

Mrs. Sarah Talbot, Oldest Resident, Passes Away

Jan 3-41

Mrs. Sarah Talbot, 97, oldest resident of St. Charles, died at her home here at 1:15 p. m. Friday. She had been a resident of Winona county 74 years.

Mrs. Talbot, whose maiden name was Sarah Ann Whiting, was born in Somersetshire, England, September 15, 1843, daughter of Robert and Hannah Whiting. She came to the United States with her parents, two sisters and a brother when she was six years old. It took them six weeks to cross the ocean. Many hardships and trials were endured. The family settled in Dyersville, Iowa, where her father opened the first hotel and bought and sold stock.

She lived at Dyersville until her marriage to Frederick Talbot April 9, 1866. The couple came to Winona county and settled on a farm three miles east of St. Charles. They made their trip from Iowa by boat up the Mississippi to Winona. From there they took a stage coach to St. Charles.

They endured many hardships of pioneer days, having to take wheat to Decorah, Iowa, to be ground into flour. Mail and provisions came from Winona. Many a day was she frightened by Indians coming into the house and eating the food. The settlers helped one another and Aunt Sarah was always ready to help.

She has seen the building of railroads, telegraphs and telephones, and changes in the ways of farming and the introduction of the labor saving devices. She has seen all ways of transportation from ox cart to aeroplane.

The couple had six children, four sons and two daughters. Mr. Talbot died May 10, 1920, and Mrs. Talbot is survived by a son, Albert C. Talbot of St. Charles; a daughter, Mrs. Hugh Groger, (Maude) of St. Charles; five grandchildren, Florence Rhames and Hazel, Chester, Esther and Mary Evelyn Groger of St. Charles; a son-in-law, Henry Rhames of St. Charles; two sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Jackson of Rockford, Ill., and Mrs. Hattie Evans of Early, Iowa, and a sister-in-law, Mrs. Frank Whiting of Dyersville. Others surviving include three nieces, Mrs. Clarence Camp and Mrs. Frank Wunderlich of Winona and Mrs. Eva Jackson of Sioux City, Iowa. The latter has been here with Mrs. Talbot since October. Numerous nieces and nephews also survive.

Three of Mrs. Talbot's sons died in childhood and when one of her daughters, Mrs. Henry Rhames (Florence Edith) died January 24, 1905, Mrs. Talbot reared Florence Lillian, her grandchild. Three of Mrs. Talbot's sisters and one brother preceded her in death.

Mrs. Talbot was a member of Trinity Episcopal church here and an honorary member of Sunshine chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. She was a member of the Winona County Old Settlers association and served 12 years as its assistant secretary. She is remember by most as "Grandma Talbot".

Funeral services were held Tuesday at two o'clock at the home with Eastern Star services and Rev. J. Ross Colquhoun officiating. Burial was made in the Hillside cemetery.

Pall bearers were Edw. F. Pfeil, Theo. Frisch, Ben Felstead, G. M. Smith, Noble Robinson and Harry Sasse.

"Gone But Not Forgotten"

A precious one from us has gone,
A voice we loved is stilled;
A place is vacant in our home,
Which never can be filled.
God in His wisdom has recalled,
The boon his love had given,
And though the body slumbers here,
The soul is safe in Heaven.