Mary Carothers

Mary Carothers Bell was born in St. Joseph county, Indiana, March 6, 1847, and passed away at her home in Grinnell as the result of a fall, Friday, Feb. 10, 1933, at the age of 85 years, 11 months and 4 days.

On Feb. 20, 1866, she was married to Stewart H. Bell at Niles, Mich. They came to Iowa in 1875, settling on a prairie farm three miles northwest of the present town of Newburg, where they lived continuously for 33 years.

In 1908 they retired from the farm and moved to Grinnell where Mrs. Bell had since resided, and where Mr. Bell passed away March 13, 1927.

There were seven children born into the home. They are Harvey Bell of Portland, Ore., George Bell of Eden, Mont., Oliver Bell, deceased, Mrs. Stella Hinton of Fort Dodge, Mrs. Alverta Ahrens of Estherville, Mrs. Rosa Walker and Miss Addie Bell of Grinnell. There are 40 grandchildren and 29 great grandchildren.

For a great many years Grandmother Bell had been a member of the Hickory Grove United Brethren church, and the quiet, friendly, helpful life she had lived attests the sincerity and genuineness of her Christian character, and the strength and steadfastness of her faith.

She was especially devoted to her home, and the welfare of the members of her household. In this she was notably self-sacrificing and thoughtful. But her interests and care reached beyond the conines of her home and included the whole neighborhood where she lived. Human need or trouble in whatever form always found in her a responsive and sympathetic helper.