November 18, 1904

GROTON, BROWN COUNTY, SOUT

S. M. GIBBS GONE

Full of Years and Honor, an Old Pioneer Falls by the Way

In his eightieth year, beloved by all, revered by all, S. M. Gibbs closed his eyes on the scenes of earth at two o'clock last Sunday morning, at his home in Groton.

A good man, who met the problems of life from his boyhood up with the spirit of a hero, and through it all was genial and lovable. Such was the life of S. M. Gibbs, and in his going all who knew him well experience the loss of a true friend, whose heart was young to the last.

He was born in Cattaraugus county, N. Y., Aug. 19, 1825. With his parents he moved to Michigan when 10 years of age. At fifteen he was making his own way teaching school and preparing for college—bearing burdens from which full-grown men often shrink. But he knew no such word as failure. He completed the course at Oberlin college. Afterward he took the medical course at Ann Arbor, later practicing medicine at Cleveland, Ohio. On account of failing health he returned to Michigan and took up the real estate business at Mt. Calm. March 4th, 1854, he was united in marriage with Adaline Fargo at Fair Plains, Mich.

Came to Dakota Territory and filed on land in what is now Riverside Township in 1880, and prepared for settlement there the following.

Seven or eight years ago he had a very severe attack of sickness, which left him greatly enfeebled, and his active farming was at an end.

From that time Groton was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs—although they spent considerable time in Colorado and California—building a comfortable home here a year ago.

Up to the very last his mind was remarkably bright and active. He always kept fully abreast of the times. On the questions of the day his deductions were logical and clear, and in conversation with younger men, something of value was always imparted.

Funeral services were conducted at the home on Tuesday afternoon by the Rev. J. S. Butt, whose remarks were a just and eloquent tribute to the memory of the honored pioneer.

A widow, one son and two daughters survive him—C. S. Gibbs of Delta, Col., Mrs. F. H. Smith of Groton and Mrs. W. H. Johns of Litchfield, Minn, all of whom were here when he passed away.

His whole life was a model of good citizenship, and though ripe in years his death is cause for universal sorrow.