

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1921.

THOS. MATHEWS HEDGES

Old Time Grinnell Resident Passes
Away at Glendale,
California

PRACTICED MEDICINE IN
GRINNELL FORTY-FOUR YEARS

Was In All Respects an Honored Citizen
and Exemplary Physician
And Man

Thomas Mathews Hedges, physician and druggist in Grinnell for forty-four years, was born at Bellville, Pa., on Jan. 15, 1838. He received his education at Waynesburg college at Waynesburg, Pa., Dr. Hedges medical education began at Chariton, Iowa, and was finished at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk in the spring of 1865. He then moved to Grinnell where he began and continued the practice of his profession until 1909 when he found it necessary to retire and he moved to Glendale, Calif.

In August 1861 he enlisted on behalf of the Union in Company B of the Sixth Iowa Infantry and served for three years until he received his honorable discharge in 1864, having taken part in the battle of Shiloh and other important engagements.

On Aug. 14, 1864, he was joined in marriage to Miss Lois McCoy of Milford, Indiana to which union have been both five daughters Florence L. Hedges, Mary H. Burroughs, Lydia Grace Hedges, Myrtle H. Card and Lois Fern Newton, all of whom with their mother, survive him, his being the first death that has occurred in the family.

On coming to Grinnell Dr. Hedges was associated with Dr. Thomas C. Holyoke in the drug business which they carried on in connection with their practice of medicine until the death of Dr. Holyoke. As our older citizens will recall, he was also con-

temporary with Drs. John Lewis, E. H. Harris and E. W. Clark all of whom held an honorable place in the growth and welfare of our beautiful city. No doubt many of us will remember the heroic efforts of all these men in battling against the ravages of Spotted Fever, Smallpox, the Tornado and other calamities which have visited this vicinity during the last half century.

Dr. Hedges was overtaken by a stroke of apoplexy on Jan. 19 which resulted in his death on Feb. 5 at the age of eighty-three years. His burial place is Forest Lawn Cemetery in Glendale, California.

Funeral services were held Feb. 7 at two o'clock in the Little Church of the Flowers Forest Lawn Cemetery with Rev. Mr. Edmonds conducting. Pall bearers were from Dr. Hedges' Sunday school class of G. A. R. Singing was by the Presbyterian Quartette.

Dr. Hedges was one of the real gentlemen who have made Grinnell their home. Quiet, modest, a successful physician, earnest in every good work, he was one of our most useful citizens. In the years of his activity, which were many, few of our people would have been missed more than he, and all who lived in and near Grinnell during his forty four years of service will read of his death with sincere sorrow and mourn him as a universal friend.

Mrs. Hedges and the four daughters survive him. All live in California except the daughter, Mrs. Alfred Burroughs of Grinnell.

1897
—Thirty-four years is a long time for one to do business in one city, yet this is the length of time one man has been in business in the city. Dr. T. M. Hedges came to this city in '65 and began the practice of medicine. The next year he and Dr. Thomas Holyoke entered into partnership and engaged in the drug business in a building located where Preston's clothing store now stands. In '76 Dr. Hedges formed a

partnership with H. K. Snider and built the building now owned by the Doctor, 909 Main street. Hedges and Snider continued in business until the early eighties when they sold their stock to C. E. Miller who in a short time sold it to Dr. C. B. Gruwell. Dr. Gruwell retained the business for something over a year and moved the stock to Oskaloosa. The Smith Brothers next occupied the building for a short time when Dr. Hedges again took possession of the business and has ever since conducted it alone. During all this time Dr. Hedges engaged actively in the practice of medicine except that he discontinued the night calls a few years ago. For about ten years he has had the efficient assistance of his daughters, Misses Louie and Grace, in succession, as pharmacists and has at times employed additional help. While Dr. Hedges has not given his close personal attention to the drug business, and has not branched out extensively in books and notions, he has always had a good steady paying business and has shown good judgment and business ability and has been a credit to the city of which he has been an honored citizen for thirty-five years.

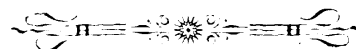
1899

Seven children were born to these parents, five of whom were girls and two boys, all of whom are living, and of these our subject is the eldest son and second child. The childhood of our subject was passed on a farm in Pennsylvania until 1855, when he attended the public schools and the Green Academy at Carmichael's, after which he taught school two or three winters in Lucas County, working in the summer on a farm.

In 1859 our subject began the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. Hughes, of Keokuk, and in 1860-61 attended the Keokuk Medical College; but in July, 1861, he volunteered in the service of his country, entering Company B, Sixth Iowa Infantry. They were mustered in at Burlington, thence went to Keokuk, where he was acting regimental hospital steward, and were then sent South to Shiloh, where our subject was placed on detached duty as a dispensary steward, and occupied that position in the Overton General Hospital, at Memphis, where he dressed wounds for a long while, obtaining in this way an experience that has proved invaluable to him in his after life. In the fall of 1864 he was honorably discharged, after a service of three years and one day. The same fall he entered Keokuk Medical College, from which he graduated in 1865, with the degree of M. D., and located in Grinnell, where he has continued to practice his profession ever since, with the exception of the years 1874-75, which were spent in Bellevue Hospital College, New York, from which he graduated.

In 1866 Dr. Hedges started a drug business, in which he has since continued to some degree, now operating a pharmacy located on Main Street, in the Union Block, his office being above the store. This block was built by the Doctor in 1875, and at that time was one of the best office and store buildings in the city. He is a member of the State Medical Society and the American Medical Society, in both of which he takes an interest. Dr. Hedges takes an active interest in all school matters, and his fellow-citizens have testified their appreciation of his ability in this direction by making him a School Director and Treasurer. In 1864 Dr. Hedges was married in Indiana to Miss Lois McCoy, a native of that State. Five children have

been the result of this marriage, namely: F. Luella, a graduate of Iowa College and of the University of Kansas, Department of Ph. G.; Mary L., Mrs. Burroughs, of this city; L. Grace, attending the University of Kansas; Helen M. and Lois F. Dr. Hedges served one term as Alderman of the City Council, being elected on the Republican ticket, of which he is a staunch supporter. He liberally supports the church of his choice, the Congregational, and is a respected member of that body. Socially he is connected with the Masonic order and Gordon Granger Post, G. A. R. He and his family reside in a pleasant and comfortable home on High Street, where they receive their friends with true hospitality.



DR. THOMAS M. HEDGES, our subject, is a worthy citizen and skilled physician and pharmacist of Grinnell, Poweshiek County, Iowa, whose merits as a man and experience as a physician and surgeon have gained for him a large business and practice, as well as the confidence and the esteem of the community in which he lives. He was born in Belleville, Washington County, Pa., June 15, 1838, a son of Rezin Hedges, born in Washington County, Pa., but the grandfather, Thomas Hedges, was born in Maryland, and became a farmer of that State before he removed to Washington County, Pa., which migration took place at an early date. He improved a farm and reared the father of our subject to his own calling, that of farming. The latter pursued an agricultural calling in his native county, but later removed to Greene County, Pa., settling near Waynesburg, where he followed farming upon one hundred and seventy acres of land.

In 1855 he removed to Iowa and located near Sheridan, Lucas County, where he had bought land in 1854 and improved a farm, afterward removing to Derby, where his death occurred, when he had reached the age of seventy-five years. His religious faith, as was that of his wife, was that of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he was a faithful member. The mother of our subject, Eliza Matthews Hedges, was born in Washington County, Pa., a daughter of Charles Matthews, born in Philadelphia, Pa., a pioneer of Washington County. The mother resides in Derby, with a daughter, and enjoys life at the age of eighty-one years.