

Funeral Will Be Held at the House, 1717 Sixth Avenue, at Two o'Clock Tomorrow, & Saturday Afternoon. 1930

Daniel F. Hays, Grinnell's oldest citizen, one of the few remaining real pioneers of this county, passed away Friday at ten o'clock P.M. Mr. Hays had been gradually growing weaker for months. His mind was absolutely clear at the time of his death, he knew his family, called them by name and spoke other words.

Before that however he had been in a coma several hours but he recovered sufficiently to know and recognize those about him.

Mrs. Hays is not very strong but is bearing the ordeal of the death of her husband of almost sixty-three years with fortitude, and is getting along finely.

The funeral will be held at the late home tomorrow afternoon at two o'clock in charge of Rev. A. B. Cadwell of the Methodist church. Burial will be on the family lot in Hazelwood.

December 12th, 1867, he was united in marriage at Mechanicstown, Maryland, with Miss Susan Weller and had he lived till the 12th of next month they would have filled out a full 62 years of happy married life together.

There were many useful families who early came to give to Chester all the years of its existence the reputation of a peaceful law abiding, God fearing community and in that group none had a more inspiring and helpful influence than the Hays families of whom Daniel F. Hays has lived the longest and given the most in sacrifice, personal effort and wise counsel for the good of the community.

It is hardly possible to mention anything interesting and valuable in Chester township of which he was not a prominent and leading part. He was one of the organizers of the township in 1860 and was one of the first voters to exercise the right of franchise. After the township organization he served as trustee and filled other offices with honor to the township and credit to himself. He was one of the first trustees of the Chester Cemetery Association. He was one of the organizers of the Sonora Methodist church, March 18, 1867, and served the church in every useful capacity during many long years of its exist-

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1930.

Death Calls Daniel F. Hays

A Christian Gentleman, Honored and Respected, Reaches End of Long Life Journey.

FUNERAL SERVICES ARE HELD SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Mr. Hays Was a Civil War Veteran And One of the Few Remaining Pioneers.

A Christian gentleman, pioneer, citizen, soldier, neighbor and friend

has passed to his final reward. Daniel F. Hays who possessed all the above attributes of mind and heart and a historical background of rare merit, was born in Frederick county, Maryland, August 1st, 1834, and passed to his final rest Nov. 6, 1930, at the ripe old age of ninety-six years, three months and five days.

What Mr. Hays and his faithful wife have been to this community can never be told in words. In his younger life he was a blacksmith. He came to Grinnell in October, 1856, after he had passed his thirty-second birthday. A little over a year afterwards, in 1858, he became a resident of Chester township and until 1899 he was recognized as one of the stalwart and worthy citizens of that community.

He served in the Civil war, having enlisted Sept. 22, 1862 in Company E 4th Iowa cavalry, and was with that cavalry unit during the entire Civil war until he was mustered out June 17, 1865, at Nashville, Tenn.

On his return he followed the occupation for a short time of blacksmith to which he joined the occupation of a farmer on his Chester township land.

His life in Grinnell for thirty years has been that of a man interested in the political life of the country, of the party to which he belonged and of the church of which he was a faithful, active, working member.

Mr. Hays' service to Chester and Grinnell will be recognized and remembered for many long years, even until a second and third generation have passed away.

He leaves to mourn his loss his wife of sixty-three years and the following children: J. W., Harvey G., Charles W., and Grace S.

A lover of education he gave his children the best there was to be had, both in the public school at home and in Cornell college at Mount Vernon, Iowa. He and his wife brought up their children to love and honor their parents, to enjoy the better things in literature and society and to love the teachings of the Christian religion.

Though the Hays family were slave owners in their native state and brought with them to this state one of their faithful slave servants they were abolitionists and voted in national life for the men and the principles of those who believed in perfect freedom of all mankind.

The funeral services were conducted Saturday afternoon at two o'clock by Rev. A. B. Cadwell at the home, with a prayer by Rev. Ross Mills of Newton.

There were so many friends and admirers who joined to express their appreciation of the life of the fallen patriarch that the home was unable to admit all who came.

At the request of Mr. Hays himself, bearers were members of the American Legion: Howard Dimit, Eldon Olds, Russell George, R. T. Mills, J. B. Sangster and Earl Mintle. The coffin was draped with the American flag and taps were sounded at the grave.

