HOWARD W. COLE

An Honored and Respected Pioneer Gone to Rest

The telephone message of Tuesday morning which announced the death of Sheriff Howard W. Cole was not unexpected, but it brought with it pang of sorrow to scores of friends of the departed in Groton and vicinity.

A resident of Brown county since 1881, the years of his full manhood were spent here. Howard Cole was always true blue, loyal to the core, a man whose word was as good as his bond. As a friend or as a partisan there was nothing small about him. Big, honest, kindly, he bound his friends to him with links of steel, and always commanded the respect of those who knew him.

Howard Cole was born in Montcalm county, Mich., March 25, 1857. He was distinctly a self made man, beginning to make his own way in life at fourteen years of age. He was among the very early settlers who found their way to this country in 1880, filing on a claim ten miles north of Groton. He was married in 1880 to Theresa M. Howell, who with four children survive him.

He was chosen sheriff of Brown county, served one term, and was chosen his own successor last fall, by a majority which showed that he held the confidence and esteem of the people as a public official.

Mr. Cole was a prominent member of the various Masonic bodies, and was laid to rest with Masonic honors in Groton Union cemetery, yesterday afternoon. A special train bearing the remains and about 150 people from the county seat, members of the various Masonic bodies, came to Groton for the burial, after funeral services had been held at Aberdeen. He held membership in three insurance orders—the Workmen, Woodmen and Knights of the Maccabees.

The memory of Howard Cole will long be cherished by those who value the elements of true manhood.