Decatur County Journal

December 1, 1898

JESSIE F., daughter of JOHN F. and ROSA GARBER, died at Glenwood, Iowa, November 1, 1898, of that dread disease, diphtheria. She was born near Crown, Decatur County, Iowa, February 27, 1888, being 10 years, 8 months and 4 days old at the time of her death.

She was of a cheerful, kind and affectionate disposition, always bright and happy. She had been afflicted with partial deafness from infancy, and as a result had never acquired the power of speech, being able to say only a few words. For this reason, her parents decided to take her to the school at Glenwood, Iowa, to obtain her education. She had been there only a few weeks when she was taken sick with diphtheria.

She was not considered dangerous by the physician in charge, and each day an encouraging report was sent to the parents. Owing to the nature of the disease they were advised not to go to her unless there was a change for the worse, for she seemed to be improving all the time. But the change for the worse came, and the parents went to her bedside as soon as they received the word, but it was too sudden for them to reach her to see her in life, as her little spirit had flown before their arrival. The remains were interred in the Glenwood Cemetery the following day.

During her short stay in Glenwood she had won the affections of the teachers and pupils, and they assured the bereaved parents that they felt it was their own loss as well as theirs.

On November 20, Rev. Mrs. Flora preached a sermon dedicated to the memory of little JESSIE at Crown Chapel. Among the floral offerings was a bouquet of white chrysanthemums sent from Glenwood. She leaves a father, mother, three brothers, a sister and many relatives and friends to mourn her loss.

Farewell, dear child, go to thy rest in innocence so sweet;

Before temptation's glittering path allured thy little feet;

Before thy little heart had learned an evil thought to know;

Before the stain of sin could blot that record white as snow.

Thy little tongue is loosened now, to sing the sweet refrains;

Thy little ears can catch the sound of joyful Heavenly strains.

No more of earth's dark trials to see, no more of pain or woe;

'Amongst flowers and birds of paradise, thy Savior's love to know.