

*Obituary from The Ogden Reporter, Ogden, Iowa*

**Mrs. Mary Edith Merriam Funeral Held March 24, 1942  
Was Ogden Resident For The Past Half Century**

Funeral rites were held at the home at 2 o'clock and at the Methodist Church at 2:30, Tuesday, March 24, for Mrs. E.L. Merriam, who passed away at her home Saturday, March 21, 1942. The Rev. Paul McDade officiated.

Funeral hymns were sung by a quartet composed of Sidney Stumbo, Mrs. Russell Knudsen and Mr. and Mrs. O.F. Ehlers. The hymns sung were "Sometime We'll Understand," "Face to Face," "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Safe in the Arms of Jesus." Mrs. Harold Denney presided at the organ.

Pallbearers were: Alton Dixson, Charles White, Bert Pugsley, Clyde Hall, Ed Hough, and Tom Shipley.

Mary Edith Van Meter, daughter of Chrineyonce and Linda (Emmons) Van Meter, was born at Yorktown, Illinois on November 4, 1862, and slipped quietly away at sunset at her home after a lingering illness in Ogden, Iowa, March 21, 1942, at the age of 79 years, 4 months, and 17 days.

She received her education and grew to womanhood on a farm near Prophetstown, Illinois. On January 19, 1880 she was united in marriage to Edward Lyman Merriam at Morrison, Illinois. To this union were born twelve children: Stella M. Sparks of Ogden; Gertrude E. Nelson, of Stratford, Iowa; Wilbur A. and Edward J. of Ogden; Emery R. of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Melvin E., of Ogden; Ethel T. Becker, Louise D. Hensen, and Mildred E. Lamb, all of Boone; and Ortie Merriam and Isabelle, who still remain at home. One child passed away in infancy. Besides the eleven children she leaves 18 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, two brothers, Edward Van Meter of Ogden, Willard of Sioux City, Iowa, and one sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Horton of Culver City, California. Her husband, six sisters and one brother preceded her in death.

She has been a resident of this community for 50 years, having come here with her husband and family on February 17, 1892. Her mother was an ordained minister, and this Christian training was reflected in the rearing of her own family. Her maternal goodness reached out to children besides her own, in plain everyday doing, and in sharing her home with anyone needing care.

Although she was handicapped by defective hearing, she was not denied the pleasure of modern radio, and was a devoted listener to regular church services. She gave her share toward her country, having had four sons in the first World War. She was not in public or social life. She spent her life in her home, caring for her children. She will be missed by her family, for whom she labored faithfully and lovingly up to the time of her last illness, and by the many friends and relatives that her life touched.