

# OBITUARY.

2-28-1908

## James R. Lackey.

The death of J. R. Lackey removes another Iowa pioneer who had enjoyed an unusually eventful life and a figure well known among the older families of Grinnell. Mr. Lackey came from Pennsylvania to this state in 1857, settling near Saylorville. In 1859 he drove by oxen team across the prairies to Gregory Diggings, a mining camp about sixty-five miles north of Denver. Later he was a member and the sole survivor of an ill-fated party led by Captain Baker, which in 1863 was ambushed by Apache Indians on their way to a newly discovered mining region in the San Juan district.

After this Mr. Lackey returned to the states, settling at Prairie City, Ill. Here he engaged in the hardware business and, his first wife having died some time before, was married to Mrs. C. J. Griffith, who proved a faithful companion and loving mother for his children until her death in 1894.

Mr. and Mrs. Lackey moved to Grinnell with their family in 1880, where they engaged in the restaurant business. After his wife's death Mr. Lackey made his home with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Wire. When Mr. and Mrs. Wire moved to California he went with them, and died at their home in Long Beach of heart failure and pneumonia.

The deceased was a life-long and consistent Christian and was always popular with those who knew him, being of cheery disposition and of a kind and generous heart. Two children by his first wife survive him, Mrs. Gertie Lackey Wire of Long Beach, Calif., and Charles W. Lackey, of Winslow, Ariz. Their mother was the daughter of Rev. Dr. Weiser, an eminent teacher and minister of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Lackey was in his eightieth year having been born at Bloomsburg, Pa., Feb. 22, 1829. He had lived an honest, manly life and looked forward to the future life with the calmness and confidence which comes from an abounding faith in the better life beyond the grave. His loving and beloved children are comforted by the prospect that he is asleep in Jesus awaiting them in the home beyond the skies.

His remains were brought to this city by his son Charles W. Lackey, who was met here by the niece of the deceased, Mrs. Carrie Naiden of Woodward. The remains were taken to Hazelwood, accompanied by many old friends who remember the deceased affectionately. After brief services by the Rev. J. Arthur Hurley, the body was laid to rest by the side of his son, George, who was buried there fourteen years ago.