

Death Calls Wm. Cleland

Aug 29 1930
Respected Resident of Ewart Community for Many Years Passes
August 26.

FUNERAL SERVICES ARE HELD TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Mr. Cleland Was Over 90 Years Old
And Had Lived Most of His
Life Near Ewart.

William Cleland was born in County Down, Ireland, January 8, 1840, and departed this life August 26, 1930, at the age of 90 years, 7 months, and 18 days, the greater part of which was spent at his homestead near Ewart.

His early boyhood was spent near Newtonards, Ireland. At the age of seven his father passed away and the burden of supporting the mother and three younger children fell on Mr. Cleland's shoulders. The call of the American frontier came early in his life.

At nineteen, he left his home, friends, and native land to come to Rock Island county, Illinois, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits for eight years. On December 24, 1867, he was united in marriage to Sarah McKeag, the culmination of a romance which began in the old country.

Investing their meager savings in a quarter section of Iowa land, purchased from the government, the couple took the westward trail to make their home in a dwelling which Mr. Cleland had previously erected. The start was made on Christmas Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleland were the parents of six children, three boys and three girls, the first boy dying in infancy. Besides his wife, Mr. Cleland is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Wm. Molison of Malcom, Mrs. Margaret Hays of Ewart and Mrs. E. O. Porter of Grinnell, one son, W. G. Cleland of Ewart, 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Another son, James, passed to his reward on Nov. 8, 1908.

The deceased was one of the Pioneers who helped blaze the trail into the middle west and lay the foundation of the great Commonwealth of Iowa. He had that aggressive spirit that overcame all obstacles and established a home that left him content and carefree in his declining years.

During his residence in Iowa he united with the Presbyterian church at Ewart and for many years lent his support to all Christian efforts of that organization, giving freely of his substance to further its work. For many years he served his community as a justice of the peace.

Mr. Cleland was always blessed with good health boasting frequently that he had never been sick a day in his life. Time took its toll, however, and less than a year ago he gradually began to fail, his robust constitution succumbing to the strain induced by years of earnest toil.

His resistance undermined by the heat of the summer months, Mr. Cleland declined rapidly until death brought the peace and tranquility that had brought happiness to the active days of his life. He passed to the great beyond with the children he loved all at his bedside.

Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon from the U. P. church in Ewart, conducted by the pastor, Rev. Henry Van Dyke. Music was by a quartet composed of Mrs. Mose Jacob, Mrs. Cliff Braley, Charles Gerard and Mrs. G. Wasson, with Mrs. Henry McMeekin at the piano. Pall bearers were Wm. McCormick, Andrew McCormick, Wm. Rutherford, Dave Agnew, J. S. Farley and Thos. McConnell. Burial was in Pleasant cemetery in Ewart.