2-23 - 1917

One of Grinnell's good men and a long time resident of the community left us when Groft Pilgrim passed away February 18, 1917. Mr. Pilgrim was born in Lincolnshire, England, August 2, 1834, and so was aged at the time of his death 82 years, 6 months and 6 days. His parents were John and Elizabeth Croft Pilgrim. When the son, Croft was sixteen years old the family moved to this country settling in Peoria County, Illinois. This was in 1850. The mother died soon after their arrival in this country but the father lived to a ripe old age.

At the age of twenty Croft Pilgrim was married in Stark County, Illinois, to Miss Susan Swank. Here they lived until the spring of 1877 when they moved to Grinnell, setling on the J. K. James farm where G. A. Bonewell now lives. They have lived in this locality since excepting for a couple of years spent in Kansas. Later they occupied the farm where Mr. Pilgrim died, building the home which with its grove has been so many years an object of beauty on the Maple Grove road.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pilgrim six sons and one daughter were born. Three sons have died, Chas. Morey in 1886, Egbert Swank in 1902, and John Henry in 1904. Living are Perley H., William M. and Norman O. The daughter, Neva Pilgrim Eastman, lives in Lancaster, Calif.

The funeral occurred at the late home at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday conducted by Rev. E. W. Cross. The bearers were six grandsons, Croft, Raymond and Egbert, sons of Egbert; Clyde, son of Henry; Vernon, son of Will; and Morey, son of Perley. The seventh of all the grandsons, Norman's little son Glenn, acted-as flower boy, preceding the casket with a bouquet of flowers which he deposited on the casket as it was placed in the hearse.

The music was by Miss Bartlett, Mrs. Umbenhauer, Mr. Walker and Mr. Morrison. Interment was in Hazelwood.

It is no small thing to have lived in one community for forty years, always influential, active and honored, and to Mr. and Mrs. Pilgrim has come much more than the joys usually accorded human lives. Sixtytwo years and over of wedded life, and the enjoyment of prosperous and thrifty sons and grandsons living close at hand is a blessing few can enjoy. But these worthy people have had all reason to feel that the industry, thrift and integrity which they exemplified in their own lives have been transmitted to a large family of descendants, sons and danghter.

They made the name of Pilgrim honored in this community and Mr. Pilgrim has left a choice legacy to those who come after.

The good wife who survives him

has the love and sympathy of a large circle of friends who have known her all these years.

The daughter, Mrs. Eastman, came to Grinnell several days ago and was with her father at the time of his death.