

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1910

A PIONEER PASSES

Notable Life of Farmer, Scholar, Lawyer, Thinker and Civil War Veteran.

FUNERAL OF A. J. BLAKELY AT THREE TOMORROW

Veteran Had Lived in Poweshiek for a Period of Fifty-Five Years.

In the death at noon yesterday of Adoniram Judson Blakely, Grinnell loses one of its earlier citizens, a man of highest honor, upright in every detail, square and true as a ship to its rudder, a man among men.

Mr. Blakely, son of Dan and Hannah (Edgerton) Blakely, was born June 20, 1834, at Pawlet, Rutland county, Vermont, of good old New England Revolutionary stock, and was named by his Christian parents for one of the then noted missionaries to India. Mr. Blakely was the seventh of nine children, and was the last survivor of this large family.

He fitted for college, first under private tutors at home and then at Burn and Poultney academies. He graduated from Union college at Schnectady and then attended Albany Law School, and was admitted to the bar in 1861. He commenced law practice at once with Hon. A. B. Waldo at Port Henry, N. Y.

In August the same year he enlisted in the 14th Vermont Volunteers and was elected and commissioned First Lieutenant of Company B. He served in the Army of the Potomac in Standard's Brigade, Doubleday's Division, and was with his regiment at the battle of Gettysburg. Doubleday's Division met the memorable charge of General Pickett on July 3, when Standard's brigade routed the charging confederate army and took many prisoners. Company B lost in killed and wounded, one fourth of its men. The Brigade term of service was soon over and Lieut. Blakely received his discharge at Brattleboro July 30, 1863.

From 1864 to 1867 he resided at Pawlet engaged in fine stock raising. In 1867 he came to Poweshiek county and settled on the Blakely farm south of Grinnell. Here he has lived all the years since, a wide and voluminous reader, a thinker and a leader.

He has always been known as a raiser of fine sheep and has served as president of the State Wool Growers Association. He has been active also in many Grinnell activities, notably the Poweshiek county Farmers Mutual Insurance Co., the old Grange Movement, the Grinnell Grange Store, and the Farmers Alliance.

His thought was always "forward," and he himself, moved always in that direction, both in thought and action.

April 12, 1888, Mr. Blakely was united in marriage with Elizabeth Sulser of Grinnell. To them were born five children, Mary Lavinia and Esther, both of whom died when quite young. Three survive, A. J. Blakely, Jr., Margaret and Helen, who with the wife mourn the death of the useful talented man.

Mr. Blakely's activities were so extensive that it is almost impossible to name them. He was interested in all movements to improve farming conditions and was not only widely known as a wool grower, but also as a breeder of pure blood short horns and Poland Chinas.

Since 1868 he was an active member of the Congregational church and always strove to live up to the teachings of the Bible. Few men have lived better or truer lives and none have left a richer heritage to their children of a life well lived than he.

The funeral will be held at the house tomorrow afternoon at three o'clock conducted by Rev. E. W. Cross.

BLAKELEY

SERVICES WERE HELD YESTERDAY

A. J. BLAKELY, SR., WAS HONORED CITIZEN.

Funeral At Home An Main Street Was Attended by Large Gathering.

A lengthy life time of service and accomplishment came to a close last Monday early in the afternoon when A. J. Blakely, Sr., passed away at his home on north Main street. Funeral services were held at three o'clock yesterday afternoon, conducted by Rev. E. W. Cross, of the Congregational church and attended by a large gathering of old friends and neighbors, who came to pay final tribute to a worthy and honored citizen.

Adoniram Judson Blakely, son of Dan and Hannah Edgerton Blakely, was born in Pawlet, Vermont, on June 20, 1834. He was the seventh of nine children.

He was married to Elizabeth Sulser, of Grinnell, on April 12, 1888. Five children were born to this union, Mary Larrnia, who died when five years old, A. Judson,

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SERVICES WERE HELD YESTERDAY

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Jr., Esther, who died in infancy, Margaret and Helen.

Mr. Blakely was fitted for college, first by private tutors and later at Burn and Poultney seminaries. He graduated from Union College in 1859 and later attended Albany Law School, and was admitted to the bar in 1861. He commenced practice with Honorable A. B. Waldo, of Port Henry, Vermont, but in August, 1861, he enlisted in the Fourteenth Vermont Volunteers and with that organization had a brilliant army record. He was elected and commissioned First Lieutenant of Company B, and served in the army of the Potomac in Stanard's Brigade, Doubleday's Division, and was in the battle of Gettysburg. This division met the memorable charge of the confederates under General Pickett, July 3, when Stanard's Brigade entirely routed a charging confederate brigade and took a large number of prisoners. Company B, lost in killed and wounded, about one-fourth of its men.

The brigade's term of service expired, soon after and Lieutenant Blakely was mustered out of service with his regiment at Brattleboro, Vermont, July 30, 1863.

From 1864 to 1867 he was in Pawlet, Vermont, where he engaged in raising fine stock. He then bought a farm near Grinnell, which he managed until a few years ago, when his son, Judson took over the business and the family moved to this city where he passed away last Monday, January 30, at the advanced age of more than 87 years.

Throughout the fifty-four years Grinnell has been his home, Mr. Blakely's place in the community has been always for the best. Of unquestioned honesty, a sincere in-