

^{Belle}
Agnes McNally (Chris)

4-27 IN MEMORIAM, 1906

Among the early settlers of Pleasant township were Mr. and Mrs. John Copeland. They settled on a farm which all these years has been known as the Copeland homestead. Here was an open door and a hearty welcome to all who came.

In this home in the year 1870 Agnes Belle was born. She was not a strong child and throughout her life she had many periods of intense suffering. When grown to womanhood she was convinced of her need of a Savior, accepted him and made public profession of her faith in Christ during the pastorate of Rev. Matt Hughes. In the M. E. church at Ewart she took the vows which were to be her delight to keep while she lived. To some Christianity means only a name, to her it meant a life.

On her 21st birthday she was united in marriage to Mr. Enoch William Rivers. To this union was born an only son, William. The happiness of the home was broken by the untimely death of the husband and father. Her sorrow like her pain was born with christian fortitude.

Six years ago Agnes Belle was sick nigh unto death. For days her life was despaired of; at one time the soul seemed to have taken its flight, but she revived and the Lord raised her up; her work was not yet done.

In 1903 she was married to Mr. Chris L. McNally. This was a very happy home. They moved to Grinnell and Mr. McNally engaged in a successful business. They were comfortably settled in their new home and won a host of friends: their future looked bright indeed. Then sickness again entered the door and for more than three months Mrs. McNally lingered between life and death. At times the agony was intense, yet not a murmur escaped her lips. She was

very appreciative of every act of kindness shown to her. Her faith never wavered but grew more triumphant to the end. Instead of shrinking from death she had a desire to depart and be with Christ and her loved ones. Near the end when on one occasion friends were trying to prolong life by raising her up that she might breathe easier and by administering stimulents, she said, "Oh let me alone. I do so want to see pa." During the last few days the decline was rapid and on Thursday evening, April 19, she passed to her home above.

The funeral services were held on Sabbath. The day was beautiful. A large company gathered at the house where brief services were held. Many relatives and friends then accompanied the remains to Ewart. On the way the old home was passed and at the various cross-roads friends joined the procession. At the church in Ewart many more were waiting, so it was impossible for all to enter the church. It was probably the largest funeral ever held in Ewart. There in the church where she had taken her vows years ago the closing services were held, the whole community feeling deeply the loss of this noble christian woman. Out in the little cemetery which is filling so fast with our loved ones, the remains were laid to rest in the grave beside her father, who had preceeded her only five months.

She leaves a devoted husband, a dutiful son, a widowed mother, a sister and two brothers and many other relatives and friends to mourn her loss.