

Verena Freitag

Oct. 3, 1834 - May 9, 1918

AGED RESIDENT PASSES AWAY

Mrs. Verena Freitag Answered Final Summons Last Thursday

Mrs. Verena Freitag, for many years an esteemed resident of this village and vicinity, passed away at her home on South Main street at 1 o'clock on Thursday morning of last week, May 9, following an illness of only a few days duration. While her health had been failing for some little time, due to the infirmities of old age, it was not until Friday, May 3, that her condition became such as to alarm the immediate members of her family. From then on she failed gradually until the the morning of Ascension day when, surrounded by all of her children, she quietly closed her eyes in peaceful slumber and passed out into the great and mysterious beyond.

Verena Elmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Elmer, was born Oct. 3, 1834, at Elm, Canton of Glarus, Switzerland. When 13 years of age her parents emigrated to America, coming direct to Wisconsin and locating on a farm in Exeter township, two miles east of New Glarus. She received her divine instruction at New Glarus, and was a member of the first catechumen class, being confirmed there on April 18, 1851.

Her marriage to Dietrich Freitag occurred May 3, 1866, following which the couple spent one year on a farm in Primrose township, Dane county. Later they returned to Exeter township and remained two years, after which they purchased a farm near Monticello which they successfully conducted for an even quarter of a century.

They retired from active life in 1894 and moved to Monticello to spend their declining years. Mr. Freitag's death occurred just six years later, on March 26, 1900.

The Freitag family has always taken an active interest in looking after the welfare of the church and the congregation. Mr. Freitag having served as the first president of the congregation. Mrs. Freitag was not only a faithful and consistent member of the church, but she was also affiliated with the Ladies' Aid Society, in the affairs of which she was always keenly interested. She was possessed of a generous disposition and year after year she gave freely of her means to the various benevolent institutions of the church.

Mrs. Freitag was the mother of nine children—three sons and six daughters—one of the latter having died in early in infancy. Besides her immediate family she is survived by twenty-two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Two sisters, Mrs. Barbara Ruegg and Mrs. Oswald Kubly, of New Glarus, also survive her. One brother, Jacob Elmer, of Monroe township, preceded her in death just eight weeks ago.

The deceased was a woman whose many commendable traits of character endeared her to all with whom she came in contact, and her death, even though she lived to a ripe old age, is keenly regretted by relatives and friends alike.

Funeral services were held on Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock at the residence and at 2 o'clock at the German Reformed church, interment being in the old cemetery, Rev. Muehlmeier officiated. An unusually large concourse of relatives and friends from this vicinity and neighboring towns were in attendance, the church being far too small to accommodate all who sought admission. The casket was covered with a profusion of floral offerings, many elaborate pieces being in evidence,