

Martha Derr : b. 20 Jan 1853 d. 26 Apr 1941

Dr. Martha Derr Was Dentist for Forty-Eight Years

Martha M. Worcester was born January 20, 1853, at Mendon, Michigan, and died at her home in Grinnell, Iowa, April 26, 1941, at the age of 88 years. She was the second daughter of Justus and Sarah Worcester.

When a small child, she came with her parents in a covered wagon to a farm in Marshall county, Iowa, where she grew to womanhood. Later, after attending Iowa college at Grinnell, she taught school for several years.

In 1879 she married John B. Gore, D. D. S., who graduated from Iowa college in 1876. She practiced dentistry in Santa Barbara, Calif., and at Dayton, Nev., where Dr. Gore died in 1880. Mrs. Gore returned to Grinnell and then practiced her profession in northern Iowa. She was married on April 6, 1842, to J. W. Derr, D. D. S., a graduate of Baltimore Dental college.

Since her husband's death in 1907, Dr. Derr practiced her profession continuously as long as her health permitted, having been an active dentist for 48 years.

Mrs. Derr lived a consistent Christian life and was converted when but a child and was a member of Calvary Baptist church.

She is survived by three sisters: Mrs. Mary J. Patton, Miss Alma M. Worcester and Mrs. Frances A.

Norris, all of Grinnell. Two sisters and a brother preceded her in death. Several nieces and nephews also survive.

The funeral was held at the James Funeral home Monday afternoon, conducted by Rev. W. F. Long. Two of her favorite hymns, "Along the River of Time", and "Asleep in Jesus" were sung by Mrs. Margery Bouma, Mary Ann Howell, F. W. Tomasek, and F. A. Jones.

The pall bearers were Fred Whittaker, George Manor, Harold Long, Frank Barnes, E. O. Porter and Frank Schults.