

MARY ANN Young Adkins

She was united in marriage to Alvin Adkins, Sr., in 1859. To this union were born eight children; five sons and three daughters, Lola, Alice and Nimrod D. died several years ago. Mr. Adkins died Jan. 9, 1901. The living five are James Burton, Charles Edwards, Theodore Bonham and Erastus Lee, and one daughter, Margaret L., who has taken care of her mother for several years, rendering the most unselfish and loving service any one could give. These are left to mourn her loss, with nineteen grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren, and a large circle of other relatives and many friends.

Mrs. Adkins and her husband were among the early pioneers of this state. The farm on which they lived, five miles west of Grinnell, for so many years, was entered from the government; there all the children were born, all attending the country school, and most of them going to the Academy and College.

She was a kind and loving wife and mother, a believer in God, the Father, and she sacrificed and served for her family without a thought of self. She was a member of the Disciples Church of this city.

Mrs. Adkins' husband, one of the earliest of Iowa settlers in this section, came to Henry county, Iowa, in 1845, when Iowa was still a territory and two years later came to Jasper county and settled at what became known as "Adkins' Grove", southwest of Kellogg. He was part owner in the land where the court house at Newton was located and his name appears in the transfer of the property to the county. In 1852 he joined the continuing rush of gold hunters who went to California. After six years he returned by water from San Francisco to Panama, crossing to the Caribbean coast on the railroad and then to New York by water. Then by rail to Iowa City and by stage to Grinnell. He entered the land where he lived so many years, still in possession of the family.

Not long after his return from California he went to Wayne county, Ky., and here was married to Mary Ann Young, whom he knew before coming to Iowa and with whom he had corresponded while in the West. Mrs. Adkins was a home-maker and readily accepted the inconveniences of a pioneer home, and made in this new wooded country a hospitable and welcome haven for many an immigrant to Rock Creek from her old Kentucky home.

It is only 26 years since Mr. Adkins passed away and many still

remember the quiet, kindly but energetic man who planted a home in a new land, and who with his wife, loved education for its own sake and encouraged their children to study beyond the country school.

Tho quiet and unaggressive his worth, honesty and business sense were recognized by his fellow citizens in Rock Creek township and his election several times to township offices are evidence of the confidence he enjoyed among his neighbors.

Before her marriage Mrs. Adkins had been a teacher in Wayne county and the ideals of her early life, she brought to her new home, and in her quiet but effective way she maintained them to the end.

In a funeral service full of beautiful appreciation, Mr. Vittum spoke of her as modest, and conscientious, a woman so free from vanity that she sometimes questioned her own fitness to be a member of Christ's church. Music at this service consisted of two songs by Mrs. Robert Bouma and Mrs. D. H. Snook—"No Night There" and "In the Garden."

Bearers were six nephews, all brothers, sons of N. I. Young: Bolen, John, James, Ivan, Frank and Lloyd Young.

Relatives from a distance were Dr. R. E. Adkins, Louann, Arkansas; Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Adkins, Cherokee, Iowa; Dr. Chas. Ryan, Dr. John Marion and Mr. Clifford Cox, Des Moines, Iowa; Mrs. Belle Broughton, Colfax, Iowa; Mrs. Jane Johnson, Baxter, Iowa.