

6-11 Reuben Sears died at Marshalltown early Sunday morning of heart disease. He was born at Dracut, Massachusetts, July 31, 1824, of English descent, tracing his lineage back for more than two centuries. His father was Rev. Reuben Sears, a Presbyterian clergyman of much ability and decided convictions, one of the first graduates of Union College, a man of extensive learning, an author of considerable repute in his day and was one of the first advocates of total abstinence and the abolishment of slavery. The doctor received his education from his father and he delighted in showing his Latin and Greek text books that came from his father. At the age of 16 he went out into the world for himself and after some years came west, locating at or near Prophetstown, Ill. He then studied medicine and graduated at Rush Medical College, of Chicago. He first located at Montrose, in Lee county; afterward, about the year 1854, removed to Brooklyn, Iowa, removing thence in 1863 to Grinnell, and thence in 1872 to Marshalltown, where he continued to reside to the time of his death. He has filled a number of public positions, among others having for some years represented Poweshiek county in the state legislature. Of late years he has filled federal positions in the census and agricultural departments. Dr. Sears was twice married. The first was to Miss Cynthia A. Guild, at Rock Island. Their children were five, R. E. Sears, Mrs. Kittie Churchill, Mrs. Florence M. Burnell, of Marshalltown; Augustus G. Sears, of Chicago, and Augusta G. Sears, who died in early childhood. The mother of those children died in 1882. He was afterwards married to Mrs. Patience P. Wallace, who survives him. 6-9-1916