

Death Summons

64-1-24-1930
William C. White

William C. White, aged 85 years and ten months, passed away at his home at 711 Park street at about 7:45 o'clock yesterday morning.

Funeral services will be held from the home Saturday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. E. M. Vittum. Burial will be in Hazelwood.

Mr. White's brother, D. F. White, former mayor of Grinnell, has a little book in which he has jotted down salient facts about the members of his family. From this the following information was taken.

William C. White was born March 23, 1844, near Uniontown, Pa., the son of William S. and Annie Conaway White, one of a family of eight children. In 1865 the family moved by ox team to Ohio, where the husband and father died two years later of typhoid fever.

When William was only seventeen years old he volunteered in the 170th Ohio for service in the Union army during the Civil War. His regiment was at once rushed to the defense of Washington, which was then threatened by the Confederates under Gen. A. Early. The rebel threat was repulsed and General Early said later that the firm front presented by these green troops made him think that Grant's veterans were before him. He was honorably discharged and when the White family moved to Illinois in 1868, they found that Will had preceded them and had built a cottage on the farm.

"And," writes Mr. White, "for the first time since we were small children we were all at home except those who had passed over to the great beyond. Our joyous shout could be heard around that little cottage. They were the shouts of freedom."