

# The New Hampton Tribune

New Hampton, Iowa

Thursday, February 17, 1938

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## Fred Pettygrove, 97, Civil War Veteran Dies; Funeral Here

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**Notable character died in Spencer at home of his  
daughter. Lived in New Hampton 33 years.**

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Fred Pettygrove, age nearly 98 years, well-known character in New Hampton, died at the home of his daughter, Hettie, Mrs. George P Smith, at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, February 9, 1938, following an illness of a week, and complications due to his advanced years.

Funeral services were held in Spencer Friday afternoon and his body was brought to New Hampton where funeral services were held in the Perry Funeral Home, Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Services here were conducted by Reverend W. D. Spiker, pastor of the First Congregational Church. Miss Louise Wittenberg and Arthur Boettcher sang and were accompanied by Mrs. Wm. Wilkins.

The local Legion took charge of his body, acting as his pallbearers and marching to the cemetery, where these younger men fired the last salute and a still younger generation sounded the taps. He was the last member of the Civil War Post at New Hampton, and there is but one more of the old veterans

left in the county, John Coleman at Fredericksburg.

The old Comrade or Colonel, as many hereabouts kindly named him, never failed to be on hand for Decoration Day, up to the last one. His wife and so many of his friends lie buried in Graceland and his last resting place is beside her, in the camp where he shall have eternal rest and peace, for which he was ready and prepared to go. Many friends of former years came to the services and followed his body to the grave, in reverence and respect of him and his family.

The deceased Fred Pettygrove was born in Washington County, Maine, July 8, 1840. At the age of 10 years he came West with his parents and they settled in Grant County, Wisconsin, where he lived until the Civil War broke out. He left for the front with Company C of the Wisconsin Infantry, April 2, 1861. He was with the Army of the Potomac and served in many battles, among them the important ones of Antietam, Gettysburg, Chancellorsville, Lookout Mountain,

Spotsylvania and Cold Harbor. At Antietam he was badly wounded and left for dead. But, as he used to say, "I fooled them." In all he was wounded four times. On June 28, 1864 he was honorably discharged and returned to the home of his father in Grant County Wisconsin.

On October 9, 1864, he was married to Miss Margaret Steers. They remained in Wisconsin 10 years and then moved to south western Nebraska, remaining only one year when they returned to Wisconsin for two years more. Then they came to New Hampton where for 33 years he held the position of Street Commissioner. Mrs. Pettygrove died August 17, 1914.

They were the parents of seven children. Four sons, George of the state of Nevada, Frank of Wilton, North Dakota, Fred of Minneapolis, and John of Charles City; three daughters, Mrs. Ida O'Brien of Billings, Montana, Mrs. George Kane of Webster City and Mrs. George P. Smith of Spencer. Besides his children he leaves 14 grandchildren 19 great-grandchildren and 8 great-great-grandchildren.

It is remarkable that one who endured so many hardships and privations in early life should be permitted in the providence of God to live so long and to enjoy a varied career. He was indeed a remarkable man, and death comes as a triumph to a long and useful life.

To his family and friends who mourn him, he leaves the sweet and tender memory of a life well spent.

### **Taps**

*Did you hear a bugle calling,  
Comrade Pettygrove? 'tis true,  
So you'll stand at attention,  
The Great Commander calls for you.*

*It's for service for your country,  
A reward, which is your due.  
When with loyalty in service,  
You with honor wore the blue.*

*In the long and weary marches,  
When Old Glory onward led,  
In the fight you never wavered,  
Round you Comrades lying dead.*

*Now your fighting days are over,  
I've prepared a mansion fair.  
When taps sound, you may enter,  
And find loved ones waiting there.*

*And old comrades will salute you,  
The Commander say, "Well done.  
Eternal life I give to you,  
For Life's battles you have won."*

Mary Virginia Noble  
In Memory of Frederick Pettygrove.