

DEATH SUMMONS BELMONT PIONEER

Mrs. Ingeborg Olson Died Wednesday
Morning at Ripe Age of Eighty-
five Years

Mar 30 1921
WAS MEMBER OF COLONY
MASSACRED BY INDIANS

Deceased Had Many Thrilling Ex-
periences in Early Days of Her
Residence in County

Mrs. Ingeborg Olson, the oldest surviving member of the bloody Belmont massacre of 1862, died Wednesday morning at one o'clock at her home in Belmont township where she had resided nearly fifty-nine years. She had been failing for several months and for the past two weeks had been confined to her bed. Death was due to ills attendant upon old age, having reached her eighty-fifth mile-stone in life's journey last July.

The photograph from which the cut printed below was made, was taken on her last birthday at which time a large number of the friends and neighbors of the aged lady gathered at the old homestead to observe the day.

In the passing of Mrs. Olson, Jackson county has lost one of its oldest pioneers. The early days of her residence in this county were filled with many thrilling experiences and the memory of these trying times remained with her to the end.

The funeral will be held Saturday with services from the old Olson homestead at one o'clock and from the Stall church at two o'clock Rev. Gjerde of Lakefield officiating. Interment will be made in the Belmont cemetery, the remains to be laid to rest besides those of her husband and children who have preceded her in death.

Mrs. Olson was a life long member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Her faith in God never deserted her through the trying times and often said in after years that it was through His mercy alone that she survived the awful hardships following the massacre.

Mrs. Ingeborg Olson Slabakken



was born in Tolgen, Norway, July 12, 1835. In company with seven brothers and the widowed mother, she came to America in 1856, settling in Jefferson Prairie, Wisconsin, where one brother, John Olson, resided. He had preceded them to this country a few years previous.

In 1859 she was married to Mr. Halsten Olson of Boon County, Illinois. They came to Jackson county in the early summer of 1862, settling on a homestead in Belmont township, where several of Mrs. Olson's brothers were living.

So early as June of that year reports reached the Belmont settlers that there was likely to be trouble with the Indians. Some time later the rumors of an outbreak were confirmed. A German fleeing from New Ulm brought news of the attack on that village, which had occurred only a few days previous.

The Belmont settlers were undecided what course to pursue. Nights they gathered at the different cabins that seemed to offer better protection. In the morning they generally returned to their homes to attend to the farm work. A decision was finally reached that stockades should be built, and Monday, August 25th, was the date set for the settlers to get together and select the sites. On the day before this was to have been done, the attack was made and there had been enacted the drama of brutal and beastly bloodshed which depopulated the county.

At the Ole Fohre home, on the
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