The Dead of 1884 [John Brown, Mrs. McGovern, Philo Haines, Mrs. Lydia Norten Allen, Harvey W. Fyffe, Mrs. E. C. Lyon]

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THE DEAD OF 1884.

JOHN BROWN, of Cedar township, Johnson county, Iowa, died in the autumn, leaving a wife and three little children.

Among the elect ladies and dead of 1884, was Mrs. McGovern, the venerable mother of our County Treasurer. She was a perfect dorcus, from the garments which she made and other useful articles.

PHILO HAINES, near Iowa City, also died in the autumn, leaving a widow, two grown up sons, a daughter and grand children to mourn, and to inherit his large estate. An old settler and an honest neighbor has passed away.

MRS. LYDIA NORTON ALLEN, the wife of the late Dr. Harry Allen, whose memorial in brief the Annals of last year contained, has followed him, not far divided in death’s harvest]home. So kindred and acquaintances fall by the sythe of the destroyer.

HARVEY W. FYFFE departed suddenly. He was expected to attend the New Orleans World’s Fair as an official from Iowa City, but he is gone. He took the census of the city, for the United States, in 1850, which enumerated one thousand and fifty inhabitants. Mr. Fyffe was always foremost in all undertakings that seemed to be for the general good and welfare of Iowa City and Johnson county.

Among the dead of 1884 should be mentioned, Mr. E. C. Lyon, who began his fortune here in Iowa City with eighty acres. Mr. Lyon gave grounds for the depot, and would not allow it to be changed to Clinton street, when alive. It is to be hoped that his heirs will allow at least a passenger station at the foot of Clinton street, for the great accommodation of the city and traveling public. It would be about half the distance only to the post-office and business part of town. Mr. Lyon left considerable property. He was a member of the Episcopal church, and was buried in a stone cenotaph under the surface, made of stone. A novel burial in Iowa City.

FORT MADISON probably dates from the expedition of Lt. Zebulon M. Pike of the U. S. army up the Mississippi river in 1805. He seems to have designated that as a place for a post. There was a fort there and soldiers some time before the opening of the war of 1812.

“CHE-CHE-PE-QUA.” From 1825 to 1842 the name of Che-che-pequa was a familiar one to the Indians and old settlers in the vicinity of Keokuk and along the river. The Indians gave Wm. Phelps, an Indian trader, this name because of his large neck. It signifies big neck. Mr. Phelps now resides on a farm in Fulton county, Illinois.