

## The Old Stone Church

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time or date of his death is not known. But from all accounts he must have been sixty years old or more, when he died, comparing his age with that of other chiefs of his time, Strike the Ree and Lean Wolf.

## The Old Stone Church

The affection and veneration for the old stone church in Rock Falls, Iowa, is not unlike that so widely held for the "Little Brown Church in the Vale," near Nashua. The sentiment contained in the following verse from Mrs. Irene Gorkowski in the *Mason City Globe-Gazette*, is rather well reflected:

There's a little vine covered church on the prairie  
That has become very dear to my heart  
It was built years ago just with limestone,  
And the prayers of men, with vision, made it start.

Let me tell you why it's found a place so dear  
In my heart forever it shall be.  
For the rocks and vines that twine round about it  
Have become a symbol of life, dear to me.

The old gray stone walls will always remind me  
Of God's strength and sturdy character of love  
And the vines which entwine round about it  
Are the love enriched round us from above.

The open door on each Sabbath morning  
Is like the father with his arms stretched out wide  
Welcoming home his own wayward child  
To the warmth of love and fellowship inside.

Once inside these walls so majestic  
We're transformed to realms above  
With the songs, tithe and prayers that we offer  
We are tied to the great God of love.

So won't you stop your tasks for a moment  
Listen with me to the Lord and Master's plea  
"Come unto me, all ye that labor,"  
And, "Take up your cross and follow, follow me."

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