

Joseph Barnett, now deceased, came to Adair county in 1868, and bought the south half of section 23 [Lincoln township], where his widow and a portion of the family reside at present. He improved this farm and set out a beautiful grove and excellent orchard. He was a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, born September 15, 1820, and died on his farm in Lincoln township March 5, 1881. His parents were Thomas and Jane (Parks) Barnett. He was a blacksmith by trade, and made it a business from quite early in life, till the time of his demise. While in Pittsburgh working at his trade he met Miss Sarah Price, and they were married in 1845. She was a native of Ireland, but was raised at Pittsburgh. At the time of the gold excitement in 1852, he went to California and was gone about three years. Returning he lived again at Pittsburgh until 1861, when the family removed to Moline, Illinois, where he worked at his trade until the removal to Fulton, Muscatine county, where they remained til his removal to Adair county. Mr. Barnett, from the time he was twenty-one years old, was troubled with a cough, which prevented his working as hard as his ambition dictated. He was an honorable, upright and honest citizen, and gained hosts of friends. His remains were interred at Stuart, leaving a family of five children, four sons and one daughter--Joseph W., living in Summit township; Jay L., Scott P., William H.S., married and living near, and Minnie, now the wife of Seth Mount.