

5-19-1903
—This community was greatly shocked Saturday evening to learn that a young man had been drowned in the lake of the Grinnell Water Co. This is the first case of drowning in this lake and let us hope that it will be the last. The unfortunate young man was Mr. Will Mahaffey, an employe of the Spaulding Mfg. Co., whose widowed mother lives in Lynnville. When the factory closed work at five o'clock Saturday Mr. Mahaffey and Mr. Hockett, with whom Mr. Mahaffey boarded, decided they would go to the lake and take a bath. After boating for a while they discarded their outer cloth-

ing and waded about for a while on the west side of the lake. It was then proposed that they swim across to the east side. This they decided to do and started. Mr. Hockett was evidently the better swimmer and swam ahead. On drawing near the east bank he heard his companion call out saying that he could not make it. He thought Mr. Mahaffey was joking, but looking around found that it was true, that he was struggling to keep his head above the water. Mr. Hockett turned back to his assistance but in the attempt to save his companion was seized and dragged beneath the water by the drowning man. He succeeded in getting away from his grasp and swam to shore and tried to get something to help him in saving his friend. It was too late. Mr. Mahaffey had sunk within thirty-five feet of the shore to rise no more till taken out a corpse. Short services were conducted from the home of his aunt, Mrs. Mary Howell, on Main street at 12 o'clock noon Sunday by Dr. W. P. Stodda and the body taken in the afternoon to Lynnville accompanied by a carriage load of factory companions, a number of the members of Co. K, of which he was a member, and his aunt, Mrs. Howell. Services were conducted at his home in Lynnville Monday morning. Mr. Mahaffey was a splendid young man of twenty-three, of good habits and had many warm friends here to mourn with the widowed mother over the loss of a beloved son and companion. The friends and relatives here are grateful for the floral tribute of the friends of the factory and of Co. K, and for the many words of comfort.