

JANUARY 10, 1928.

## Useful Life Is Ended

Early Resident of Chester Passes  
Away Suddenly and Without  
Warning.

FIFTY-FOUR YEARS IN SAME  
TOWNSHIP SHOW WORTHY LIFE

Was Active in Church, Social, Political  
and Civic Life of Home  
Township.

The death of George Thomson has taken away one of the early settlers in this community, a man known and recognized in Grinnell as one of utmost probity, honest in all his dealing, intelligent, cultured and enterprising.

It was a great shock to the citizens of Chester when it became known Friday morning that he had passed away. He had been in his usual health and about his business in the regular way. He was a member of the Chester Congregational Church Board and a meeting of the trustees had been called at his home the evening before and after a pleasant business session the members departed leaving both Mr. and Mrs. Thomson in their usual health and both retired at the usual hour.

When Mrs. Thomson rose in the morning and found that Mr. Thomson had not yet gotten up she went to his room to call him. When he made no answer she found that he had passed away. The passing was evidently in the early morning and death had apparently come as a sweet sleep without pain or suffering.

George Thompson was born in Perkinsville, Vermont, July 28, 1867, and he passed away Jan. 6, 1928, in his 61st year. When he was nine years old the family came from his native state to Chester Township and for 54 years here has been his home. He grew up with a desire for a higher education and attended college for several years, but afterwards returned to the work on the farm. November 30, 1892, he was united in marriage to Lula A. Sherman, who survives him and in 1894 they moved to the farm which they have occupied

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ever since. A sister, Miss Helen Thomson survives him also.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon from the home, conducted by Rev. H. L. Wissler, pastor of the deceased, who read appropriate Scripture selections and offered prayer. Interment was in Chester cemetery. The pall bearers, all long time friends and associates, were John Dempster, Lloyd Tice, T. Y. Fuller, Elmer Rickard, Edgar Harris, and Ed Foster.

Present from out of town to attend the funeral were Mrs. Thomson's brother, Walter Sherman, of Hartman, Colo., her sister, Miss Edna Sherman of Litchfield, Neb., Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sherman of Altoona, and Mr. and Mrs. Will Moninger and daughter of Marshalltown.

Mr. Thomson was a farmer of the best type. He made a success of farming because he was careful and conservative and looked after his affairs. What he did was done right. When he bred stock it was good stock and was known as good stock everywhere. He paid his debts and his record as a business man and as an honest gentleman was above reproach.

He was a lover of good, clean sport. The Herald man always had a joke with George when he saw him on the street on the day of a big football game. He always had business in town on those days and his business always took him to the grandstand. He drove in often in past years behind the team of fine bay horses which he loved and justly so. He was a lover of all the good, clean, homely things which go to make up the true richness of farm life. Even tempered, cordial, amply he lived his life and lived it well.

The Thomson family were one of the well known, popular and thrifty families who came to Grinnell and Chester in the earlier days and made their impress upon the intellectual and thrifty character of both communities. The Fishers, the Thomsons, the Whitecombs and the Shaws in Grinnell and Chester were recognized as families of intelligence, of honor and were always active in church and educational work.

Mr. Thomson's Chester life was an open book. He was always welcome in any circle because all knew that a man of honor was among them. He and his wife have been among the most useful members in that worthy community and in his passing all recognize the loss of a real friend, of an upright man and a cultured Christian gentleman.

## "So Go We Home"

GEORGE THOMSON

O, rapture sweet and grand!  
One moment on this strand  
Next in the Father's land—  
So go we home.

What is not contained in these four lines—the inspiration of faith, life's pilgrimage described, a vision of the realm beyond and the transition? Never was more said, and so beautiful, in as few words.

Last Thursday evening the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Thomson of Chester was the scene of a happy gathering. The trustees of the Chester church together with their wives were dinner guests and the evening was spent in happy social fashion. Mr. Thomson, always a genial host, was in an exceptionally happy mood, and seemingly in good health.

When Mrs. Thomson arose Friday morning she found that death had come to Mr. Thomson during the night. He seemed to be peacefully asleep—but it was a sleep from which there is no awakening here.

A simple funeral service was held at the home yesterday afternoon at 2:30 conducted by Rev. Wissler, attended by friends and neighbors of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sherman, of Colorado, Miss Edna Sherman, of Nebraska, brother and sisters of Mrs. Thomson, Mr. and Mrs. Will Moniger, old school friends, of Marshalltown, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sherman, of Altoona, cousins of Mrs. Thomson were present for the services. Burial at Chester.

Mr. Thomson was born in Per-

kinsville, Vt. in the year 1867, a son of Mr. and Mrs. James B. Thomson. His father came out to Iowa in the early days and for a time stayed with his cousins, the Fishers, later sending for his wife and two little boys. One of the little boys was George Thomson, aged nine, and he had lived in Chester township ever since.

More than thirty years ago Mr. Thomson was married to Miss Lulu Sherman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jason Sherman. Of his immediate family, his wife, and one sister, Miss Helen Thomson, of Grinnell, survive him.

Mr. Thomson has been long and closely associated with the church and neighborhood life of Chester township and no one can estimate the extent of the influence of his life and good deeds. He was a deacon of the church at the time of his death. He was a quiet, unassuming man, studious, a lover of good books and good friends. His life was one of happiness and contentment in his home and of friendly association with his fellows.

The Register recalls Mr. Thomson's pleasure in entertaining a big family party in his home last commencement time when his cousin, Hon. Albert Shaw, editor of the Review of Reviews, here to deliver an address at the college, was among the guests. Hospitality has been the key note at the Thomson home and it is fitting that the last evening of his life was spent in entertaining a group of friends.

Jan. 5, 1925.