

MRS. EMELINE C. JOHNSTON MOURNED

Funeral Was Held Today From Home
of Her Daughter, Mrs. G. W.
Cowden.

A RESIDENT OF IOWA
FOR OVER SEVENTY YEARS.

Mrs. Johnston First Came to Grinnell
in 1863 as a Student in the
College.

Mrs. Emeline C. Johnston passed away Sunday afternoon at the home of her daughter, Mrs. G. W. Cowden. Mrs. Johnston had seemed in her usual health. She ate a hearty dinner and soon after went upstairs. Soon members of the family heard a fall and hurrying to her found her unconscious. Death came in a short time.

Funeral services were held this afternoon at 3 o'clock from the Cowden home, conducted by Rev. W. J. Todd and Rev. E. W. Cross. Interment was in Hazelwood cemetery.

Emeline C. Biddleman, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. R. Biddleman was born in Delaware County, Ohio, May 16th, 1844 and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. G. W. Cowden, Grinnell, Iowa, March 8th, 1925, at the age of 81 years.

With her parents she came West and settled in Iowa County, Iowa in 1855, where she grew to womanhood. In 1863 she came to Grinnell as a student in Grinnell College, afterwards teaching school for some years near this city. In 1866 she was wedded to George Douglas Johnston who preceded her in death in 1906. To them there was born one daughter, now Mrs. G. W. Cowden.

By the passing of Mrs. Johnston, Grinnell and Iowa lose one of their very oldest pioneers, she having made her home in this state for over 70 years. She has seen Iowa grow almost from its childhood, coming here before the formation of the Republican party and years before the outbreak of the Civil War. As a school teacher in those early days it was her privilege to help lay the foundations of our great Iowa Educational system which is the pride of the whole nation. Mrs. Johnston continued her interest in educational activities and the reading of the better class of literature to the time of her death. She was a great conversationalist and was in every gathering where she was present, the center of a group discussing the live topics of local, national and world affairs. Very modestly but with positive convictions she was always able to state her position on any question and everyone knew that here was a woman who was personally informed.

Mrs. Johnston was a woman also of deep religious nature. Very early in life she opened her heart to the Christ and the Christian Faith and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church maintaining a loyal and consistent relationship to it till she was called to her Heavenly Home. The dwelling of Mr. and Mrs. Johnston was ever the resting place and temporary abode of the early Methodist Preachers, not only because these good people had a tender place in their hearts for him and his message but also because their own hearts were yearning for that intellectual and spiritual stimulus which the coming of the preacher helped to satisfy.

Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Johnston has made her home with her daughter Mrs. Cowden on Main St. The later years of her life have been lived in comparative quietness but what a comfort to the daughter that she could have her mother as companion, adviser and truest friend. She has been an inspiration to her grandchildren, Mabel and Dudley, who have not only revered her but have truly loved her for her own personal charm and genuine worth. It was a real joy to the minister to visit with her and