

BINFORD ITEMS.

(From the Times).

Miss Bertha Watne, the eleven-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Erik Watne, died Tuesday night of pneumonia, after an illness of only 24 hours. Miss Bertha was a bright and cheerful girl. She always had a smile and a pleasant word for her friends. Her death comes as a dark shadow to friends and to her relatives who loved her so dearly. The funeral will be held from the Lutheran Free church tomorrow, Friday, at 2:30 o'clock p. m., Rev. O. Swenson conducting the services. The sympathy of the whole community goes out to the sorrowing relatives.

The big improvement day that was inaugurated by the Commercial club on Monday, was a bigger and better affair than was even expected, and as a result the roads leading to Binford are in much better condition. About forty of our citizens, armed with spades, picks, crowbars and other apparatus drove out Monday morning and when the day's work had been completed, all the stones in the roads within a radius of about four miles from town, had been picked out and thrown aside. The largest number of the party went out on the road up north as the road there needed the most attention. The old road between sections four and five, in Adie township, which has been abandoned for a number of years, was cleared up to the point where the road angles across the section, and it is likely that the land, or part of it at least, will be fenced to prevent further driving across. It was a strenuous day's work and they were a tired looking bunch when they returned in the evening, and a whole lot worse the next morning, but they had accomplished their purpose so far as possible, and there is no question but what the result will be conducive of a more harmonious spirit between the citizens of the village and our rural friends.

Mrs. John Rickford, who has been a patient sufferer of Bright's disease, for nearly a year past, died at her home north of town early Tuesday morning. Deceased was born in Germany, January 5th, 1842. In 1861 she was married to Mr. Rickford, and in 1881 they emigrated to this country, settling first at Casselton, and the following year moved to Nelson county. There they remained until 1888, when they moved to West Superior, Wisconsin, returning to Griggs county in 1890, where they since made their home. Eleven children have been born to them, six of whom are living. Besides a husband and six children left to mourn the loss of a wife and mother, there are twenty-four grand children and two great-grand children. After a long, busy and useful life she died as she had lived—honored, trusted and loved. She reared her own monument while she lived in the hearts of all who knew her. Her life was completed if work all done and well done constitutes completion. Her Christian life was beautiful from its beginning to its close, and through all the vicissitudes and sorrows that she met in the way, her faith in God never wavered. But she has gone and another grave hides from sight all that is mortal of a true and noble woman. The funeral was held from the West Prairie church Wednesday, Rev. F. Horstman conducting the services. A very large number of loving friends were present to pay their respects to the departed.