

WILLIAM MANATT.

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Perhaps few names are better known in this community than that of Manatt, and he whose name introduces this review was long recognized as one of the most prominent, well-to-do and respected citizens of Poweshiek county. He was numbered among those of eastern birth who sought and found on the broad prairies of the rapidly growing west opportunities for advancement in their chosen vocation, and in the wise utilization of those opportunities met with a success which was at once substantial and honorable. A native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, he was born on the 14th of July, 1823, a son of Robert and Sarah (Peddlar) Manatt, both of Irish lineage. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, carried on that pursuit in Poweshiek county for a time, and in February, 1864, passed away in Bear Creek township.

On the home farm in the Keystone state William Manatt spent the period of his boyhood and youth, there assisting his father in the cultivation of the fields, and the experience thus obtained was both thorough and practical. He remained with his parents, until the year 1849, when he made his way to Ohio and later in the same year came to Iowa, locating in Bear Creek township, Poweshiek county. This was but a short time after the admission of Iowa to the Union and vast stretches of her prairies were still unbroken and much land was still unclaimed. Entering one of these undeveloped tracts from the government Mr. Manatt at once began its improvement and through the succeeding years was actively and helpfully identified with the growth and development of Poweshiek county through his activities along agricultural lines.

It is not necessary here to dwell upon the sturdy characteristics which carried him through the difficult and arduous task of converting his raw land into productive fields nor the methods which he later pursued in its further cultivation and improvement, for these are all shadowed forth in the excellent results which ultimately attended his efforts, making him one of the best known and most substantial agriculturists of this county. The old homestead upon which he first located now stands in the very heart of the growing city of Brooklyn, and about this as a nucleus he established, by subsequent purchases as prosperity came to him, an estate consisting of fifteen hundred acres of as valuable land as can be found in Poweshiek or adjoining counties. The property is divided into various farms, all highly improved and developed, which

since his demise have been leased to other farmers although the estate still remains intact.

In 1863 Mr. Manatt was united in marriage, in Holmes county, Ohio, to Miss Roxie Shrimplian, who was born on the 30th of November, 1840, a daughter of Oliver and Sybil (Chapman) Shrimplian. The father, a farmer by occupation, was born in Holmes county, Ohio, and was of German ancestry, while the mother came from old Yankee stock, her birth occurring in Connecticut. They were married in Ohio and passed their remaining days in Holmes county, that state, the father passing away in 1896 and the mother in 1874. After the death of his first wife Mr. Shrimplian was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Sarah Reynolds, of Holmes county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Manatt were born six children, of whom two, Bertie and Orphia, passed away in infancy. The surviving members of the family are: Loia Ada, the wife of W. W. Cardell, a well known attorney of Perry, Iowa, who by a former marriage had one son, Walter Simms Cardell; Nellie, who married Albert Sherwood, now living retired in Brooklyn; Thursia, who makes her home with her mother; and Coe H., who married Miss Nellie Jones, of Brooklyn, where he is now living retired, devoting his entire attention to the management of his father's estate.

Mr. Manatt passed away on the 29th of January, 1906, in the home where his widow and daughter now live and which had been his place of residence for forty-two years. He was a democrat in politics, taking a great interest in the welfare of the community in which he had resided for more than a half century, and by the consensus of public opinion ranked among the best known, wealthiest and most highly respected citizens of the county, the family being one of the oldest and best in this locality.

Mrs. Manatt belongs to the Christian church at Brooklyn, in the work of which she is deeply and helpfully interested, and is a lady of the most estimable character. She has long been prominent in the social circles of Brooklyn, and her home is the center of a large circle of warm friends.

MANATT, Wm., native of Washington Co., Pa. b. 1823, s. of Robt. and Sarah (Pedler) Manatt, the father a farmer in Pow. Co. until 1864, d. in Bear Creek twp. Wm. came to Ia. in 1849 where he entered land from the government. He m. 1863 in Holmes Co., O., Roxie Shrimplian, b. 1840, dau. of Oliver and Sybil (Chapman) Shrimplian, the f. b. in Holmes Co., of Germ. ancestry, the m. of old Yankee stock b. in Conn. Both d. in O., he in 1896 and she in 1874.

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—William Manatt, the oldest settler in Brooklyn and one of the most successful citizens of this country, died at Brooklyn last Tuesday morning at 83 years of age. The funeral services were held at that place yesterday afternoon and as a mark of respect for so prominent a citizen the business houses were closed during the services. He leaves a wife and several children, together with many other relatives residing in this county. The deceased was the father of Wesley Manatt of this city. He came to Brooklyn in 1849 and once owned the present town site. 2-2-1906