

ELDEST MEMBER IN 5-GENERATION FAMILY, 97, DIES

Mrs. Ann Siman, Pioneer and
Great Great Grandmother
of Four, Succumbs

Stewartville, Feb. 24.—Mrs. Ann Siman, 97 years old, the eldest of a five-generation family, and Stewartville's oldest resident, died early today at the home of her daughter, Mrs. F. F. Tews. She had been ill three weeks.

An early Minnesota pioneer and a resident of Stewartville since 1900, Mrs. Siman nee Smart, was the last of a family of nine children. She was born January 20, 1839 at Waukesha, Wis., where she was married to John Siman in 1861.

Following their marriage they lived at North Prairie, Wis., for a year before coming to Minnesota. With two pairs of horses and two prairie schooners they left North Prairie for Rollingstone, Minn., where they visited three days with Nicholas Siman, a brother of Mr. Siman.

While there, they traded one pair of horses for a yoke of oxen, a calf and \$100 and came west to Fairmont, going by the way of Rochester which was nearly all timber at that time.

Upon arriving near Fairmont where Mr. Siman had a homestead claim, they found that the claim had been jumped. They moved into a log house with another family where they lived three months until Mr. Siman secured a 160-acre claim on which he built a small log house. This was near what was then called Lone Tree Lake, Minn.

The Indians were quite numerous at that time and called frequently for something to eat. Mrs. Siman recalled a year ago, explaining that they were often short of food and were forced to grind corn in a small coffee mill for food. Settlers along the way used to stop Mr. Siman, when he made trips to Mankato and Blue Earth for flour and middlings, and beg for a few pounds of feed or flour.

After about five years of this sort of life on the prairie, Mr. Siman traded his farm for a saw and grist mill at Winnebago City, Minn., which at that time had one general store, a blacksmith shop and saloon. Here Mrs. Siman had the first sewing machine in that region and people used to come for miles to see it work.

Later Mr. and Mrs. Siman lived for a time at Money Creek near Preston and then returned to Winnebago where Mr. Siman died August 29, 1894.

Since 1900 Mrs. Siman has made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Tews (Alice), who survives, as do two sons, Will of Stewartville and Harry of Wayne, Neb. Another son, Andrew, died in 1928. There are 11 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and four great great grandchildren.

Up to the time of her illness Mrs. Siman was unusually active. A year ago she posed in a picture showing the five generations, included in the photograph besides Mrs. Siman and her daughter were a grandson, F. Avery Tews, a great-granddaughter, Mrs. C. J. Thompson and a great-great-grandson, Gersham Joseph Thompson of Rochester.

Arrangements for the funeral services which will be held at Stewartville, have not been made pending word from her son, Harry. Burial will be at Winnebago.

Pioneer Dies



Mrs. Ann Siman, a great great grandmother, who died early today in Stewartville. She was 97 years old.

Obit. - Siman, Ann
Jan. 20, 1839 - 2/25/1936