



### **JOHN C. ATKINSON - BIO**

Birth: 17 July 1834  
Yorkshire, England

Death: 26 Oct. 1910 (76)  
Pawnee City, Nebraska, USA

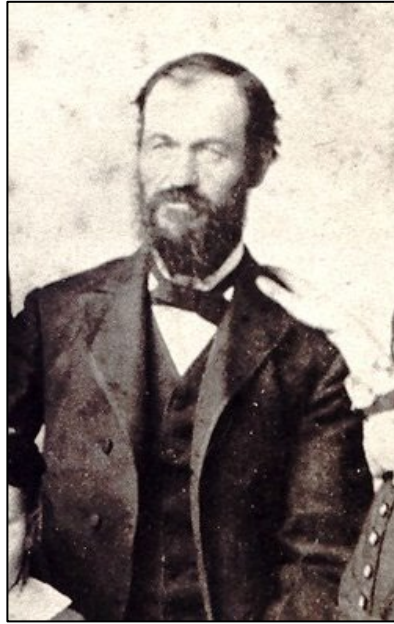
Burial: Pawnee City Cemetery  
Pawnee City, Nebraska, USA

Born at Low Ray Carr farm, Dallowgill, Kirkby Malzeard, Yorkshire. Came to America with his parents in 1843 on the steamship Mississippi.

SOURCE: Pawnee Chief, Pawnee City, NE, 28 Oct 1910, p. 4, cols. 2-3



**JC and Polly Atkinson Family portrait:** L-R: Charles Arthur, Jenny, (in front of her) Maude, Jessie Daisy, Polly Peckham Atkinson, John Edwin (Ed), Estelle, JC Atkinson, Annie Laurie



### **John C. Atkinson - Obituary**

Uncle **John Atkinson**, one of the pioneers of Pawnee county and one of the most highly respected residents of Pawnee City, passed peacefully away at 12 o'clock (noon) on Wednesday of this week, Oct. 26th, 1910.

His sudden death came as a severe blow to the family and a great shock to the community as he had been as well as usual, and there was no intimation that dissolution was impending.

He had not slept well the preceding night, but was able to do his chores as usual in the morning, and had later gone to the bed-room to try and get sleep and rest. At eleven o'clock he was sleeping peacefully, but when Mrs. Atkinson went to call him at noon she was horrified to find that his soul had taken it's flight.

The physician, family and friends were at once notified, but nothing could be done to restore the spark of life. He had been a great sufferer during life, and it is well he was spared a protracted illness before being relieved.

Mr. Atkinson was a good man. He was a friend to the poor, a philanthropist, a model husband and father, and a good citizen in every way. He fitted up, stocked and kept in shape for many years one of the nicest little parks in the state, and it was always open to visitors without price. It was only in his declining years that he was unable to keep up the park in the splendid shape it had once been, but it has always been open to visitors, and although the privileges were often abused he had never considered closing it's gates.

The deceased believed implicitly in the Golden Rule, and no one ever practiced this great rule more thoroughly than did Mr. Atkinson.

John C. Atkinson was born in Yorkshire, Eng., on July 27th, 1934 [sic, 1834], and came with his parents to America at the age of nine years. They lived in Ohio for four years, moving from there to Albany, Wis., where on Apr. 14, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Polly R. Peckham. Together they came to Pawnee county in 1866, taking a homestead near where the town of Steinauer now stands. Since then he has been a resident of Pawnee county, and since 1865 [sic] a resident of Pawnee City. He leaves to mourn him the wife of his young manhood, seven children and thirty grand-children. One child died in 1871, and since that time there has not been a death in the family. The children who survive are Edwin, of Pawnee City, Mrs. Jennie Conover, of Sutherland, Nebr.; Mrs. Anna Johnson, of Burchard; Chas. A., of Pawnee City; Mrs. Estelle Bechtol, of Pawnee City; Mrs. Maud Thayer, of Pullman, Wash., and Mrs. Jessie North, of Pawnee City.

The obsequies will be held from the Presbyterian church in Pawnee City at 3 o'clock on Sunday, Oct. 30th, and interment will be in the Pawnee City cemetery.

The sympathy of the entire community goes out to the wife and family in their sad bereavement.

## **Things to look for in his documents file:**

Autobigraphy - J.C. Atkinson

“Stray Thoughts of a Lifetime:” a book of his poetry published in 1909