

OBITUARY.

8-11-1916

Philip Heishman.

Philip Heishman was born in Hardy county, Virginia, now West Virginia, May 29, 1838, where he spent his boyhood years on the farm of his father.

On June 9, 1859, he was married to Miss Maggie Richman in his native county. Eleven children were born to this union, six of whom are living; Andrew J., Elmer C., Wm. H., John L., Augustus, and Ernest. Four of the children died in infancy, and Alice, the oldest, married Mr. C. N. P. Boyle of Grundy county. She died Jan. 22 last.

All the living children of this marriage reside in Poweshiek county except one, A. J., and were present at the bedside of their father when he died. Mrs. Heishman, mother of these children, died April 7, 1909.

Mr. Heishman was married to Mrs. Catharine Miller, who lived near Brocklyn, Ia., Dec. 8, 1892. This marriage was blessed with three sons, Clifford P., Lester J., and Elza F., all of whom are living at home. Mr. Heishman was in poor health during the last four years of his life, and fell asleep in death on Tuesday, Aug. 8, at 6:30 o'clock.

He leaves besides his wife, nine sons, eighteen grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren, two brothers, and one sister, and a large circle of friends to mourn his departure.

Mr. Heishman was a kind husband and father, and a good citizen, who always favored that which tended to promote the general welfare of the community.

He was buried in the church in Sheridan, and warm friends of the deceased. After a short service at the home the body was taken to the church, where a very large and loving company of friends joined in paying tribute to the departed man. The body was interred in Sheridan cemetery.

Present from away for the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Ravlen of Hampton, Ed Boyle and Mae and Bertha Boyle of Conrad, Ia., Andrew J. Heishman of California, two sisters of the wife of the deceased of Austin, Minn., and many friends from nearby towns.

Chas. Swanson, a Chicago livestock commission man, a personal friend of the deceased, was among those from out of town who attended the funeral.

Six sons acted as pallbearers.

Mr. Heishman came to Sheridan about thirty-six years ago, and during these years has been recognized as one of the manly and useful men of Sheridan. Quiet, modest, unobtrusive, he yet possessed great energy and was active in promoting all that was best in the community.

Though not a union veteran he took great interest in the reunions of the boys who wore the blue, and was a regular attendant upon all such occasions. It was his pleasure at one time to extend an invitation to the boys to meet with him at his home, which invitation was accepted, and no day was ever better enjoyed by the Sheridan veterans than this occasion.

Mr. Heishman was a good and true man, whose death is a loss and whose heritage to those who follow is rich with the fruitage of honorable and useful deeds.

Phillip

It has been asserted by Jefferson Davis and his apologists, when confronted with the horrors and cruelties of Andersonville and Libby, to excuse and condone their crimes and cruelties by trying to falsify history by saying that southern prisoners of war were sometimes treated no better than northern prisoners were in the southern prisons. Mr. Heishman was taken prisoner at the battle of Winchester, Virginia, January 3d, 1864, while under command of Brig. Gen. Boudin, of Gen. Early's division; was taken to Camp Chase, Ohio, where he was confined two months. He was afterwards removed to Fort Delaware, on the Delaware River, where he was confined sixteen months. In reply to the question "did you receive good treatment all the time?" Mr. Heishman said "he did and was well fed and clothed all the time, with the exception of a short time the guards put them on short rations because they had tunneled under the barracks to make their escape, in which they were discovered, and through which they would have made their escape inside of twenty-four hours. The guards, as a punishment for their breach of discipline, put them on short rations for several weeks." He said the aim of the federal authorities was in all cases to treat their prisoners of war to the same food and clothing as they did their own soldiers. He said the most congenial part of his prison life was the con-

finement; he said there were lots of the sons of the wealthy planters of the south who simply died in prison from homesickness; laid down and fretted and pined their life away. He said he kept as busy as he could, sometimes washing shirts and clothing for the sons of the wealthy planters, whose parents sent them money, clothing, food, tobacco, etc. In this way he made a little money which he sent to his wife and child; sometimes his heart would get into his throat when he got to thinking about the woman and the child he loved, and then he would go to work and make watch chains, pocket knives, and other ornaments which he sold to the sutlers.

In this way he managed to keep busy. Mr. Heishman showed specimens of his craft to the boys on the day of the reunion, they were artistic and beautiful and showed good taste and finish. Mr. Heishman said as long as memory lasts he will never forget the joy and gladness of the day when he was pardoned and he walked out of Fort Delaware a free man. He came to Iowa in 1877, is now owner of 480 acres of good land in Sheridan township, and a man and a citizen whom everybody delights to honor. Some one put the question to us: "Is he loyal?" Yes, my friend, every drop of blood in his veins is loyal to his country and his flag, and we ain't afraid to stake our life on it either.—W. T. Haynes, in Tama Free Press.

Mrs. Katherine Heishman Still Weaving
Carpets And Rugs As In
Old Days.

HAS LOOM TWO
HUNDRED YEARS OLD.

Came To This County Fifty One Years
Ago—Now Lives in
Sheridan.

To walk into a building on a Sheridan township farm and find one of the pioneer mothers of Poweshiek County actively engaged in weaving rugs on a carpet loom that is perhaps two hundred years old was a most pleasant surprise to a Herald representative a few days ago. Mrs. Katherine Heishman, so we learned, has

(Philip)
woven rugs and carpets for almost as long as she can remember. And during the course of the conversation which followed she told of the work of spinning wool at an old fashioned wheel as a girl of twelve. In spite of tender years there was a task of so many "knots" which had to be completed daily.

In years past Mrs. Heishman has done a considerable amount of weaving of rugs and carpets for hire but now engages in the work more as a pastime. To the writer, who had never seen a loom in operation before, it seemed that Mrs. Heishman's fingers were as deft as a younger person's could have been in handling the shuttle and other parts of the machine.

It has been fifty one years since Mrs. Heishman came to Iowa from Rockingham Co., Virginia as the bride of John Miller. The loom she is now using was purchased more than 40 years ago. After these many years of continuous use it looks much the same as when she first purchased it. New steel reeds were purchased for the second time this spring and a new roller was made many years ago by John Sowerwine when he conducted a blacksmithing and woodworking shop on Broadway in Brooklyn.

The first five years in Iowa were spent on the farm where Godfrey Viets now lives between Brooklyn and Hartwick. The next 12 years were spent on the farm now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Gus Heishman a short distance south. Four daughters and a son were born to Mr. and Mrs. Miller: Mary C., now Mrs. Andrew Shadel; Betty S., now Mrs. Gus Heishman; Ida M., Mrs. Will Heishman, and Sallie., Mrs. Ernest Heishman. The son, Benjamin Franklin died at six years of age.

Mr. Miller died in 1887 and on December 8, 1892. Mrs. Miller was married to Philip Heishman, then a widower with six sons and one daughter. Three of these sons later chose three of the Miller daughters as their wives. The Heishman children were, Andrew and E. Clint, now deceased, and Alice, Will, John, Gus and Ernest.

Then there are three sons of the last marriage, namely, Clifford, Lester and Elza.

Since 1893 the Heishman home has been on the same farm in Sheridan township. Mr. Philip Heishman passed away in 1916 and the mother has continued to live with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Heishman, who operate the place.

Mrs. Heishman's life has been an active one and she could entertain by the hour with tales of the earlier days in Iowa and of the growth and development of this county from the raw prairie to an area of modern farms and homes. In any list of prominent pioneer mothers of the county certainly she should hold a place near the top.