

## Mrs. Lydia Backes Passed Away Apr. 18

Mrs. Lydia Backes, one of the most splendid characters among the number of noble pioneer mothers of this community, passed away Tuesday at her home south of Arnold. Mrs. Backes had lived here since 1886, and through that long period of more than fifty years had greatly endeared herself to every acquaintance for many wonderful qualities, her cheerful acceptance of a full share of life's responsibilities, and unusual willingness to render every possible aid and comfort to others whenever there was need or opportunity.

### Obituary

Lydia Ann Clendennen was born in Greeley, Iowa, on September 10, 1858, and passed away at her home near Arnold, April 18, 1939, at the age of 80 years. During her girlhood in Iowa, she accepted her Saviour and joined the Christian Church, later joining the Christian Church of Arnold. On March 18, 1880, she was united in marriage to John Backes. They came to Nebraska in 1886 and settled on a homestead, about 3 miles south of Arnold. To this union there was born six boys: John W., of Arnold; Charles H., of Arnold; Thomas E., of Long Beach, California; Andrew J., of Arnold; and George A., of Arnold; also one daughter: Mrs. Leona Mae Norgard of Dannebrog, Nebraska. One baby boy passed away, on September 18, 1900, having lived only a few hours. She is survived by one brother, Jesse Clendennen of Independence, Iowa, ten grandchildren, and several neices and nephews.

She was a pioneer woman, and went through the many hardships common to the early settlers of this part of Nebraska. She was proud of the fact that she was a second cousin to Daniel Boone. Her life was an open book to those who knew her; and the real obituary of her life is written in the hearts of her many friends who knew her as one who unselfishly served those in sickness and need. One of the greatest joys of her life was to hear from her many friends; and she highly treasured every letter and card which she received from them. Both she and her husband lived to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary, on March 18, 1930, and on June 9, 1930, John Backes preceded her in death.

It was her wish that in her later years, she might not be a burden to anyone, and her Creator graciously granted that desire. Her passing was like quiet sleep as she slipped off to be with her Saviour whom she loved and served. All the children except Thomas were at her bedside during her closing hours.

Funeral services are being held this afternoon at the Baptist church with Rev. H. I. Jack in charge. The singers are Mrs. Emma S. Beltz, Mrs. J. H. Melton, Mrs. Millie Clinebell, W. A. Brewer and P. G. Houghton with Mrs. H. I. Jack as piano accompanist. The pallbearers include four sons, John, Charles, Andrew and George Backes, the son-in-law, A. H. Norgard, of Dannebrog, Nebraska, and a nephew, P. H. Brown of Oelwein, Iowa. Interment is at the Arnold cemetery.