

**Obituary.**

**SAMUEL WALLACE BYERS**

Was born in Butler county, Pa., Feb. 29, 1827, and died May 4, 1902, on Byers Bros.' ranch in Clay county, Texas. He was the second son of Jacob and Mary Byers, and grew to manhood on a farm near Oil City, attending a school when a boy, taught by his father, and, while a very young man, he himself taught district and "singing school." Mr. Byers married Susan Walter in Clarion county, Pa., Jan. 28, 1847, and to this union were born three children—A. W. and Geo. W., of Kansas City, and Josephine M., who married S. B. Householder and died in Texas nine years ago. He with his wife and three children migrated west in 1853, to Stephenson county, Ill., and for a few years he was a merchant in Freeport. From that city he came to Chickasaw county in 1855, and first kept the Brink House, a hotel which is still recalled by the old pioneers of this region, going then to the Middle Wapale where he laid out the village and also organized the township of North Washington, opened a store and kept a hotel there on the stage route from Charles City to McGregor. He also did some farming. In 1860 he returned with his family to the Keystone state and engaged in the oil business—a newly discovered industry in that section, in fact new in nearly the whole world. At the beginning of the rebellion he came back to this county and enlisted in the 35th Iowa Infantry, and served as a volunteer until his muster out in 1865 by reason of the close of the war.

Three of his brothers were also Union soldiers, namely, J. L. Byers, of the 9th Iowa, Fred W., a surgeon of volunteers, and Joseph K., who was commissioned a line officer in a Pennsylvania regiment, then transferred to the regular army, and who died in 1875, a major on the retired list of the U. S. army.

When S. W. Byers returned to civil life he became a citizen of Nashua and engaged in mercantile business. Later on his sons, and daughter also, went to Texas, and except while visiting them, or temporarily residing South on account of his health, which was delicate for some years, this city has been his home and that of his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Byers have six living grand children—Reed and Ward Byers, sons of A. W., residence, Kansas City; Helen, Samuel W., Fred W., and Mary Householder, children of Josephine M. and S. B. Householder, of Bonaville, Texas.

Mr. Byers, although without a college or academic education, was a great reader and a thorough student. He was ever abreast of the times in politics, religion and the topics of the day. While he did not pose as an orator he was a fair speaker, a clear writer and thinker as well as an enthusiastic geologist. He cared little for general society, was retiring in manner, never held office, but his attachments were close and strong in domestic and social life.

At his request he was buried in Oak Hill cemetery and the funeral on Thursday last was largely attended. Rev. Edwin Ewell conducted the services in the Congregational church, of which deceased was a member. His widow, with whom he lived in wedlock over 55 years, his sons Walter and George, one brother, Surgeon-General Byers of Wisconsin, one sister, Mrs. Kepple, of Iowa, John W. Maxey, his son, Presley and wife, Fred and wife, also Mrs. Ella (Byers) Tupper, a foster daughter of S. W. and Mrs. Byers with her family, accompanied the earthly remains to their last resting place. At the grave the impressive ritual of the Grand Army of the Republic was repeated. About seventy comrades of Dodge Post (Wm. H. Ferrin, commander) and its officers, attended by the Relief Corps, participated in the last sad rites of an old and loved comrade who has made his last march and crossed the final pontoon.

**Resolutions Adopted by Geo. W. S. Dodge Post.**

**UPON THE DEATH OF SAMUEL W. BYERS.**  
Comrade Samuel W. Byers, who served his country as a member of Co. C and Co. K, 35th Iowa infantry, after a long and painful illness, has been called from the scenes of earth, to meet the realities that exist beyond the grave.

Resolved, That we, the members of Geo. W. S. Dodge Post, appreciate the life of activ-