

EARLY SETTLER GONE

3-1-1970

Good Woman Passes to Her Reward
After Fifty Years' Residence
Near Newburg.

HER LIFE EARNEST AND TRUE TO RIGHT LIVING

Leaves Memory of Years of Devotion
to Family and Christian
Service.

Laura Ellen Sisco was born in Henry County, Ill., July 9, 1851. In 1866 she came with her parents to Poweshiek county, Iowa. There and in Jasper county she lived continuously throughout a blessed and useful life until death called her on Sabbath evening, August 1, 1929. September 2, 1879 she was united in marriage with John Newcomer with whom she shared the joys and sorrows of the rugged farm life of that day. Her thrift and industry they were able to build up a beautiful Christian farm home one-half mile west of Newburg, and here were born to them five children all of whom she faithfully trained in the faith which had blessed her life.

She became a Charter member of the Newburg Congregational church when it was organized in 1880 and remained a faithful and consistent member until death. In her home she taught and followed the true Christian principles of life so consistently that all her children early realized the worth of Christian ideals and resolved to accept the faith which inspired her and brought peace to her soul. When the shadows were falling around her in her last illness she was content, for her faith grew brighter and she quietly passed over into the better life for which she had so beautifully prepared herself through loving consecration and service here.

Her husband and children were constantly at her bed-side during her illness and all that love could do was done for her comfort, but God took her to a more perfect rest and they answer trustingly "Thy will be done." The children are: Mrs. Richard Burroughs, living near Gilman, Arthur C. of Marshalltown, Charley O., Edward M. and Chester J. of Newburg. Burial was in the Newburg cemetery.

In loving tribute to her memory the following was written by Rev. R. F. Lavender, a former pastor and friend.

"There is something very sweet about the passing of the life of one who, after a long and useful career, has finished the work God designed, and gone to the better life beyond with a record of work well done. This was true of the life of Sister Newcomer. What she was as a wife and mother, what she was as a neighbor and friend, what she was as a Christian, all enter not only into the estimate of her character as we see it, but into the making of her character through all the ages that will be hers. This unselfish, unassuming, unpretentious life is ended here. Yet of all Christians I have ever known none would have more aversion to praise in this hour than Sister Newcomer.

"But surely we may use Bible Language concerning one who found long years ago that it was more blessed to give than to receive, that it was better to help than to be helped. How she reminds us of the virtuous woman spoken of in Proverbs 31:28: 'Her children shall rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but she excelleth them all. Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, for her own works praise her in the gates'.

"No one can tell the story of any life only God who keeps the record can tell the whole story. But we know enough of the life of Sister Newcomer to find abiding inspiration in the memory of her life here, for thru the years her works will follow her, and may the same faith that dwelt in her be the abiding heritage of her posterity. She has laid down her armor and what she would have liked to do for Christ and for his church let those who love her undertake to do, and thus will we give highest honor to her memory.

"It is worth a great deal to have

some dear one, some one whom we dearly love and have known intimately pass over to the better land. It helps to make heaven seem more real to us. That is one reason why it is better to go to the place of mourning than to the house of feasting. The voices that are silent appeal to us. The face that is gone we still seem to see; and the hands that are folded in silence on the bosom beckon from Eternity to those who are left behind."

Funeral services were held Wednesday at 2 o'clock at Newburg Congregational church conducted by Rev. R. F. Lavender and Rev. B. F. Schartz.

The funeral was a very large one, a large circle of friends gathering to express the deep love all who knew her had for the deceased lady. Bearers were her four sons, Arthur, Charles, Edward and Chester and two nephews, Henry Newcomer and Frank Newcomer whose homes are in Illinois. Present from a distance to attend

the funeral were Mrs. Retta Mullins, Mrs. Blanche Mullins and Mrs. Effie Ellis of Fonda, Iowa; Monroe Phillips and Mrs. Kate Phillips of Algona; Clarence Sisco of Cedar Rapids; Murray Sisco of Marshalltown, and Mrs. Guy Bledsoe of Wichita, Kas.

Interment was in the Chester cemetery.

John