

STAFFORD COURIER

STAFFORD, KANSAS, THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1918

Death of William A. Rowden

William A. Rowden was born July 9, 1840, in Johnson county, Mo., and departed this life March 21, 1918, age 77 years, 8 months and 12 days.

He was married to Clara Dolan, May 10, 1877. To this union were born four children, Charles W., Alberta, Ada, and Ida. Alberta and Ida were living at home with their father when he departed this life. Charles lived across the road near by and Mrs. Ada M. Candless lived about one mile away. All were at the side of the father during his last illness and did all that loving hands could do to make his last days happy while here.

Deceased came to Kansas in an early day and settled on a claim in Rose Valley township, where he spent the most of his long and useful life. He came to Kansas March 21, 1878 and filed on the N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 23-25-13, and took as a tree claim N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 22-25-13. He kept the homestead until 1912 when he sold it to his son, Charles, and he moved with his daughters to Manhattan where the two, Ada and Ida, were in school. In a short time he moved back to Stafford county and lived across the road from the old home until God called him on to his eternal home.

Mr. Rowden was one of the most widely known persons in the county. Coming here in an early day, he met with many of the hardships common to pioneer life, but staid through them all and came out pure and clean.

His success as a farmer is not so great as was his teaching and public life. For about four years he served as superintendent of schools for Stafford county, and during these years won the confidence and esteem of many teachers and patrons. He taught the first school out in District No. 40, known as the Antrim district. He was teacher for twenty years and never had to look for schools, they sought him for the work.

He is survived by two sisters and the four children, who with a host of friends and neighbors mourn his going from us, but his life was so lived that we have no cause to grieve over his going from us for he has entered into his rest, and will be forever living on in the hearts of those who knew him. He was a loving father, a true friend, and a faithful citizen, true to his country and to his God.

He had no enemies, every one who knew him loved him and has a very high regard for every thing he said and did.

His remains were tenderly laid beside the sleeping form of his dear companion, who preceded him to her home, going in June, 1906.

He was converted and joined the Presbyterian church when about 12 years of age and, up to the time of his departure, lived an earnest, faithful Christian life. He was a good Bible student and read the Bible through many times. He was also very much interested in Sunday school work. He began a Sunday school in the sod school house where Plano school house now stands, and spent many happy hours teaching the people God's Word.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. W. H. Briggs, at the Plano church, March 22, in the presence of a host of friends and relatives. Interment was made in Plano cemetery.