

GRINNELL HERALD

ED SEMI-WEEKLY

Terms, \$1.50 Per Year in Iowa in Advance.

IOWA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1929.

NUMBER 85

Miss Isabella Beaton Passes

Life Of Talented Musician Is Called To Merge Into Greater Harmony.

HER ACTIVE LIFE HAD BEEN DEVOTED TO MUSIC

Was Known Both As A Pianist Of Unusual Talent And As A Composer.

Isabella Beaton was born in Grinnell, Iowa, May 20, 1870. Her parents came to Grinnell in 1855 from Ohio.

Her father, William Beaton, was educated in Western Reserve College, then located at Hudson, Ohio, but now in Cleveland, Ohio, under the name of Western Reserve University. By trade he was a cabinet builder and maker of organs. By profession he was an instructor in voice culture, a conductor of oratorios, a talented violinist and a singer possessed of a rare tenor voice.

Her mother, whose maiden name was Loretta M. Hubbard, was educated in Cleveland Female Seminary. She was talented in drawing, fine needlework, and music, performing on both the piano and the violin.

Mr. and Mrs. Beaton came to Grinnell in 1855, and were an integral part in the building up of an atmosphere of culture and high Christian standards.

Isabella united with the Congregational church at an early age, April 3, 1887 and sang in the choir. She was a member of the Christian Endeavor in Grinnell, and belonged to the Christian Endeavor Society in Paris when she was studying abroad.

She graduated from Grinnell High School June 19, 1887.

While in college in Grinnell she played in the Ellis Orchestra, the musical organization made up of talented members of the Society named for Miss Ellis, beloved instructor. The literary society was organized in 1882; and Isabella has fondly cherished the diploma of the Ellis Literary Society dated June 20, 1890.

Isabella graduated June 25, 1890, from the Conservatory of Music of Iowa College at Grinnell, in the Courses of Piano, Voice Culture, Harmony and History.

Her musical education began at home at the age of four. At nine she entered the Conservatory. At twelve she made her first appearance before the public.

After her graduation from the Conservatory, she taught music five years in Harlan, Iowa. Then she taught a year in the Conservatory of Music in Iowa College at Grinnell.

In 1894, a legacy from her grandfather, Israel Hubbard, of Cleveland, Ohio, made possible the fulfillment of a long cherished ambition, the study of music in Europe. She had five years of study under Moritz Moszkowski, three years in Berlin and two in Paris, the instructor having changed his residence. During that time she took academic studies in the University of Berlin and in the University of Paris. She devoted eight hours a day to her musical study, four hours practicing at the piano and four hours in studying the history of music theory, and harmony, and in composing. A dainty composition for the piano, entitled Landler, and a Quartet for stringed instruments, were published while she was in Paris. These and others of her compositions have been performed by some of the finest orchestras both in Europe and in America.

Upon her return from Europe, Isabella made her home with her aunt, Miss Ruth Hubbard, of Cleveland, Ohio. She taught in the Cleveland School of Music. Each winter she gave twenty recitals in Cleveland, and also appeared in concert in other cities. Her selections were of the very highest classical music, and her repertoire consisted of nearly three hundred compositions, most of which she played entirely from memory. A form of entertainment greatly enjoyed by her audiences in Cleveland consisted of improvisations, sometimes with a little informal lecture on the subject matter embodied in the music.

While teaching the Cleveland School of Music she took academic studies in the Western Reserve University. She graduated in 1902 from the Woman's College of that university, and in 1903 received the degree of Master of Arts.

On Dec. 31, 1910 she organized by

(Continued on Page 2)

Charter under the state of Ohio, a School of Music of her own, which she called the Beaton School of Music in memory of her father.

During the World War and period of reconstruction, Miss Beaton was tireless in patriotic service. Because she could speak Italian, French and German, fluently, she was sent into the homes of foreigners to sell liberty bonds, and to give food demonstrations. She cherished a certificate of the completion of the course of study under the United States Food Administration in co-operation with the Cleveland Board of Education Woman's Committee, of Mayor's advisory War Committee and Ohio State University. She received a scholarship in Domestic Science in the Extension Service of the State University and took the course.

