

6-20 OBITUARIES. 1905
MARY K. MITCHELL.

Mary K. Mitchell, daughter of James and Elizabeth Mitchell, was born in Henry Co., Indiana, June 28, 1851; and moved with her parents to Jasper county, Iowa, in 1858. In 1860 the family removed to Poweshiek county, near Searsboro where she continued to reside with her parents until the death of her father in 1884, her mother having died about nine years before. Soon after this she went to Kansas. After a residence there of about four years she returned to Searsboro where she has continued to reside until her death on June 11, 1905.

She was a member of a family of eleven children, only three of whom, two brothers and one sister, survive her, J. S. Mitchell of Searsboro, S. U. Mitchell of Sacramento, California, and Julia A. Driskil of Natoma, Kansas.

She was converted to Christianity and united with the Baptist church in early life. After coming to Searsboro she united with the M. E. church by letter and was zealous and faithful until death, which fact is better known than told.

Before she had scarcely reached adult life she was afflicted with disease of the eyes, from which, we are told, she was never able to obtain more than temporary relief, and which about fifteen years ago resulted in total blindness. Although so many years of her life have been spent in physical darkness, it was not without abundant evidence of that light which illuminates the pathway of even the blind.

She displayed quite a genius at poetical composition, which was the more note-worthy since her physical infirmity barred her from reducing it to writing, being thus forced to depend entirely on her memory to retain her compositions.

Mary Mitchell will be gratefully remembered by some of her friends for the loving and comforting lines in verse, in memory of departed dear ones, and by nearly every one for her poems recited by herself dedicated to special occasions of the church.

She had been in failing health for a long time, although a fatal termination was not expected so soon until she passed away.

Her loss will be mourned by her many relatives and friends here, but by none perhaps will she be missed more than by the children, who ministered so much and so cheerfully to her temporal needs, and some of whom were her ever ready companions in leading her about the village and to and from church.

Excepting periods of temporary delirium toward the close, her mental condition remained clear. She talked freely about the future life and expressed a calm and complete resignation to go when called.

The funeral services were conducted in the M. E. Church of Searsboro by Rev. Mr. James of Lynnville.

The floral offerings were beautiful and with the participation of the children the services were rendered impressive throughout.