

OBITUARY.

4-11-1913

Thomas Fuller.

Thomas Fuller was born in Sussex, England, November 3rd, 1834. He and one brother, John W. Fuller, came to America in 1853, and first settled in New York, coming to Grinnell in 1854.

With the exception of a short stay in Texas and two years in northern Iowa, Poweshiek county has been his home all these years. He served his country as a soldier, volunteering in the 46th Iowa in 1864, and served until honorably discharged from the service.

December 25th, 1866, he was united in marriage to Tryphena Jane Lamb. To them were born four sons, two of whom died in infancy. The other two, William T. and Emory G., live in Grinnell, Iowa. An adopted daughter, Nettie May, also survives him. One brother and one sister are still living in England.

Mr. Fuller bought a farm in Chester township in 1864 and settled down as a farmer. Here he continued to live for 18 years, but poor health compelled him to leave the farm to stronger hands and he moved to the quiet little home one-half mile north of his old farm where he continued to live until called to the home above.

For more than 40 years Mr. Fuller has been a sufferer. His case was an unusual one. For many years he has been unable to attend church, or to take any active part in anything pertaining to public life. He was intensely interested in, and kept pace with the outside world, yet was unable to enter the arena of affairs of either church or state.

To have met Father Fuller was to be convinced one had met one of God's noblemen. He was always the same. We found him some days weaker than others, but no word of complaint ever escaped his lips. His face bore testimony of a soul at peace with itself and its God.

July 6th, 1867, with his wife, he united with the Congregational church of Chester Center by letter and he gave himself unstintingly to its welfare so far as his strength would permit. High ideals marked his long and useful life.

It was an inspiration to meet him. The sunshine of his presence was a benediction to younger and stronger men. Thus at the close of a beautiful Sabbath day, on the evening of April 6th, after a long and beautiful life, he came to the end of his journey "like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant dreams," having reached the good old age of 78 years, 5 months and 3 days.

To him there could be but one greeting, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord."

The funeral was held yesterday from the Chester church, being preceded by short services at the home. Rev. H. J. Wisler preached a sermon full of cheer and consolation to those who

mourned. The kind hands of loving neighbors laid the body of their friend to its last long sleep in the beautiful Chester cemetery.