

Elwood

6-4 Sept 6, 1921

MRS. BLANCHE PEARL RATCLIFF.

A beautiful soul stepped into the purer life when Mrs. Blanche Pearl Reynolds Ratcliff, wife of Elwood Ratcliff, daughter of W. W. Reynolds and granddaughter of one of the most able and influential of the pioneer ministers of Poweshiek county, Rev. A. Reynolds, passed to her reward. Mrs. Ratcliff was born September 2, 1884, and died August 30, 1921, at her home west of Grinnell on the Sixth Avenue road, aged 36 years, 11 months and 7 days. From her early childhood she manifested unusual knowledge of the fact that the only real pleasure or happiness in life is in service to our fellow creatures and exclusively devoted her life to such service. She can truthfully be called a consistent member of good fellowship in the society of the sisterhood of mankind. Ever anxious to help any to whom she could render service; asking no reward greater than the pleasure of the doing.

March 3, 1902, she was united in marriage to Elwood Ratcliff, a worthy young man and a childhood friend. To this union came three daughters to bless the home. The oldest, Ruby Gladys, now Mrs. Wm. Terney, and Amy Ella, 17, and Mamie Iona, now 13, are at home to mourn her untimely death. Her entire life with the exception of a few months, was spent in Poweshiek county.

Such women inspired Trackeray to assert that "a good woman is the loveliest flower that blooms under Heaven."

To know her was to love her, for she loved all humanity.

The entire community extends sincere sympathy to this estimable family and assures them that their grief is shared by all of their many friends.

HER FORMER TEACHER.