One of her greatest services for the betterment of the world was an active campaign against alcoholism. Her work in all these lines brought her much into contact with the city administration, and she was fully alive to the civic needs of Cleveland, and interested in public welfare in all parts of the world.

Brought up from childhood to love the peoples of all nations, she was an active worker in the missionary societies. At one time she had a contract to go to Korea to teach music in a Christian school for girls; but the policy of the Board changed suddenly, and no missionaries were sent that year. She aided materially in the Near East Work, and in the Hospital Association of American Women in Europe. She belonged to the National Federation of Women's Clubs, The American Association of University Women, and the Music Teachers' National Association. While in Europe she toured extensively by bicycle, and became a life member of the Touring Club of France, enjoying the magazine they publish in French, beautifully illustrated. While in Harlan, Iowa, she joined the Order of the Eastern Star.

Her father was a Mason. Her grandfather, William Beaton, was a thirty-third degree Mason, a cultured gentleman of the early days of Canada, a lawyer, teacher, and Notary Public. Her grandparents were born in Scotland. Her grandfather was Lowland Scotch, born in Aberdeen, Scotland, September 26, 1736. Her grandmother, Agnes Adam, born in Inverness, Scotland, October 31, 1796, was Highland Scotch. She had a brother, Mathew Adam, A. M., late Rector of The Royal Academy of Inverness, Assoc. R. S. SA.; Member of the Glasgo Philosophical Society, and teacher of Classics, Mathematics, Geography, Nautical Astronomy and Mathematical Philosophy at 40, St. Andrews Square, Glasgo, Scotland.

This sturdy Scotch grandfather was the son of Alexander Beaton and Isabel Johnston. The name Beaton was pronounced in Scotland with the long sound of the vowel a. When William and Agnes, who were married at Inverness Nov. 20, 1817, came with their first babe to Canada, the name was pronounced in their new home with the long sound of the vowel e. And when their son came to America to seek an education in Western Reserve University, the name continued to be pronounced that way. When the early Beatons lived in France, the name was spelled Bethune. When they lived in Germany it was spelled Beethoven. The great composer Beethoven died one hundred years before the birth of Isabella Beaton of Grinnell.

Isabella was entitled to membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution. Her mother's grandmother, Esther Tibbals, wife of Aaron Hubbard, was a daughter of Ebenezer Tibbals who served on the Lexington Alarm. Some of Esther's furniture, made for her wedding portion by her father and brothers, came into Isabella's possession. Isabella's mother, born in Cleveland, June 19, 1829, deceased January first, 1887; the daughter of Israel Hubbard and Rhoda Hulbert, was descended from one of the early governors of Connecticut. The names of two of her ancestors were written as patentees on the Charter of Connecticut which was granted by King Charles II; the charter which was placed in the Charter Oak. One line of her ancestry arrived in America in 1630, one in 1633, and another in 1635.

Isabella was a member of the Daughters of Union Veterans, which she joined to honor her father, and in which she has faithfully maintained her membership. Her father would have been one hundred years old February 10, 1929.

Isabella Beaton was taken ill with influenza on the twenty-second anniversary of the date of her father's death, January 16th, and died on the anniversary of the day he was buried, January 19th. Death was due to a weak heart, and hardening of the arteries, which made it impossible to

Funeral services were held at 2 P. M. Tuesday, January 22, 1929, at 1216 Main Street, where she has lived the past seven years as a member of the family of her sister, Mrs. O. W. Park. Bural on the family lot at Hazelwood.

FUNERAL RITES MISS ISABELLA BEATON, TUES.

Talented Resident Is Laid To Rest At Hazelwood

Funeral services for Miss Isabella Beaton were held at the late residence, 1216 Main street, Grinnell, Iowa, at 2:00 p. m. Tuesday, January 22, 1929, conducted by Dr. E. M. Vittum, assisted by Dr. W. W. Bolt.

Dr. Vittum read the words of three hymns, "Faith of Our Fathers," "How Firm a Foundation," and "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," after which the music of these hymns, without vocalization, was played by Miss Fannie Buchanan, at the concert grand piano which has been the constant companion of the deceased musician.

