

OBITUARY.

5-7-1909

I. J. BARNES.

One of Johnson county's earliest settlers passed away last Saturday when Ira Justus Barnes died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. C. W. Hartzell. Mr. Barnes was born in Huron county, Ohio, and came with his parents to Iowa in 1853. He crossed the Mississippi river the day he was fourteen years old and with the exception of a few years spent farming near Lexington, Nebraska, the remainder of his life was spent in this state.

The family went immediately to Johnson county and settled at Higbee's Grove, near the present site of Iowa City. They were the third white family to settle there and were leaders among that unusually intelligent community of earnest, Christian pioneers. There, at nineteen years of age, Mr. Barnes became a charter member of the Christian church, which his father had helped largely in giving the community. To its beliefs the deceased remained faithful throughout his life.

He was married to Carolina Higbee August 23, 1859, at Iowa City, his wife dying there twenty-seven years ago. To them were born eight children, the second one of whom, Anna, died some years ago in Nebraska. The others, who survive him, are Mrs. W. P. Rhoadarmer of Lexington, Nebraska; Mrs. C. W. Hartzell, H. H. Barnes, O. F. Barnes, Mrs. W. F. King and D. A. Barnes of this vicinity, and Mrs. H. C. Sauerman of Oklahoma. The latter only was unable to be present at the funeral. He also leaves one brother and one sister—H. S. Barnes of this city and Mrs. David Higbee of Kansas City, Mo.

Funeral services were conducted at the C. W. Hartzell home Monday afternoon by the Rev. Elias Handy. The pall bearers were C. F. Sauerman, J. S. Rollins, J. N. Knight, Roy Forehand, T. B. Bump and A. F. Swaney.

Music was furnished by a quartette composed of Mrs. G. M. Spooner, Floy Lane, Rev. Elias Handy and W. V. Davies. Interment was made at Hazelwood cemetery.

Mr. Barnes had been a hard working and successful farmer, a man of thorough-going honesty and integrity and clean life. He was influential in political affairs in Johnson county in the earlier days, being for years justice of the peace and before the public in connection with state politics. He was thrifty and intelligent and left the heritage of a good name to his children, who rise up and call him blessed.