

## THE GRINNELL HERALD

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### Mrs. Sarah Stevens-Cushman.

A good friend of all of us closed her eyes for the last time when Mrs. Sarah S. Cushman died at her home last Saturday, the 13th inst. at the age of seventy-two. Her earlier life was passed in Monroe, N. H., in a seminary at Newbury, Ct., and in teaching in Bath, N. H., with her husband, Charles Wesley Cushman,\* to whom she was married in 1858.

Later they removed to Alton, Illinois, where, for a time, she continued to teach and her husband was superintendent of the city schools and where he also occupied a pulpit while the pastor was in the civil war.

They removed to Grinnell in 1875. Here the husband engaged in business in the open air, hoping to arrest the progress of consumption, but in vain and in this business he lost all his property and incurred a debt. At his death in 1877 he poured out his very soul in his parting benediction. "The Lord guard, guide and bless you all." This, with the memory of his life, was a legacy to wife and to children more precious than a Croesus could leave.

Mrs. Cushman took charge of the College boarding hall during twelve years and made a home for students during many more in her private house, educated her four children, and paid off the old debts and had at last a home of her own. Others have rendered memorable service thus to the students and to the College, but she will be remembered among the very best, especially by those whom she so wisely mothered. Her life was a commentary on her Christianity and a commendation of it. There was a sweet and beautiful tenderness in all her relations with others and peculiarly so in her family where the memory of father and mother is most precious and a perpetual impulse to all that is best in the minds of the four children who survive her: Mrs. Ira Gilley, Grinnell; Mrs. C. L. Buck, Denver; Miss Mary Cushman, Grinnell, and Rev. Charles E. Cushman, of Anita. She leaves seven grandchildren also. She was the youngest of fourteen children, and outlived all the others, three of whom have resided in Grinnell. The memorial services were held on the 15th inst. at her late residence and conducted by Rev. H. N. Dascomb and Professors S. J. Buck and L. F. Parker. The music was furnished by Rev. T. A. and Mrs. Dungan, Mrs. C. E. Childs and Mr. Frank Morrison.

\*Mr. Cushman was a descendant of the Robert Cushman who was a charter member of Congregational church in Scrooby, Eng., and the agent of the Pilgrim church in Holland in securing the cooperation of London merchants in paying the expenses of their migration and settlement at Plymouth. Governor Bradford said that Mr. Cushman had been for the Pilgrims "as their right hand" and had done "all their business" with those merchants "to their great advantage." He died in Plymouth in 1625, five years after the Mayflower landed there. Deceased was married to Mr. Cupshman in 1858.