans to settle in Grinnell. He served in the 13th USCHA in the Civil War. His gravestone stands near the GAR canon in Hazelwood. His widow, Frances, lived in Grinnell for several decades after James's death.