

March 26, 1936

JOHN TOWNSEND PASSES TO BEYOND

EARLY PIONEER DIES AT THE HOME OF HIS DAUGHTER IN GRAND RAPIDS

John Townsend, 86, one of the early pioneers of this county and a highly respected and leading figure of the community for more than a half a century passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Norman Berry, at Grand Rapids, Minn., Monday, from the effects of heart trouble. Mr. Townsend has been spending the winter in Florida, but was recalled to Grand Rapids some time ago, owing to failing health.

The deceased was born June 10, 1850, in Genesee county, Michigan, and later with his parents settled at Iona, Mich. He came to South Dakota in 1882 and homesteaded on land near the George Cure farm. His faith in the state and in the productiveness of the new soil was so unbounded he gradually added to his holdings until at one time he was known as one of the largest land owners in Groton, having a number of quarters in the region north of the city, as well as property in Groton.

January 10, 1899, he was married to Miss Mayme Doynton, who passed away August 20, 1929. To this union one daughter, Marian, was born and with the exception of her daughter, is the only survivor. He has no living brothers or sisters.

The funeral will be held from the Presbyterian church on Thursday, March 26, at 2 o'clock p. m., with Rev. C. B. Cedar officiating. The body will lie in state at the church from 12:30 until the time of the service. Burial will be made in Groton cemetery.