

# C. W. H. BEYER PASSES

Was in Business in Grinnell Forty-five Years — Since September, 1877.

**WAS USEFUL, ACTIVE  
AND INFLUENTIAL CITIZEN**

**Won Success and Education by Own  
Efforts — Never Attended School  
After Twelve Years Old.**

Charles William Henry Beyer, one of Grinnell's best known and most successful citizens, passed away last night after an illness of but three weeks. He had been failing for two or three weeks previously, and had given evidence of growing weakness for nearly a year.

Mr. Beyer was born at Greifswald, Prussia, Dec. 17, 1843. He was the son of Christian Friederich and Marie (Hertel) Beyer. In 1855, his parents came to America, with four children and located near Urbana, Ill. As evidence of the slowness of transportation, they came across in a sailing vessel, taking six weeks to cross.

The boy, Charles attended school at Greifswald, and a very little in the new home, his school education ending when he was still twelve years old. His earlier life was uneventful. He clerked for four years in a country store, and was in the bank of Preston, Kean & Co., Chicago, eleven years, before and after the Chicago fire.

After serving with this firm a partnership was formed with A. C. Burnham, and an office was opened in New York City. While engaged in business there Mr. Beyer's home was in Brooklyn in the same locality as the home afterwards of Mrs. Harold Beyer's family.

After a time in New York City, the firm of Burnham & Beyer decided it would be better to open an office in the territory where the most of their farm loans were made. Mr. Beyer came to Iowa and decided to locate here. About September, 1877, Mr. Beyer and family moved here and the well known farm loan business established in Grinnell, started as Burnham & Beyer. After two years, Mr. Burnham sold to Beyer & Palmer, the junior member being Joseph Palmer, the son of a well known capitalist of New Brunswick, N. J. In 1882, Col. S. F. Cooper who had just returned from his consulship at Glasgow entered the firm under the name of Cooper & Beyer and

when the Merchants National Bank was started the partnership was dissolved, Col. Cooper becoming identified with the new bank.

At that time the firm of C. W. H. Beyer & Co. was started, the other members being C. R. Morse of Grinnell and J. H. Merrill of Des Moines. Mr. Merrill sold his interest but Mr. Morse continued a member of the firm until his death in 1905.

In 1906 Leonard Walker and Harold L. Beyer entered the firm and a private bank was started. Mr. Walker later

continued under the same name. Mr. Beyer was married at Evanston, Ill., Jan. 27, 1869, to Emma S. Angell, a lady of culture and refinement who came with him to Grinnell in 1877, and who became active and useful in the women's activities of the town in those days. Her death occurred in 1908, at Victoria, B. C., while on a summer visit to the northwest. Her burial was in Grinnell.

In June, 1913, Mr. Beyer was united in marriage with Miss J. Etta Tiffan, who survives him, as do also the two children, Harold L. Beyer, of Grinnell and Mrs. Edith Beyer Cogswell of Columbus, O. One sister also survives him, Mrs. Amelia Scudder, of Hollywood, California.

The funeral will be held at the late home Saturday, April 6, at three o'clock conducted by Rev. E. A. Steiner, assisted by Rev. E. W. Cross. The service at the grave will be in charge of the Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Beyer was a resident of Grinnell forty-five years. He has been identified with many important enterprises in Grinnell. He was recognized as a philanthropic and liberal citizen always ready to lend a helping hand to worthy enterprises. He was a real helper as many needy people now living can testify.

Mr. Beyer was treasurer of the Interior Telephone Co. since its start, was treasurer of the What Cheer Telephone Co., was a member of the American Bankers Association, Iowa State Bankers Association, was a Scottish Rite Mason and a Mystic Shriner, a member of the Illinois Athletic Club, Chicago, and the Des Moines Club, Des Moines.

Locally Mr. Beyer was a charter member of the Fortnightly Club, a Mason, and a member of the Congregational church.

One of the most notable successes of his life was when he served several years ago as Superintendent of the Congregational Sunday School. His business methods and cheerful manner made him exceedingly popular and left its mark on the School.

Mr. Beyer was a reader, a thinker, and a man of strict integrity. A large circle of Grinnell friends testify to his great usefulness and high standing. His devoted wife gave freely and gladly of her strength to sustain and help him in his painful illness, and mourns the loss of a faithful and devoted husband.

Members of the Fortnightly Club will meet at 2:40 at George McMurray's to attend the funeral in a body.