DANIEL F. HAYS.

A tried and true soldier in times of danger and an industrious and progressive citizen in times of peace, Daniel F. Hays, now living at Grinnell, deserves mention in a history treating of the substantial citizens of Poweshiek county. He is a native of Frederick county, Maryland, and was born August 1, 1834, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Fuss) Hays, both of whom were born in Maryland. The mother died in 1846, when the subject of this review was a boy of twelve years. The father was a blacksmith by trade and followed this line in the east for thirty-five years. In October, 1856, he came to Grinnell, Iowa, where he spent eighteen months, removing on April 19, 1858, to a farm in Chester township. Having once established himself as an agriculturist he set vigorously to work to develop his property, and for forty-one years he was identified with agriculture and stock-raising in this county, his demise occurring in 1899.

Daniel F. Hays received his preliminary education in the common schools of Maryland, and in his young manhood learned the blacksmith's trade. He came to Iowa with his father and was just fairly settling down in life when his plans were interfered with by the Civil war. On September 22, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, and participated with the regiment in many important battles and movements. He was present at the Vicksburg campaign and was with the regiment at the battle of Guntown, Mississippi, which was one of the hardest fought battles in which the regiment took part during the entire war. The Fourth Iowa assisted in covering the retreat of the army for sixty miles and private Hays witnessed terrific scenes of slaughter during this memorable period, the recollection of which are as vivid in his memory as if they were enacted but yesterday. He also served in the campaign of General Wilson in Alabama and Georgia in 1865. He was honorably mustered out June 17, 1865, at Nashville, Tennessee, and returned to Poweshiek county. He conducted a blacksmith shop at Grinnell and later engaged in farming, also maintaining a blacksmith shop upon his place. In 1904 he moved to Grinnell, where he has since lived.

On the 12th of December, 1867, Mr. Hays was united in marriage at Mechanicstown, Maryland, to Miss Susan Weller, a daughter of Thomas Weller, of Maryland, who died when his daughter Susan was four years old. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hays, five of whom grew to maturity, namely: Joseph Weller, a graduate of Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa, who is married and now resides at Chicago, Illinois; Harvey G. A., also a graduate of Cornell College, who is married and lives on a farm at Hereford, Texas; Rosa D., at home; Charles W., who is married and lives in Chicago; and Grace S., also at home.

Mr. Hays and his wife are now living in a beautiful residence in Grinnell with well kept lawn and fine shade trees, making it one of the most attractive homes in the city. They are earnest friends of education, as is shown by the unusual facilities enjoyed by their children, all of whom were given the advantages of a college training. Mr. Hays voted for Abraham Lincoln as president and he has generally supported the republican party since, but he has prohibition tendencies in local affairs. He was one of the founders of Chester township and has held many of the offices of the township from its earliest days. He is a valued member of the Methodist church and of the Grand Army Post at Grinnell. Having now arrived at his seventy-seventh year he is practically retired from active labor and enjoys a peace and prosperity which he has richly earned by many years of earnest effort.

~~John~~ Jonathan Hays

DANIEL F. HAYS, a prominent and successful general agriculturist, owning a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres, desirably located upon sections 3 and 4, Chester Township, Poweshiek County, Iowa, is one of the early settlers of this part of the Hawkeye State, and is universally esteemed for his ability and upright character. Our subject is a native of Maryland, and, born in Frederick County in 1831, is descended from a long line of American ancestry, but the Hays were originally natives of England, where Joseph Hays some two centuries ago kept a butchering establishment in Liverpool. His son, Jonathan Hays, was born January 16, 1685, there grew up to manhood and became a sea-captain, following the ocean for many years, but he finally sold his commission, during the reign of Queen Anne, and came to Philadelphia, where he engaged in teaching school. He there eloped with, and married, the daughter of a Quaker, Miss Elizabeth Elliot, who was born March 17, 1690, and became the mother of twelve sons, among whom was Jonathan Hays, who was born January 16, 1729, and emigrated to Frederick County, Md. Some time after locating in the Sunny South, Jonathan Hays, the younger, met

and was united in marriage with Miss Mary Henderson, born June 17, 1732, a lady of worth, and of Scotch descent. To this husband and wife were born two daughters and three sons, who survived to mature years. Of the twelve sons of their grandfather, several served with distinguished gallantry in the War of the Revolution.

