

At Her Journey's End.

DIED at her residence, near Wheatland, Iowa, Mrs. Florentine Schneider, aged 85 years, 8 months and 10 days.

Miss Florentine Witter was born at Wanterhusen, Westphalen, Prussia, on the 20th of June, 1803. In 1822 she was married to John George Schneider, who died in 1864; she was the mother of ten children—five sons and five daughters—seven of which are still living. In 1848 Mrs. Schneider came to America and located in Crawford Co., Ohio, where, with her family, she resided until 1852, when they came to Iowa and settled on the farm where she has since been until her death.

She was the grandmother of 80 children—8 of whom are now living; and the great grandmother of 56 children, 52 of whom are now alive.

The deceased was known by nearly every one in this end of the county, and was much loved by all who knew her; she was a member of the German Reform church, her life has been one of usefulness; her energies and labors added much to the prosperity and happiness of her relatives and neighbors. Only those who came and settled on the wild prairies of Iowa in an early day, can appreciate and understand the thousand and one cares and trials a mother is subjected to while bringing up a large family and helping to build a home at the same time. Her family and their pleasant homes is the best index by which to judge her worth, and the large congregation in attendance at her funeral speaks louder than words of the feelings of her neighbors. She was a devoted wife, a kind and loving mother, a true christian and an obliging neighbor.

The funeral exercises were conducted by Rev. C. G. Zipf, pastor of the German Reformed church. A brief service was held at the residence at 9 o'clock, A. M. and at the church at 10:30, A. M., after which the remains were followed to their last resting place in the cemetery by a large number of mourning relatives and sympathizing friends.

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There is some uncertainty about her exact date of death. Emma (Wetter) Hobbs reported March 18, 1889 but her age quoted in the obituary puts it around April 1, 1889. Insofar as her grave marker is legible, it seems to say April 18, 1889. That would be just prior to the newspaper publication date, and that is the one I will hold to. Her maiden name was, of course, Wetter and not "Witter", and the village of her birth was Wunderthausen.

Notes by Dr. Paul Riedesel (great-great-great grandson)