

## **Fred B. Knobel**

**December 13, 1882 - August 13, 1918**

Fred B. Knobel, mention of whose death was made in these columns last week, was born in the village of New Glarus on the 13th of December, 1882. When he was but a mere child his parents removed to Monticello, and it was here that he spent the remainder of his life. As a youngster he was always popular with his associates and as he grew to manhood he retained those qualities which won for him the friendship and esteem of the chums of his boyhood days. One of his fine traits was that he always greeted his friends in the same cordial and pleasant manner. He was a good judge of human nature. He had little time for the two-faced specie of humanity, but those who were numbered among his intimate friends never knew a more true, more loyal and more generous-hearted soul than was he. He was always young in spirit, always loved a good time and never outgrew the familiar name of "Freddie," by which he was known from boyhood up. Even though he experienced many trials and tribulations during his comparatively short span of life, he was always inclined to take an optimistic view of life, and because of his congenial nature he radiated sunshine into the hearts of all with whom he came in contact.

Mr. Knobel was married to Miss Sylvia Staedtler on the 14th of June, 1904.

Some years ago he suffered a nervous breakdown from which he never rallied. A few weeks ago his condition became such that it was considered advisable to have him committed to the Mendota hospital for treatment. It was just a week or two later that the deceased was stricken with his final illness. He took a series of treatments at the Waukesha sanitarium and later consulted the Mayo Bros., at Rochester, Minn., where he was given considerable encouragement. After returning home he failed to improve, however, and dissolution finally took place on the morning of August 13, at 5 o'clock.

The deceased received his education in the schools of Monticello, subsequently taking a course in business at the Monroe Business college. Thereafter he entered the employ of Edw. Wittwer & Bro., wholesale cheese dealers, with which concern he was connected up to the time of his death. When he first started working for the firm he was but seventeen years of age; when he passed away at thirty-six he was manager of the concern and one of the principal stockholders. And all of this came about because of his good business judgment, the conscientiousness with which he performed his work and the thoroughness which was characteristic of his every move. He knew the cheese business from the ground up and was personally acquainted with practically all of the large buyers of cheese in the east and south, this coming about through frequent trips made in the interests of the firm. And he was a citizen such as any progressive community can ill afford to lose. Whenever the matter of civic improvement was an issue he was always found on the right side. He took a whole lot of pride in his home town and was ever in favor of any improvement that would tend better conditions generally. His death removes from our midst one whose place will indeed be hard to fill, and universal sorrow is felt for the bereaved relatives.

He is survived by his wife, his father and mother, one brother, Albert, and one sister, Anna.

Funeral services were held at the home of his parents at 10 o'clock Thursday forenoon and later at the German Reformed church, the Rev. A. Muehlmeier officiating. Many were in attendance from neighboring towns and the edifice was not nearly large enough to accommodate all who sought admission. The floral offerings were numerous and most beautiful.

The deceased was a member of the local Masonic lodge, under the auspices of which the final rites at the cemetery were carried out. There were eighty-six brother Masons in attendance, large delegations being present from New Glarus, Monroe, Albany and other points.