

May 21, 1908

### JACOB W. KRAFT DIES

Tuesday morning, just as the sun was peeping over the eastern horizon, while the birds were sounding their anthems of praise and gratitude seemed expressive of the resounding joy of life, sadness and bereavement which had attended human life from the beginning, again entered the Kraft home. This time it was the head of the family who was called from earth; only three weeks before, Edward, the second oldest son was taken.

As our readers are aware, Mr. Kraft had been suffering for about three months with an ailment—a form of paralysis—which had for a time prevented all use of his lower limbs. From this he seemed to be making steady improvement. Last week a slight cold developed symptoms of pneumonia in the left lung, just above the heart, the new ailment probably originating from the same cause which had kept him an invalid for three months.

Fatal results were not anticipated, and he had shown signs of improvement. On Sunday he was able to climb the stairway at his home with assistance, and shortly after noon Monday he was again being assisted up the stairs, when he collapsed entirely. Although in perfect control of his mental faculties to the last, and able to adjust important business affairs, the heart action lessened steadily, until death relieved his sufferings the following morning.

J. W. Kraft was born at Keokuk, Ia., on Oct. 16th, 1854. He was united in marriage with Miss Emma Mueller at Alica, Wis., on Nov. 16th, 1880. Five children were born to them, three of whom survive, the only daughter dying several years ago, and the second son three weeks ago as noted above.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kraft lived at Fountain City, Wis. and at Winona, Minn., until they came to Groton in 1882. Mr. Kraft was of the firm of G. J. Iberg & Co. for some time after coming here. Later he conducted a clothing business, and also spent a number of years in opening a large farm in Riverside; at the time of his death he was engaged in the grain business in Groton.

Mr. Kraft leaves to his surviving widow and three sons, the heritage of a name without a blemish. Even as he faced death, the grim reaper seemed to have no terrors for him. The future welfare of his family seemed to absorb his entire thought, his mind extending to the aged father who has been a subject of care for many years. A splendid citizen has gone to his reward. The church, his neighbors and the business associates, as well as immediate relatives, will greatly miss him.

Funeral services will be conducted at the home this afternoon at 2:30 by Rev. C. F. Strutz.