

PIONEER PASSES AWAY

4-26-1918
James C. Reams Passes Away at His
Home in Tama on Thurs.
6-14 day, April 18

FOR MANY YEARS A
RESIDENT OF SHERIDAN

Settled on 'Home Place' in Sheridan
in 1868 and Lived There
Until 1911

James C. Reams, for many years a resident of Sheridan township, died at the family home in Tama, April 18, 1918. The funeral service was held at the home and burial was in the family lot at Sheridan on Saturday. Rev. Mr. Billman, pastor of the First Baptist church of Tama, conducted the funeral.

Mr. Reams was born in Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, in 1829. He enlisted as a volunteer in the 84th Pennsylvania regiment in 1861. After two years' service he came to Iowa, and in 1864 married Lucy J. Graham. After three years' residence in Madison township, he located in 1868 on the old homestead in Sheridan, which was the family home until 1911, when they moved to Tama. He had been a member of the Latter Day Saints church for thirty-eight years. The evening of his life was spent most happily until the last sickness, of six days' duration. His companion and the three sons and three daughters survive him.

Mr. Reams had many friends in this county and in Grinnell. He was a kind, genial man, always a friend, generous, true and manly. Among the soldier boys he was a favorite. With his kind wife he always took an active part in the reunions of Sheridan soldiers and was always gladly welcomed. All who knew him, lose a friend, and all will join in sincere sympathy with his loving wife.

JAMES C. REAMS. 900 528

An excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Sheridan township, Poweshiek county, pays tribute to the agricultural skill of James C. Reams, who was actively engaged in its cultivation for over thirty years.

Mr. Reams was born in Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, on the 29th of July, 1829, being a son of Abraham and Martha (Cloyd) Reams. The father, who was of German descent, was a native of Center county, Pennsylvania, while the mother, who passed away in 1843, was born in Clearfield county. Mr. Reams was a farmer, being identified with agricultural pursuits up to the time of his demise in 1860.

James C. Reams acquired his education in the district schools of his native state, remaining a member of the paternal household until he attained his majority. After completing his education he assisted his father in the cultivation of the homestead until the latter's demise. When the call came for volunteers in 1861 Mr. Reams responded by enlisting in Company K, Eighty-fourth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served for eighteen months. He saw much active service and participated in some of the most notable battles of the war, among them being those of Winchester, and Port Republic, and he was with General Pope in that disastrous campaign on the Rappahannock and in the second battle of Bull Run. He received his discharge at Alexandria, Virginia, on the 12th of February, 1863.

Returning to his old home Mr. Reams remained there for a brief period, then decided to come west, first locating in Scott county, Iowa, where he resided for a year. Going back to Pennsylvania in 1864 he engaged in the lumber business for a year and then returned to Iowa, spending a brief period in Tama county. In 1865 he removed to Poweshiek county, farming as a renter in Madison township for several years, during which time he bought one hundred and sixty acres from M. E. Cutts in Sheridan township at four dollars per acre, and on the 7th day of June, 1867, he broke the first land in the north half

of this township. Mr. Reams took up his residence on this place on the 18th of March, 1868, and has continuously resided there ever since. He engaged in general farming and stock-raising, making a success of both ventures, and acquired a competence which enabled him to rent his property eight years ago and enjoy the ease and comfort rewarded him for his early toil. Although he still continues to reside upon his farm he is no longer actively engaged in its cultivation.

On the 4th of December, 1864, Mr. Reams was united in marriage to Miss Lucy J. Graham, a daughter of William and Mollie (Salleth) Graham, the mother of German and the father of Scotch extraction. Mr. Graham's ancestors first located in Virginia on coming to the United States, later removing to Pennsylvania, his birth occurring in York county, that state, on the 12th of August, 1793. Mrs. Graham was a native of Lancaster city, her natal day being the 24th of January, 1799. Mr. Graham passed away on his farm in Clearfield county, on the 22d of September, 1863, his wife having died several years previously. Ten children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Reams: A. A., who is a resident of Des Moines; Tillie, the wife of Howard Wilkinson, of Buhl, Idaho; Vina M., who married Carl Coulson, of Chelsea, Iowa; James W., who resides on a farm adjoining that of his father; Grace, living at home; and Weaver, who was a law student at State College of Iowa City, from which he was graduated in June, 1911. Four of the ten are deceased: Sophia A., who passed away at the age of twenty-seven years; Martha L., aged two years; and twins, one of whom died in infancy and the other, William Gurley, at the age of five years. The family attend the services of the Latter Day Saints, of which denomination the parents are members.