

Mrs. Charles Booknau. 1917

Nettie Bills was born in Jamestown, N. Y., on May 11, 1859. As a little child she came west with her parents who settled at Chester. She lost her father when she was six years of age. On Nov. 4, 1878, she was married to Charles Booknau, the Rev. George White performing the ceremony. They lived on a farm in Chester for twenty-five years. There they united with the church. There their children were born: Maude C., who died in infancy, Addie Maude, now Mrs. M. L. Powers of Marshalltown, Harley Bills, of Marshalltown, Bonabel Beatrice, now Mrs. Charles Brooks of Grinnell, and Hazel Bessie. In the Chester neighborhood Mrs. Booknau won and kept those friends who have been her loyal comrades all through the years. In 1902 the family moved to Grinnell and settled at the home on west Sixth avenue where they have resided ever since. Mrs. Booknau was a devoted member of the Woman's Relief corps, being color bearer at the time of her death. She was also a member of the Congregational church. Her last illness was severe but brief, the end coming on Sunday morning, March 4. Besides her husband and children, three sisters survive her: Mrs. Emma Conway, Colorado Springs, Mrs. Myrtle Maisby, Sykeston, N. D., Mrs. Alice Walters, Bowden, N. D. Mrs. Booknau was a woman of youthful and courageous spirit, in her neighborhood beloved as a friend, in her home a true wife and devoted mother.