

Handsaker, Margaret I. (Mrs. J. T.)

d. 5-23-1933

Margaret L. (Mrs. J. T.) Handsaker

Mrs. Margaret Lawman Handsaker, wife of J. T. Handsaker, was born at Prince Albert, Canada, April 17, 1864 and passed away May 23, 1933, at 2 a. m., at the age of 69 years, 1 month and 6 days. She was the daughter of John and Violet Lawman. She moved to Illinois with her parents when only a babe of one year and at the age of ten her parents moved to Story county, Iowa, locating on a farm in Richland township, where they were located at the time of her marriage to J. T. Handsaker, which occurred on the 11th day of March, 1882, at the home of her parents. Immediately after their marriage they resided with her husband's parents, the following March, 1883, moving to their own farm located on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 20, Sherman township. There she faithfully and unremittingly worked with her husband to bring the unimproved farm from the state of a fenceless raw prairie to a modern home. It was there her daughter Ethel, sons Ralph, John W. and Thos. L. were born and reared to young womanhood and young manhood. There she remained till the year 1919, when they left their home to the management of a son, John W., and moved to their new home, on SW $\frac{1}{4}$ section 21, Sherman township, where she remained until death.

She was a true woman devoted to her home and family, energetic, ambitious, with never an idle moment for a worthy purpose. Her health was such that the last illness was the first requiring the service of a physician.

Her daughter Ethel passed away to the great beyond Oct. 16, 1921. She is survived by her husband, her sons Ralph, John W. and Thomas L., and 12 grandchildren. She has still living one brother, Thos. Lawman of Rodman, Ia., and two sisters, Lyndia (Mrs. Frank Boynton of Bangor, Mich., and Martha (Mrs. Nathan Kelly) of Fairmont Minn. Mrs. Handsaker's father, John Lawman, passed away Jan. 20, 1906, at the age of nearly 81 years. Her mother, Violet, passed away April 2, 1916, at the age of 83 years, 1 month and 3 days. She was also preceded in death by her sisters Isobell, Mary (Mrs. J. E. Brooks) and Violet (Mrs. J. O'Donnell) all of Nevada.

The loved and loving sister, wife, mother and friend died when womanhood's noon shadows began to fall to the East. This brave and tender woman in every storm of life, was oak and rock, but in sunshine she was vine and flower. She was the friend of all heroic souls, she climbed the heights and left superstition far below, while on her forehead fell the golden dawning of a grander day. She loved the beautiful and all that was good in life, she sided with the weak, the poor, the wronged. From the voiceless lips of the unreplying dead there comes no word, but in the night of death, hope sees a star, and listening love can hear the rustling of a wing.

The life of a more generous, honest and more spiritually truthful woman to all is not known: a perfect wife

because of her perfect contentment in making life both useful and happy, and a perfect mother for the same reason, gentle, thrifty, modest and reserved. Her closest friends have never known her to speak except kindly of anyone. This is indeed a rare tribute, and a real test of true Christian life. Her God was the God of all creation, the God of Truth, and the God of Love.

The funeral service was held last Thursday afternoon at 1:30 at the Methodist Episcopal church in Colo., after which interment was at the Nevada cemetery. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. G. O. Thompson of the Calvary Evangelical church of Colo. The pallbearers were Manly Morell, John Morell, James Thornton, Robert Jack, Geo. Swinbank and Lloyd Lounsberry. Mrs. Walter Bamford, Mrs. Hattie McCord and Mrs. Ernest Mead were in charge of the flowers. "Some Sweet Day" "That Beautiful Land." "Going Down the Valley" were sung by a quartet composed of Chas. Lehman, Chas. Wilson, Johnnie Lounsberry, Sherm Rinehart, and a solo, "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere", was sung by Chas. Hall with Mrs. S. B. Goodenow as pianist.

Collins
Gazette
6-1-1933

Handsaker, Margaret I. (Mrs. J. T.)

d. 5-23-1933

Mrs. J. T. Handsaker, 69, died at her home north of Colo Tuesday at 2:00 a. m., after an illness of about eight weeks. Death was due to a tumor on the brain and other complications which had caused her to fail rapidly following the start of her illness.

The funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at 1:30 at the Methodist Episcopal church in Colo, after which interment will be in the Nevada cemetery.

Mrs. Handsaker, wife of a prominent pioneer Story county farmer, was a native of Canada, her maiden name being Margaret Lawman. She came to this country with her parents when a girl of ten years, they settling on a farm in Richland township.

She leaves her husband, three sons, and other relatives and a wide circle of friends.

Collins
Gazette

5-25-1933