

For over forty-four years John A. Flook, who is now living retired in Grinnell, has been a resident of Poweshiek county. He was born in Ontario, Canada, on the 15th of February, 1845, and is a son of Hugh and Elizabeth (Goodfellow) Flook, natives of Belfast, Ireland and Scotland respectively. The father, who emigrated to America in 1810, settled upon a farm in Canada, but in addition to the cultivation of his land during the early days of his residence he worked upon the canal. The parents, who were married in Canada, spent their latter days upon their homestead, where the mother passed away in 1851, but the father survived her for some years. They were both members of the Presbyterian church, in the faith of which denomination they reared their family.

John A. Flook acquired his education in the common schools of his native country, following which he engaged in farm work until the spring of 1865, at which time he migrated to the United States. He first located in Scott county, where he resided for two years and then came to Poweshiek county, settling on a farm in Madison township, north of Brooklyn. Here he engaged in general farming and stock-raising for twenty-five years, and then removed to Grinnell where, in connection with a Mr. Goodfellow, he opened a meat market which they conducted under the firm name of Goodfellow & Flook for ten years. Mr. Flook, who is now living retired, enjoying the ease and comfort which is the reward of his early years of toil and self-denial, has met with success in his

various ventures and now owns, in addition to his property in town, three hundred and twenty acres of land in Chester township, which he rents.

While still residing in Scott county Mr. Flook was united in marriage to Miss Catharine Brownlie on the 31st of October, 1867. Her parents were James and Retchie (Walker) Brownlie, natives of Scotland. The father, who was born on the 10th of December, 1810, emigrated to America when very young, locating in Canada. In 1831 he was married at Smith's Falls, Ontario, to Miss Walker, and for five years they continued to reside in Canada. With two of his brothers Mr. Brownlie subsequently came to the United States, locating in Scott county, Iowa, where they took up government land in 1836. Mr. Brownlie was a lay preacher and for forty years he ministered to the spiritual needs of the people in the vicinity of his homestead, in addition to operating his farm. Mrs. Brownlie, who for twenty years prior to her death had been a cripple, passed away on the old homestead in Scott county on the 20th of December, 1889. She was a woman of rare strength and beauty of character, who had greatly endeared herself to those among whom she had lived for so many years. Mr. Brownlie survived her for four years, his demise occurring at the venerable age of eighty-seven years, his natal day having been the 26th of May, 1807. Both he and his wife were members of the Baptist church, and his political support he had always given the republican party. He possessed a fine mind and was liberal in his views and had always been a warm friend of the colored race.

Mrs. Flook acquired her education in the common schools of Long Grove, Scott county, a village about twelve miles from Davenport, which was founded by the Brownlie family. After the completion of her education she remained at home until her marriage to Mr. Flook. They were the parents of one child: Carrie E., who was educated at Grinnell College and married A. D. Talbott, a druggist of Grinnell; they also adopted a daughter: Ruth Calderwood. Mrs. Flook passed away in Davenport on the 31st of October, 1909. She was highly regarded by all who knew her, and had by her judgment and advice ever been of great assistance to her husband in the conduct of his business.

Mr. Flook, who has passed his sixty-sixth anniversary, has spent the greater part of his life in Poweshiek county, where he is well known and esteemed as a friend and citizen. His religious faith is manifested by his membership in the Christian church, with which denomination his wife was also affiliated.

FLOOK, John A. b. Ontario,  
Canada 1845, s. of Hugh and Eliz.  
(Goodfellow) Flook. The father  
emigrated to U.S. in 1810. Came  
to Ia. 1865 and lived first in  
Scott Co. m. Catherine Brownlie  
1857, dau. of James and Retchie  
(Walker) Brownlie of Scotland.

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FLOOK, John A. b. Smith Falls,  
Canada Feb. 15, 1845, one of fam-  
ily of 5 sons and 2 daus. m. Cath-  
erine Brownlie, dau of the minis-  
ter. Later they moved to Brooklyn

and 1892 came to Grinnell. Mrs.  
Flook d. 11 years ago. Since then  
he spent much of his time at the  
home of his dau. Mrs. A. D. Tal-  
bott. He leaves also an adopted  
dau. Ruth Calderwood Reeder and  
a sister Mrs. Caroline Moore and  
brother Robert. Ob.

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## JOHN A. FLOOK.

Grinnell people will greatly miss the stalwart and familiar figure of John A. Flook, who passed away last Friday after a brief illness. Mr. Flook was a strong man, sturdy of convictions, vigorous in the enterprises to which he set his hand, loyal to his sense of duty and kindly in his relations to his fellowmen.

John Alexander Flook was born at Smith Falls, Canada, February 15, 1845, one of a family of five sons and two daughters. He came of sturdy pioneer stock of Scotch and Irish blood. He grew to manhood on a farm, trained in the principles of a God fearing, honest dealing, hard working family.

At the age of twenty, he moved to Davenport, Iowa. His natural inclinations led him to identify himself with a group of devout pioneer folk who formed a community about the Christian Church of Long Grove. Shortly after his arrival he united with the church and on October 31, 1869, he was married to Miss Katherine Brownlie, the daughter of the minister.

Later they moved to Brooklyn where they lived on a farm until 1892 when they came to Grinnell. For the years of their residence in that community, Mr. Flook was very active in the work and generous in the support of the Christian Church of Madison Township.

The move to Grinnell was made in order that their one daughter, Mrs. Carrie Talbott, might have the advantages of Grinnell College. One son, James, passed away at the age of eleven. The native kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Flook led them to take into their home their infant niece, Ruth Calderwood Reeder, at the death of her mother. It was a source of great happiness to them to see her grow up to womanhood under their care. Eleven years ago Mrs. Flook, who had been a constant inspiration and most intimate comrade of her husband, passed away. Since that time Mr. Flook has gone bravely on, maintaining his home on Park street, looking after his splendidly developed farm and taking a kindly interest in the education of his niece and the development of his grandsons of whom he was very proud. The past few months he has been graciously cared for by his devoted daughter, Mrs. A. D. Talbott.

The funeral services were held from the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Talbott Sunday afternoon, a large number of old friends and neighbors from Grinnell and Brooklyn being present to offer their tribute of honor and affection to a worthy man. Mrs. Margery Warner Bouma accompanied by Prof. David Peck on the violin, sang two favorite hymns, "By Cool Siloam's Shady Rill" and "Asleep In Jesus." Rev. E. W. Cross spoke appreciatively of the Christian life and death of Mr. Flook from the appropriate text, "Now lettest thou thy servant depart, O Lord, in peace."

Mr. Flook is survived by his sister, Mrs. Caroline Moore of Perth, Canada; his brother, Robert Flook, of Long Beach, Cal., his niece Mrs. Ruth Calderwood Reeder, of Hays, Kansas, his daughter, Mrs. A. D. Talbott, and his four grandsons, Stanley, John, Robert and Arthur Talbott.