

## WAS FORMER RESIDENT

Mrs. Martha Jane Peck Died Wednesday Morning in Flint, Michigan.

FUNERAL WAS HELD HERE THIS AFTERNOON

From the Home of Her Son, Professor P. F. Peck — Came of a Pioneer Family.

Mrs. Martha Jane Peck, a former resident of Grinnell and mother of Professor P. F. Peck of this city, passed away Wednesday morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Alfred E. Westphal, in Flint, Mich., after several weeks of acute illness. Mr. Westphal reached Grinnell last night with the body and funeral services were conducted this afternoon by Rev. E. W. Cross from the P. F. Peck home. Music was furnished by a quartet of college girls from Traer, all of whom Mrs. Peck had known and one of whom, Winifred Parker, is a grand-niece. Mrs. Peck once lived in Traer and had often visited there at the Parker home. The pallbearers were Dr. E. C. Bliss, W. G. Ray, J. W. Gannaway, S. J. Peoley, G. H. Hamlin and W. J. Rusk. Mr. and Mrs. Willard Seager of Gilman, Earl Carney of Des Moines and Mrs. Robert Parker of Traer were out-of-town relatives present at the funeral.

Martha Jane Carney was born of Scotch-Irish parents August 9, 1838, in Andover, Mass. During the years of her girlhood her parents moved westward, living for a time in Pennsylvania, then in Ohio, and finally coming to Iowa and Poweshiek county in 1855. Her father entered land in Sheridan township, upon which farm the family lived until 1859 when they moved to Grinnell. She began teaching school in 1854, at the age of sixteen, and during the next few years taught successfully several different schools in the county. When Iowa College was moved from Davenport to Grinnell in 1859-60 she entered the Senior Academy class, and later began her college course. In 1862 she left college to marry Mr. Gabriel H. Harper, of St. Louis. In 1863 she was left a widow through the death of her husband in the war, and she returned to her home in Grinnell. She taught school

for a year or two, and after the war, in partnership with her brother, John M. Carney, opened and carried on successfully a book store in Grinnell. In 1879 she married Ira S. Peck, and during the next thirty-one years, until his death in 1911, her home was in western Iowa, most of the time at Stuart and Council Bluffs.

She had one daughter thru her first marriage, who died in infancy; three sons and one daughter were born to her later; two of the sons died thru accidents in their early childhood years. She is survived by her daughter, Eva, now Mrs. Alfred E. Westphal of Flint, Mich., and by her son, Paul, of Grinnell.

She was a member of the Grinnell Congregational church thruout the period of the sixties, and her first marriage, during the Civil War, was in the church at the close of a Sunday evening service. During her later married life she naturally transferred her membership to the Congregational church of her place of residence. But in 1905 when her son came to Grinnell to make his home she brot her membership back to the church here, which for her had always been the old home church.

The early history of Sheridan township, published by The Herald, gives the following information:

Mrs. Peck's father, Bartholomew Carney, came to Iowa from Ohio in 1854. He had been engaged in railroad construction in Ohio. He came to Poweshiek county in a covered wagon, a wife, one son and one daughter coming with him. Another son, John M. Carney, the first teacher in the old Hickory Grove school, was then a boy of seventeen and at the time his father came west he was engaged with the Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railway company at Crestline, Ohio, and did not come to Iowa until two years later. Mr. Carney, on coming to Poweshiek county, located temporarily in Madison and in 1856 located in Sheridan, on section 28, building a log house one story and a half high. Mr. Carney continued his residence in Sheridan and the improvement of his farm until his death in 1863. After his death the family located in Grinnell.