

December 5, 1902

Obituary, *Dows Advocate*, Dows, Wright County, IA (newspaper archives on microfilm read on visit by John Burton to Dows, June, 2000.)

## **FATHER BARBER DEAD**

### **Goes to His Reward, Ripe in Years.**

### **Remains Taken to York State**

The death of Merwin (sic) P. Barber occurred at the home of his son William in Dows, last Sunday morning at 4 o'clock, after a lingering illness and kidney trouble. The deceased was born in Bradford county, Pa., 1825. On July 4, 1846, he married Caroline A. Stone, and to them five children were born, of whom but two are living—William of Dows, and A. L. Barber of Brocton, NY. The wife died in August 1898, and the following Spring he came to Dows to live with his son William. Father Barber was a good soldier in the Civil war, serving three years. He served in the eastern army, taking part in the battle of Gettysburg, after which he was transferred to the western division and was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea. He has been a member of the Baptist church since 1866. Father Barber, as the writer knew him, was a kindly old gentleman. His life was full of sunshine and good humor. It was quiet and pure. During his short residence of over three years in Dows he gained the quiet, admiration of all which whom he came in contact. Short services were held at the Barber home, Monday afternoon, conducted by Rev. Mahood, and Monday night the remains were taken to the old home at Brocton, N.Y., accompanied by the son William, where the real services will be held, and where burial will be by the side of his departed helpmate.