Dr. Vittum then read some fitting lines from a poem entitled "Songs," by Grace Noll Crowell, taken from a book by that author entitled "White Fire," published by the P. L. Turner company of Dallas Texas. A part of the delicate poetry is here given:

If I were told that I must go tonight,

With half my songs unsung, and all these white

Sheer things of beauty in my heart unsaid

..... I would run

Ahead of all the heavenly winds, and King

A thousand songs up to the heavenly sun . . .

Scripture reading by Dr. Bolt was from the Twenty-Third Psalm, the eighth chapter of Romans, and the fourteenth chapter of John.

Dr. Vittum, in presenting the obituary, read from pages which had been prepared for him, and added personal recollections.

Isabella Beaton, youngest child of William and Loretta (Hubbard) Beaton, was born May 20, 1870. Her parents came to Grinnell from Ohio in 1855. Dr. Vittum reminded the friends present that that was the year the Congregational church in Grinnell was established. Mr. Beaton had been brought up an Episcopalian in his Canada home. Mrs. Beaton's parents, Israel and Rhoda (Hulbert) Hubbard were Presbyterians, when they lived in New York state, but when as bride and groom, they came to the wilderness of Ohio in 1819, the only church in the neighborhood of Cleveland was the Methodist. So Loretta was brought up a Methodist. But with the same willingness to unite themselves with God's people in whatever church organization was at hand, Mr. and Mrs. Beaton united with the newly established Congregational church in their new Iowa home. Isabella joined this church April 3, 1887, and at one time sang in the choir.

After graduating from the Grinnell high school in 1887 and the Conservatory of Music at the college in Harlan, Iowa, for five years, and in

the Conservatory of Music of Iowa college at Grinnell one year, then she studied music five years in Europe, remaining a faithful worker in the Christian Endeavor society in Paris.

Upon her return to America, she made her home with her aunt, Miss Ruth Hubbard, living for twenty years at the home where her pioneer grandparents had subdued the wilderness now covered by the city of Cleveland. While there, she taught in Cleveland School of Music, and carried academic studies in Western Reserve University, her father's alma mater. In 1902 she received the degree of Ph. D. in the Woman's college of that institution, and in 1903 the degree of Master of Arts. After completing her academic education she organized a school under the charter of the state of Ohio called the Beaton School of Music, in memory of her father. While in Cleveland she was organist in the Kinsman Street M. E. church which is situated near the Hubbard home, on land donated by Israel Hubbard. Thus she faithfully maintained the high Christian standards of the faith of her fathers in the church of her mother's early faith.

In May 1922, Isabella came to make her home with her sister, Mrs. O. W. Park and family on the farm where Isabella's infancy had been passed. In October 1922 the family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Park and daughter Ada Park, and Miss Deaton, moved to town and occupied the home which Isabella had inherited from her father. And this was Isabella's home at the time of her death.

The Beatons were Scotch, but their kinsmen spelled the name Bethune in France, and Beethoven in Germany. Romantically enough, Isabella Beaton, concert pianist and composer, was born exactly one hundred years after the birth of the great composer Beethoven. So also her death fell upon an anniversary. She was taken ill with a light attack of influenza, January 16, the anniversary of her father's death. She died, January 19, 1929, the anniversary of the day her father was buried. Death was due to influenza, complicated by a weak heart and hardening of the arteries.

Dr. Vittum spoke of the dress in which she was laid away, one of her

Paris concert gowns, white satin with a silver spangled over dress of net, as her coronation robe. In it she was crowned queen among musicians, he said; and friends took their last look at her in this garment which symbolized the heavenly coronation robe as she entered into her new life of greater service in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Prayer was offered by Dr. Bolt.

Pall bearers were J. L. Carpenter, a nephew by marriage; David Carpenter and Oliver Winslow Carpenter, grandnephews; S. J. Pooley, C. A. Gordon and W. B. Hoyt. The youngest grandnephew, Donovan Carpenter, and the grandniece, Ruth Louise Carpenter, a little favorite with her grandaunt Isabella, remained at the residence as companions to their Grandfather Park while their mother, Mrs. Louisa Bella Carpenter, and their aunt Ada Park, supported the footsteps of the children's grandmother at Hazelwood, as Mrs. Park paid the last tribute of affection to her departed sister.

The only immediate relatives not present were the nephew and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard Beaton Park of Morgan Hill, California.

6261/42/1
Grinnell Register