

#### JULIA ANN (CHAPIN) GRINNELL.

Wearing the pure flower of a blameless life the remains of Julia Ann Chapin Grinnell were laid to rest Saturday afternoon, by the side of the distinguished man who preceded her nearly eighteen years to the God's Acre where so many of that first Grinnell generation now lie asleep.

If it could be said of any that "their works do follow them" certainly it might be said of these two rare souls, to whom the people of this city, for all the generations to come, will owe a debt of gratitude that loving memory can only partially repay. Together they helped light the beacon on the prairie and that little light now sheds its beams how far!

The Herald expressed its feelings and, we think, those of the people of this city, in a former issue and the mere piling up of words would be but adding praise to praise. Indeed so simple, so sweet, so modest was the life of Mrs. Grinnell that one, especially if he be one who has known her best only "by inheritance," hesitates to force upon her memory the publicity which she shunned in life. A few facts may, however, be recorded and allowed to speak for themselves—more eloquently than written word of commendation may speak them.

Julia Ann Chapin was born in Springfield, Mass. on November 2, 1827. In her veins, as we have said, flowed the bluest of blood to be found in the Old Bay State. She was a lineal descendant of John Eliot, "the apostle to the Indians" and her father, Deacon Chauncey Chapin, was one of the first men of the Congregational church, and so of course in those days of commonwealth. Her home was one where refinement and culture abounded and luxuries were to be found. It was natural that as a girl she should have been enrolled in Mount Holyoke Seminary and it was also natural that the heart of Josiah Bushueli Grinnell should have been attracted by the charms which Grinnell people were later to come to know and appreciate so well. Nor was it unnatural that, differing in many of their personal qualities, the one should have been a

Seminary and it was also natural that the heart of Josiah Bushueli Grinnell should have been attracted by the charms which Grinnell people were later to come to know and appreciate so well. Nor was it unnatural that, differing in many of their personal qualities, the one should have been a complement of the other. She was womanly and sweet; he was energetic and kind; both were courageous and "the match was made in Heaven."

After living for two years in New York City Mr. Grinnell was compelled partly by throat trouble, partly by the attractions of the free and bounding life opening up in the west, to seek the Iowa prairies for a home and here he came in March 1854. What need to repeat the story of the founding of the town or how a few months later his frail young bride joined him, her heart and soul in the work as much as his, her help needed as much as any of the six other inhabitants. At Davenport where her husband had gone to meet her, they stayed over night at the home of Dr. Ephraim Adams and thus from the first the ties of college and town began to draw together in a way suggestive of story books.

Nor need we tell of the part which Mrs. Grinnell played from the first in the building of the town and college. Any who seek this story may do as the searcher for the monument of Wren, the architect, is bidden to do in St. Paul's Cathedral—"look about him." As Prof. Parker has so well pointed out she was a unifying influence from the first in the building of the town for her heart found room for all, in that hospitable home. President Main, a comparatively recent comer, has testified to the fact that he found, from his first experience in Grinnell, that her influence was a silent but most positive one for good, whether in matters of town or college.

To tell of things which she has done and helped to do here were to write a history of over half a century. The founder of the first maternal association west of the Mississippi, an active member of the executive committee of the Iowa Branch, W. B. M. I.

from its beginning to the close of her life, an interested member of the Elizabeth Earle Magoun Club whose meeting she attended in her last hours, the endower of a scholarship for poor boys attending Iowa College, the presenter of the communion service to the Congregational church, for years a contributor to "Congregational Iowa"—where, indeed, would the end be if one were to write only the things of a public nature in which she partook and which are but suggestions of the numerous kindnesses that she preferred to render in an unostentatious way.

Of her home life it is not for us to speak and we merely quote a paragraph from her husband's memoirs "Men and Events of Forty Years" where, in a beautiful testimonial to his wife, he says, among other things, to his children: "All that she has been to you and to me I could not tell you, enjoying the affluent affection of one who has made us all the happiest of mortals, emitting a fragrance in the household by the ministries so long a solace. Each fifth day of February since 1852, recalls plighted love which time ripens and which it will require eternity of years to unfold."

Her children and her grand-children were her joy and her blessing and they rise up to call her blessed. Two daughters survive her of four children born, Mrs. D. O. Mears of Albany, N. Y. and Mrs. R. D. Jones, of Nashville, Tenn. It was naturally her great delight to see one grand-son, Chapin Jones in Yale University, and three others at Harvard, Grinnell Jones, who is taking a post graduate course and received his master's degree last year, Eliot Jones, who went to Harvard from Nashville University last year and Eliot Mears, a sophomore at Cambridge, while a fifth grand-

child, Miss Helen Mears is a senior at Oberlin, where she has achieved remarkable success as a singer. For a woman of college training herself who has done so much for education in Grinnell, what happier sight could there be than this.

A large number gathered, in spite of the inclement weather, at the Congregational church Saturday afternoon to pay their last tribute to the woman whose life has been a benediction to so many. Professors S. J. Back and L. F. Parker as old friends, President J. H. T. Main, on behalf of Iowa College, and Dr. H. N. Dascomb, as her pastor, spoke eloquently and feelingly in regard to the deceased. Beautiful music was furnished by a quartette composed of the following members of the College glee club: Agassiz Risser, Edward Kibby, Harold Gardner and David Peck.

The body was interred in Hazelwood cemetery. The honorary pall bearers were G. H. Hamlin, E. S. Bartlett, Henry Hill, W. S. Liesure, Professor Jesse Macy, and S. A. Merrill and Dr. Gershom H. Hill of Des Moines; the active pall bearers were Messrs. H. F. Lanphere, S. J. Pooley, C. W. J. Beyer, A. P. Haines, C. C. Phelps and H. S. Bliss.

#### Resolutions Adopted by the Faculty.

The passing of Mrs. J. B. Grinnell, December 11, 1907, makes fitting on the part of the Faculty of Iowa College, a formal expression of sympathy with the bereaved family and the placing on the minutes of words of appreciation and recognition of the debt of the College to the good woman who is gone.

Together Mr. and Mrs. Grinnell planned the Grinnell Colony, and in their plan provision was made for an institution of higher learning. The land which is now the College Campus

was set apart for the uses of this institution and a building was erected on the site of the present Alumni Hall. The assignment of this property to the trustees of Iowa College was a determining factor in securing the location of the college at Grinnell. From its beginning, therefore, Mrs. Grinnell has been throughout her long life the constant friend and benefactor of the College, ever watchful for its welfare, ever ministering to its growth as she was able. She was an officer in the Ladies' Education Society, through whose aid a large number of young women have been enabled to secure a college education. Her home has always been a home to college students and their interests have been among those which she had most at heart.

J. H. T. Main  
Charles Noble  
Jesse Macy

Committee.