

Thursday, January 18, 1962

OBITUARY

MARK POMEROY McDOWELL
(Contributed)

Mark Pomeroy McDowell (known as "Pumme" to his friends), son of John and Caroline McDowell, was born November 7th, 1869, on a farm south of Searsboro. It was on this farm where he grew to manhood, and became so interested in the agricultural field. He took great delight in planting, tending, and watching all growing things. This keen interest he maintained through his entire life.

In 1892 he was united in marriage to Mary Frances Heitsman of Searsboro community. They made their home on what was then known as the English place. To this union were born six children; Glen, William, John, Thomas, Eva and Merle; the little daughter Merle passed away in infancy. The son William died in 1956.

In 1907 he suffered the loss of his wife but remained on the farm being both father and mother to his children until 1910 at which time he and his family moved into the home with his mother, Mrs. Caroline McDowell. In this home the children grew up, entering fully and freely into the life of the Searsboro community.

From early manhood Pumme McDowell showed constant interest in civic affairs, and thru the years he held many positions which brought him into contact with people of all ages. A few of his varied offices were: Secretary of Sugar Township School Board . . . caring for all of the school books of the entire township; Director of the first school board of Searsboro Consolidated school; Township Assessor as well as Justice of Peace for several years; member of the Searsboro IOOF Lodge for 56 years; first Grange Master when the Grange was instituted in Searsboro.

He lived in and around Searsboro all of his life. His contribution to community life was indeed well rounded, as aside from his public offices, he was a superb gardener and an excellent cook.

He departed this life January 6th at Community Hospital, Grinnell, Iowa, at the age of 92 years, 1 month and 29 days.

Loved ones mourning his passing include three sons: Glenn of Phoenix, Arizona; John of Searsboro, Iowa; Thomas of Fallon, Nevada; and one daughter, Eva Claussen of South Gate, California; two sisters, Mrs. Minnie Allen and Mrs. Lota Kline of Searsboro, Iowa; many nephews and nieces, 7 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, 3 great-great grandchildren and other relatives.