

Thomas S. Duerst

March 29, 1865 – July 1931

THOS. DUERST, 66 YEARS OLD, PASSES AWAY

Death Takes Place In Home Here Early Sunday

Death following a several months illness from heart trouble and asthma claimed the life of Thomas S. Duerst, 66 years of age, for many years a well known resident of Monticello and vicinity, who passed away in his home on the north side of the village at 12:30 o'clock Sunday morning.

In failing health since the first of the year, Mr Duerst had been in such serious condition on one or two occasions that little hope was entertained for his recovery. After rallying from these setbacks and enjoying comparatively good health, Mr. Duerst was again overcome by a recurrence of his illness which proved fatal early Sunday morning.

Mr. Duerst, who was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Duerst, was a native of New Glarus township, where he was born March 29, 1865. He was married to Eliza Steiner in New Glarus on Sept. 7, 1891. Following their marriage, the couple resided on a farm near New Glarus for a number of years and then purchased a farm in Adams township. Here they resided until Mr. Duerst retired from active farming and moved to Monticello to make his home seven years ago. Since then the Duerst farm has been conducted by their son, Robert Duerst.

Honesty and uprighteousness were among the outstanding principles of Mr. Duerst, who was numbered among the most successful farmers in this vicinity. He was an industrious and highly esteemed citizen whose passing is deeply regretted in the local community and elsewhere.

Survivors besides the widow are three sons, Thomas, New Glarus, and Robert and Sylvan, Adams township; two daughters, Mrs. Ed D. Wittwer, Adams township, and Miss Edna, at home; four grandchildren; two brothers, John, New Glarus, and Sam, Primrose township; and one sister, Mrs. Rachel Tschabold, residing in Kansas. He was preceded in death by one son, Ernest, who passed away in 1903; two brothers, Jacob and Henry; and one sister, Kate Hefty.

Funeral services were conducted at 1:30 Tuesday afternoon in the Duerst home here and at 2 in the Swiss Reformed church, New Glarus, with which Mr. Duerst was affiliated. Rev. Richard Rettig, pastor of the church, officiated, and interment was in the Swiss Reformed cemetery at New Glarus.