

Independence Conserbative

Independence, Iowa
Wednesday, April 30, 1941 Page 1

Last Veteran of Civil War Died Friday

NO MORE IN THIS COUNTY

Services For George Kays Were Held Sunday With Burial In Mt. Hope

Taps were sounded here Sunday for Buchanan County's last Civil war veteran, George W. Kays, who passed away at his home in the Fifth ward Friday afternoon. Mr. Kays was 93 years old at the time of his death. He was guest of honor at Memorial Day services last year, being able to attend ceremonies at that time.

Funeral services were held at Swan & Leytze's funeral home Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p. m. conducted by Rev. R. J. Netting, pastor of the Presbyterian Church. Burial was made in the Mt. Hope cemetery. Members of the American Legion acted as pallbearers and guard of honor.

Mr. Kays was born in Mercer County, Pennsylvania, on October 18, 1847, the son of William and Rebecca

Kays. He came west with his parents at an early age, locating in Wisconsin. At

the age of 15 he enlisted in Company A of the 41st Wisconsin Infantry, for a period of 100 days. He later reenlisted on January 31, 1865, and was mustered out of service on September 4, 1865.

After the war he came to Iowa, where in 1870 he was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Kirkpatrick of Independence. Two children survive by this marriage, William Kays, Chicago, and Mrs. Alice Stickney, of Cedar Rapids. On July 1, 1900, he was again married to Catharine Clue, who survives him with one son from this union, Arthur, at home. He is also survived by five great grandchildren.

He was wounded in his right knee near Memphis, during the war, and later his leg had to be amputated.

For many years Mr. Kays operated a neighborhood store, from which he retired on account of his health. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church.