Five children blessed the home of Jonathan and Mary (Henderson) Hays. Elizabeth married Thomas Wilson, and settled in the Western Reserve in Maryland, and most of their descendants now reside in Keokuk, Iowa; John located in West Virginia, and there reared a family; Joseph, who was born October 18, 1760, made his home in Carroll County, Md., and was twice married, having five children by his first union, and two by his second; Thomas, who was born May 21, 1791, spent his life in Frederick County, Md., having married Elizabeth Armstrong, and reared a family of six children; Abraham, who was born May 13, 1794, lived and died in Frederick County, Md., and there unto him and his wife, Henrietta Musgrove, were born and survived to adult age three children: Elizabeth E., who was born August 16, 1800, married John Ham, and after his death, came to Poweshiek County, where she died; Deborah, who was born April 1, 1803, and died single. The latter came to Grinnell in an early day, when there were but sixty inhabitants, and was accompanied by a slave, who died there, having faithfully remained in the service of his mistress, who survived until 1886. Joseph Hays, the third child, was born in what is now known as Carroll County, Md., November 1, 1805; he attained to manhood in his birthplace, and was in his native county married to Miss Elizabeth Fuss, May 1, 1833. He was a blacksmith by trade, and carried on this business until the year 1856, when he journeyed to Poweshiek County, Iowa, bringing with him his family of four children. Daniel F. was the eldest; Deborah died in this county in 1858; Joseph T. is now a farmer of this county; and Thomas H. is also an agriculturist of Chester Township.

The mother of these children died in Maryland in 1816, and the brothers and sisters were reared by an aunt, Elizabeth Ham. The father, after arriving in his Western home, followed farming,

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and yet surviving, now resides with our subject, his son, Daniel F., who was twenty-two years old when he settled in Poweshiek County. Immediately upon the breaking out of the Civil War, Daniel F. Hays espoused the cause of the Union, and bravely enlisted in September, 1862, in Company E, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, which regiment afterward veteranized. The first general engagement in which the command participated was under Grant, at Jackson, Miss., at the siege of Vicksburg, and until the close of the war the regiment took an active part in the numerous and decisive battles of the long campaign. It was upon June 17, 1865, after years of faithful duty courageously performed, that our subject was honorably mustered out of the service of the Government at Nashville, Tenn. At once returning to his home, Mr. Hays entered again into the pursuit of agriculture in Poweshiek County. Later he met Miss Susan B. Weller, daughter of Thomas and Sophia Weller, old-time residents of the Maryland home. The young lady had come to visit her sister, Mrs. P. Danner, of Grinnell, and there the old friendship was renewed, and in December, 1867, Miss Weller became the wife of our subject. Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hays, five survive: Joseph W., who was educated in the college at Grinnell, and who is a graduate of Mt. Vernon school, in the Class of '90, is the eldest born. Since completing his studies, he has devoted himself to newspaper work. Harvey G. is now a promising student in the Mt. Vernon School. Rosa D. was educated in Grinnell, and is an accomplished young lady, and teaches school in Chester Township. Charles W. is attending school at Grinnell. Gracie, a bright miss, is also in school. The sixth little one died in infancy.

The Hays family came to Chester Township, April 19, 1858, when but two houses had been erected in the township, although there were several shanties in temporary use. The third house built was occupied by the father of our subject, who purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres, this homestead now being in the possession of Daniel F. Foremost in aiding in public improvements, the Hays have directly or indirectly assisted in the building of every schoolhouse and

bridge in the township, and are all connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church and active in the good works of that denomination. Politically, the family were in early days Whigs, but since the formation of the Republican party are steadfast to its principles and vote that ticket, pledged to reform and progress. Among the branches of the family widely known were the early settlers of Tennessee, Samuel Hays and his son, John Coffee Hays, who was one of the heroes of the Mexican War. No family has done more important service in the settlement of the State of Iowa than the family of which our subject is an honored representative. Intimately identified with the enterprises and progressive interests of Poweshiek County from its pioneer days, Daniel F. Hays is widely known and highly esteemed, commanding the full confidence of the host of old-time friends and acquaintances, with whom he has for so many years labored in behalf of the mutual welfare of their home locality. As a civilian and a soldier, our subject has been true to his God and his country, and earnest, energetic and enterprising, is a faithful American citizen.

