

## **LOOKING BACK**

### **BY SHIRLEY SCHAPER**

#### **State Center's first school teacher dead** **December 15, 1927 *State Center Enterprise***

In 1865, Miss Jane Bradbury came to State Center to teach the first school to be opened in State Center, a little log school house that stood on the present site of the Presbyterian church. Miss Bradbury, a daughter of a widow lady who had come to live on a farm south of State Center that year, continued to teach until January 9, 1866, when she became the wife of William Vance, a young farmer of the neighborhood and moved to a farm south of town.

On Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Vance, who had reached the age of eighty-five, passed away suddenly at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Grace Bovee, in Marshalltown, two hours after she had been stricken with a heart attack. She had been in good health despite the fact that three months ago she had fallen and fractured her right hip.

Mrs. Vance was a native of Flagstaff, Maine, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Bradbury. After her marriage to Mr. Vance in this city in 1866, she continued to reside in this vicinity until 1893 when they moved to Pocahontas county where they lived until 1911, when they moved to Marshalltown where Mr. Vance died in 1911.

Surviving Mrs. Vance are one son and five daughters. They are H.W. Vance of Kodiak, Alaska; Mrs. E.G. Hoppes of Melfort, Sask.; Mrs. C.B. Nason of Minneapolis; Mrs. L.H. Cheney of McCook, Nebr.; Mrs. B.C. Whitehill and Mrs. Bovee of Marshalltown.

The funeral services were held from the Whitehill home on Tuesday afternoon with interment in the Rhodes cemetery.