

OBITUARY.

West Salem (Wis.) Chronicle: At the residence of Mrs. John Torgerson, on the 18th inst., death claimed Mr. Gurerins Simonson, her father and an early northwest pioneer. Deceased was born in Norway, May 12, 1826, emigrated for America poor, but young and full of hope and ambition. He made his temporary home near Madison, Wis., and later removed to La Crosse Valley, where he opened new soil and educated a family. In 1881 he became sufficiently anxious to go west, in fact so much so that he disposed of his farm and founded another near Valley City, N. D., where at the time of his death, he owned one thousand acres of land.

He leaves a son and daughter, Simon G. Simonson and Mrs. John Torgerson.

Twelve years ago, his wife died on their farm in North Dakota, and was consigned to her grave within two miles of their residence. About a year ago, the deceased, realizing his failing health, returned to the neighborhood he left more than a score of years ago to spend his final days at the hospitable home of his daughter. His son, also of Valley City, spent the winter at the bedside of his sick father to the very last moment. All known means were exerted to render the patient comfortable during his persistent and lingering fight with lagrippe, but in vain. The remains were taken to North Dakota for interment by the side of his wife. On Tuesday, the 23d, the initiative funeral ceremonies occurred at the Scandinavian Lutheran church, LaCrosse Valley, the Rev. Mr. Turmo and assistant officiating, and Undertaker B. B. Merceraeu in charge. The pall-bearers being Messrs. Ole Knutson, Nels Larson, Even Erickson, Andrew Hulberg, Ole Engen, and Peter Molstad, all old fellow settlers. The large funeral procession followed the hearse to the depot at West Salem, in time for the 5 o'clock train, whence the children of the deceased and relatives accompanied the coffin to its resting place. On the 27th of February the burial took place at the West Prairie Norwegian Lutheran church, the services being conducted by Rev. Nordby, and a large assemblage paid its final respects and tribute to the dead friend and father. The deceased was a staunch Lutheran and exemplary citizen and the world is better for his having lived in it.