

William H. Bray

William H. Bray, son of Henry H. and Ellen J. Bray, was born in Grinnell, January 29, 1878.

After graduating from Grinnell High School in 1895 he went west for two years, returning to take a responsible position as salesman for the Live Stock Commission firm of McCausland, Hoag & Turner of Chicago.

He remained there until 1907 when he returned to Grinnell to take charge, with his father, of their farms, near here, and continued this work until his health failed four years ago. After many months of illness he passed away on Wednesday afternoon, March 6, 1913.

Mr. Bray was married to Miss Orilla Moore, October 4, 1911, who survives him. Besides his wife, he is survived by his father, two sisters, Mrs. M. W. Swisher, Mrs. R. M. Haines of Des Moines, one brother, Edward J. Bray, of Seattle, Washington.

Funeral services were held at the home of his sister, Mrs. M. W. Swisher, on Friday afternoon at 2:30, conducted by Rev. E. M. Vittum. There was music by a male quartet from the Men's Glee Club. The pall bearers were C. W. Manatt, F. E. Spaulding, D. M. Cox, W. J. Nelson, Homer Manly and Dan Corson. Interment was in Hazelwood beside his mother who died six years ago.

Relatives and friends from out-of-town who attended the funeral were, Mrs. W. H. Bray, Mrs. R. M. Haines, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Simpson and Mr. and Mrs. John Moore of Des Moines, Mr. Albert Hoag of Chicago, Mrs. John Hall of Cedar Rapids, and Mr. and Mrs. George F. Thayer of Marshalltown.

Rev. Vittum, who was pastor of the Congregational church here many years ago, knew Will Bray in his joyous and happy boyhood. The impression he made at that time, of which Mr. Vittum spoke at the funeral services is evidence of the unusually attractive and vivid personality that was his chief characteristic. Mr. Vittum remembered through all the years the devotion of the boy to his mother and the loving companionship of the father and son.

Mr. Bray lived most of his life since reaching manhood's estate away from Grinnell, but the warm friendships he made in the early days lasted through his life time and he counted his friends by the number of his acquaintances. Always cheery, he created an atmosphere of good feeling wherever he went. The number and beauty of the floral remembrances bore mute testimony of the esteem in which he was held and of the grief of many at his passing.