

H. W. Loomis, Pioneer, Dies Suddenly Sunday

6-30-1946

Sunday June 30, Harold W. Loomis, age 82 died at the Wheatland hospital where he had been taken after taking suddenly ill. Born December 12, 1863 in Georgia Center, Vermont, he was a resident of Nebr., for a few years before making his home in Wheatland in 1886. He is widely known in this part of the country as one of the first pioneer rancher.

He is survived by his widow Mrs. Ivey Loomis, one daughter, Miss Margaret Loomis two sons Harold and Jack, all of Wheatland, two step-sons Andrew Nielson, of Lance Creek and Thomas

like the slivers. By stage he went to Old Plum Creek (Lexington). He bought a ticket to Cheyenne, where he paid an old freighter, Curly Coleman by name, two dollars for the privilege of walking with him to Fort Laramie.

"His first job as a cowpuncher was at the Diamond A at Bull's Bend. While there he became acquainted with the country. For a time he considered locating in the vicinity, but a surveyor after spending a half a day figuring how the land of his choice could be irrigated from the river, discouraged him, and



Nielson of Lusk, one step-daughter, Mrs. J. B. Derring of Wheatland, also one son and two brothers who have preceeded him in death and two grandchildren.

Let us quote here from Virginia Cole Trenholm's book, "Footprints On the Frontier":

In St. Albans, Vermont, in the late '70's, a youth named H. W. Loomis resolved that he did not want to be a dairyman. He loved cattle, and the world was in the west. He tarried for a time in Chicago, where his uncle was a doctor and his brother on the Chicago Evening Post. Two or three jobs were offered him, but the city could not capture the interest of the young man. His next stop was in Omaha where he spent a day or two. Going from there to Oxford, Nebr., he arrived on the Republican River in 1883. He worked for a while in a lumber yard but did not

he started working for his uncle Bill Wightman, who came from Vermont in the early '70's. Mr. Wightman was manager of the Laramie River Cattle Co., for Whipple and Hay. Mr. Loomis still has ranching interests in this locality."

Funeral services were held Wednesday, June 3 at 2 P. M. in the Congregational Church, Rev. W. J. Hoare officiating.

Arrangements were made by the Schrader Funeral Home, and burial was in the Wheatland cemetery.

Active pallbearers were; James Chaplin, A. E. Hoffman, Joseph Campbell, Jack Criss, A. L. Kendig, George Martin, Fritz Drube and Ed Foreman.

Honorary pallbearers were; George Mitchell Fergle Mitchell, Joseph Rutherford, Antonio Peterson, Thomas Sheppard and Pat Daly.