

(William Henry)

## Noble Life Reaches Close

1-27-1933

Mrs. M. M. Davidson Passes Away  
At Home of Her Daughter,  
Mrs. Mary A. Risse

(By W. G. Ray)

A scrap book in possession of one of the daughters of Mrs. M. M. Davidson indicates that I first met this lady at a teachers county institute in Montezuma in 1877. She was a member of this institute and seemed to have a memory of the writer.

I first remember Mrs. Davidson as a lady and a friend after the removal of her and her husband with their family to Grinnell.

I had known Mr. Davidson for some time previous to those years, possibly in the period of the early nineties when I began to meet in a newspaper way and at county conventions many of the early settlers.

My knowledge of Mrs. Davidson really dates from my acquaintance with her daughters who were employees in the first part of nineteen hundred in the office of the Grinnell Herald. They were fine young women and the mother, a woman of noble character, commanded the respect of everyone who knew her, including the writer of this notice.

Margaret Mary McKinnie, daughter of Lillian Duncan and Nathan A. McKinnie was born in Iowa county, Iowa, October 18, 1856 where she grew to womanhood, her mother being a descendant of Lord Nelson of Trafalgar fame.

Descended as she was from this noble and famous ancestry, she

She attended the normal institute of 1877 and taught school for several years. April 10, 1884, she was united in marriage to William Henry Davidson, who passed away Sept. 16, 1916.

Nine children were born into this home, three of whom died in infancy. Her beloved son, Horace Mann, met an untimely death at Long Beach, California, August 27, 1929, in his 33rd year.

Those remaining to mourn her loss are: Mrs. Lillian Hutson, Laramie, Wyoming; Mrs. Mary A. Risse, Grinnell, Iowa; Mrs. Mabel E. Matteson, Long Beach, Calif.; Mrs. Alice I. Rasch, Fraser, Michigan, and Mrs. Bessie R. Bolander of Long Beach, Calif.; also eleven grandchildren and one great-

Mrs. Davidson was reared in the faith of the United Presbyterian church and throughout her life adhered to its teachings, ever admonishing all to "remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy".

She was an active worker in the church at Guernsey and Grinnell. Her husband was the first ruling elder of the Grinnell church.

Mrs. Davidson was active and energetic in home and church life and was alert to the pulse of present day thought. Ever striving to be helpful she left her home in Long Beach, Calif., Sept. 18th, 1932, to spend a few months in the Risse home at Grinnell, Iowa, from where she was suddenly taken Jan. 20, 1933, at the age of 76 years, 3 months and two days, to take her place in the mansion not made with hands.

Brief funeral services were held in the United Presbyterian church in Grinnell Wednesday morning, January 25 and at two o'clock in the United Presbyterian church at Guernsey. The funeral sermon was preached by Rev. W. J. Stewart from the same text she had selected for her husband's funeral service, Numbers 23:10, "Let me die the death of the righteous, let my last end be like his." With tender memories the body was placed in the Guernsey cemetery beside that of the husband and father, to await the resurrection of that day.

Music at the brief service in Grinnell was by Mrs. Floy Dempster and Mrs. J. S. McCunniff who sang "The 23rd Psalm", and "Face to Face". Those acting as pall bearers at this service were Samuel McClain, Hugh Sanders, Will Schooley, Everett Brown, S. R. Robison and A. M. Burton.

At the service at Guernsey the songs, "The Lord is My Shepherd", "As a Flower" and "It is well with my soul" were rendered by a quartet composed of Emmet Taylor, Joe Dieterich, Hilda Prashak and Mrs. Will Norton. The bearers at this service were Frank Daugherty, Herman Schrader, William Cordes, John Morton, Earl Rose and Mark Grier.

Those from out of town attending the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Charles McKinnie of Afton, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Hodge of Jefferson City, Mo., Mr. and Mrs. Harmie McKinnie of Thayer, Mr. Mayo Wherry and Mrs. Ruth Shumaker of Belle Plaine, Mrs. Robert Shedenhelm, Mrs. Mell Clark and Frank Daugherty of Ladora.