

LAST SERVICES ARE HELD FOR MRS. DAVIS

July 1, 1936

Mark Conclusion of A Long and Helpful Life.

It was entirely fitting that funeral services for Mrs. H. I. Davis last Friday should be held at sunset on the beautiful lawn of the home which she loved and where she had lived happily for so many years. Rev. Robert Inglis, pastor of the Congregational church, was in charge of the services and brought a message of comfort and hope to the assembled relatives and friends. Mrs. Margery Bouma and Mrs. Roscoe Dempster sang two of Mrs. Davis' favorite songs, "Rock of Ages" and "The Old, Rugged Cross." Pall bearers who bore the body to its last resting place in Hazelwood cemetery were C. A. Blair, Chas. K. Needham, A. L. Burgett, R. H. Gray, D. M. Cox and Clifford Schuitz. Mrs. Davis

passed her 91st birthday last March. She was the last one of a family of nine.

In the passing of Mrs. Davis, Grinnell and Poweshiek county lose one of their really old settlers as well as a woman of fine mental attainments and of qualities which endeared her to her family and a large circle of friends. She was a remarkable woman especially in that advancing years did not dim her mentality or her interest in the affairs of the day. Up to two weeks before her death the newspapers were read to her daily and her keen comments indicated the activity of her mind. Like so many women of the earlier generation her letters were models, both of expression and penmanship, and she was a family authority even up to her last days when a question arose over the proper spelling of a word.

Emily Ellen Trimble was born in Princeton, Ill., March 29, 1845, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Trimble, and grew to womanhood in her native town. After graduating from a private school she taught school in Princeton during the period of the Civil War. During her girlhood and young womanhood one of her neighbors and close friends was H. I. Davis. During the war, while Mr. Davis served as a lieutenant in the Union army, they corresponded and on December 20, 1866, they were married.

They came immediately to Poweshiek county, at that time a stretch of prairie country with few towns and fewer roads, and settled on a farm in Sheridan township, where their home was to be for many years. They took their places in the fine Sheridan neighborhood and the Davis home was from the first a center of helpful activity. She united with the Christian church when a young girl and was always interested in church work. When she came to Iowa she was one of a small group to found one of the first Christian churches in Poweshiek County.

Mr. Davis was an excellent farmer, especially successful as a

raiser of fine stock, and Mrs. Davis was equally efficient in the sphere of the home. Their united efforts built up a model farm, one of the show places of Sheridan.

In 1884, prompted by the condition of Mrs. Davis' health and the desire to give educational advantages to their growing family, Mr. and Mrs. Davis moved to Grinnell and built the home on east Fourth Avenue, where they lived for so many years and where their grandson, Stanley D. Preston, still makes his home. Mr. Davis died in 1925 and for three years afterward, Mrs. Davis continued to make her home here. Since 1928 she has lived most of the time in the home of her daughter, Mrs. V. G. Preston, and also spent some time visiting her other children.

Mrs. Davis was the mother of eight children, five of whom survive her. They are H. L. Davis of Oskaloosa, at whose home she died, Mrs. V. G. Preston of Grinnell, G. T. Davis of Morrowville, Kansas, Mrs. H. G. Bentham of Los Angeles and Winbur C. Davis of Anaconda, Montana. There are also three grand children, Mrs. C. L. Dickerson of Des Moines, Stanley D. Preston of Grinnell and William H. Davis, son of W. C. Davis, and two great grandchildren, Jimmie Dickerson and Stanley D. Preston, Jr.

(Hanson I)