

ALL GRINNELL MOURNS C. A. SWISHER

G-H

June 8 1917

Charles Anthony Swisher, son of B. R. and Eliza J. Swisher, was born March 8, 1856, in Champion county, Ohio. In the fall of the same year the family moved to Brighton, Iowa, where Mr. Swisher grew to manhood and where he was educated. About 1878 or 1879 a friend at Canon City, Colo., secured a position for him as clerk in the store of McClellan & Peabody, where he remained nearly five years. The junior member of the firm was an active man of affairs and afterwards was elected governor of Colorado. The regard which a faithful clerk has for an appreciative employer was always marked in Mr. Swisher, and a friendship grew up between the two which lasted through life.

About 1884 Mr. Swisher returned to Iowa and entered the employ of Mr. Kramer at New Sharon. At that time Kramer & Errett were conducting a clothing store in Grinnell and soon after Mr. Kramer asked Mr. Swisher to join the partnership, which he did. He came to Grinnell in 1886 and soon bought Mr. Kramer's interest. The firm continued as Swisher & Errett until S. H. Howe bought out Mr. Errett, and the business continued under the name of Swisher & Howe. In 1892 M. W. Swisher came to Grinnell and purchased Mr. Howe's interest, and since then the firm name of Swisher Bros. has been continuous. In 1901 Swisher Bros. bought an interest in a store in New Sharon, where business was done under the name of Day & Swisher Bros. In 1911 the brothers sold their interest in this store, and Mr. Swisher returned to Grinnell to become secretary and general manager of the Easy-Fit Mfg. Co. Since that time Mr. Swisher has been actively engaged in business life in Grinnell, making a total of about twenty-one years, while his name has been a familiar one in the clothing business here for thirty-one years.

January 26, 1889, Mr. Swisher was united in marriage with May C. Lanphere, who with two sons, Leslie and Harold, survives him.

Mr. Swisher has been active in every phase of life in Grinnell. He was a charter member of the Knights of Pythias and has for thirty years been one of its best loved members. He was also a member of the Masonic lodge and of the Elks.

He served on the city council when the water works were built and the first sewer was put in. He joined with the city fathers who put in the sewer in the midst of severe adverse criti-

cism and lived to see those who opposed this improvement glad that it had been made.

Mr. Swisher's death came suddenly, and yet apparently without pain. He retired Saturday night in good health, intending to take the early morning train to Brighton. But it was not to be. Just after midnight his wife awakened to find him breathing heavily and unconscious. From this condition he never recovered. On Monday he seemed to gain strength and his friends had hope of his recovery, but he soon failed again and at about 6 o'clock Tuesday he breathed his last.

The funeral was held at the home Thursday at 3 o'clock, conducted by Rev. E. W. Cross. Music was by a quartet composed of Dr. E. E. Harris, Fred Morrison, Dr. O. F. Parish and George Walker. Bearers were three brothers and three brothers-in-law: John F. Swisher, of Sigourney, M. W. Swisher, of Grinnell, and Frank Swisher, of Brighton; Eugene Reiley, of Sioux Falls, S. D., W. T. Moyle and H. F. Lanphere, of Grinnell.

Floral decorations were abundant and beautiful, and many kind friends have done all they could to show their love for a manly man. Stores were closed and business was discontinued during the funeral hour and all joined in the general expression of sorrow. Regret is universal through the town at Mr. Swisher's death and sympathy with the bereaved family is deep and sincere.

No mere words can express the high regard in which C. A. Swisher was held by those who knew and loved him for thirty-one years. Keen, manly, cheerful and bright, he was a delightful companion and an efficient man. With a keen perception of what was appropriate and a knowledge of the use of language, he was always heard with interest in lodge or in any public gathering. He was one of our rare men, a gentleman at all times, and yet a man of strong character and advanced ideas who did not fail to put himself eternally on the side of right on all moral questions. His ideals were high and all his friends will say that he lived up to his ideals. His quiet, gentle character made him all the more lovable, and yet he never sacrificed a principle to maintain a friendship. His friends came to him because they recognized and appreciated his manly spirit. He will be long missed by a large circle of friends who will be glad to remember him as one of the most lovable of men.