

Grinnell, Iowa, Tuesday, Apr 9 1907

L. A. PATTERSON

Thursday marked the passing of another of those early pioneers who came from New England and settled in Grinnell when the town was scarcely more than a dot on the prairie. On that day, April 8, 1907, Lewis A. Patterson fell peacefully to sleep at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. J. Harris, of Lewis.

Mr. Patterson had a picturesque life, even as was given to but few men in those picturesque days when the great west was just being opened up. Born in Belfast, Me., July 18, 1824, he first opened his eyes when the second war with England was just commencing. The events of those days were calling young men to a sea-faring life and it was only natural that being where he did, he should have taken to the sea. He was captain of a ship built for the purpose of carrying grain to the market, and was on the ship "Herald" in some part of the world when he married Malinda E. Harris, who was an English girl. In 1849 the two men gave up the building of ocean vessels for the sake of a prairie schooner and came west to Kansas, accompanied by the wife who did not go. Remaining in the west some years, he was attracted to the new country when it was only a few years old in this state.

Shortly after his second marriage Mr. Patterson joined the rush of emigrants who were pouring westward to California where gold had been found in paying quantities. He went to work on Cape Horn and returned later to work on the fisheries.

In 1857 he came with his family to Grinnell and after spending six months in the little village purchased a farm near what was afterwards called "Cotton Grove." His brother, Mack D. Patterson, who came west at the same time, purchased a farm just across the river from him and here they lived successfully for some years. Mr. Patterson died in Queen City, Mo., at the age of about a year ago.

About twenty-five years ago Mr. Patterson retired from active work and purchased a home in town. Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Hester lived in his home when he spent a half year when he went to his daughter Mrs. W. J. Harris.

A 12 miles south of here. After living a couple of years with them, he went about three years ago to make his home with his daughter, Mrs. W. J. Harris in Lewis, where he has since resided, and where he quietly passed away at the age of 82 years, death being due to the infirmities of old age.

Seven children survive him, three by his first wife, Mrs. Lizette Wanson, of Portland, Me., E. D. Patterson, of Lewis, and W. J. Harris of Lewis, Ia, and four by his second marriage, Mrs. Caroline J. White, of Osage, Mo. Fred Patterson, of Bancroft, Neb.; Mrs. Ellen White, of Harlan, and Edward Patterson, of Signourney. All of his children except Mrs. Wanson, Mrs. Ellen White and Fred Patterson were here for the funeral. Three children by his first wife preceded him to the next life. One brother, Capt. Elmer Patterson of Queen City, Mo., an old sea captain, is the sole surviving member of his father's family in this country and he has reached the advanced age of 80 years.

Mr. Patterson was one of those rugged, vigorous characters produced by just such an environment and life as he had lived. He was one of those men who are universally popular and there was no figure more welcomed on our streets than that of "Uncle Billy Patterson" as he came to be familiarly and affectionately known here. There was always a crowd there, they and wherever he went he carried brightness and good cheer. He was brave to endure hardship and suffering and gave of all that he had in strength and means for his family. His affection was returned to him and in his declining years his life was made happy by the gentle care of loving sons and daughters, who left nothing undone for his comfort. In these years, when his mind was free for contemplation, he thought much on the Eternal Verities and found comfort in promised life beyond the grave. He was keen of intellect, kindly of heart, and with his long years of rich experience he was an interesting and lovable character. Many a one now grown to manhood will recall with pleasure the kindly, cheerful countenance of L. A. Patterson as one of the rare characters of his boyhood days. Mr. Patterson loved his fellow men and he passed away with the love of all who had known him. His children are blessed with the faith that after a busy life he steeps in peace in the life to come.

reasonable prices, at least \$2.00 per
—L. A. Patterson for fifty years
a well known resident of this city,
died Wednesday night at the home of
his daughter, Mrs. W. J. Harris of
Lewis. His remains will be brought
here for burial in the family lot at 1:30
this afternoon. Mr. Patterson or
"Uncle Billy" as he was popularly
known among his old friends here was
one of those genial, kind-hearted souls
who are universally popular and up to
the time that he went to make his
home with his daughter in Lewis there
was no figure more common or more
welcome on the streets than his. Mr.
Patterson had been a sailor and his
kind of quaint sayings and interesting
anecdotes were the delight of every
one who knew him. He had reached
the advanced age of ninety-five years
and died peacefully after a life full of
unshin and contentment.