

John Moritz, Sr.

Aug. 28, 1835 – Nov. 1922

AN OLD PIONEER IS CALLED

Death Comes to John Moritz, Sr., After Brief Illness

John Moritz, Sr., for more than a half century a highly respected citizen of Washington township, passed away on Friday afternoon of last week, after an illness of only a few days duration. Up to a short time before his death he had been in comparatively good health, for one of his years, and therefore the end came unexpectedly.

Mr. Moritz was a native of Switzerland, born Aug. 28, 1835, at Kratingen, canton of Berne. He spent the early years of his life in the land of his nativity, where in 1870 he was united in marriage to Mary Rubin.

Immediately after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Moritz embarked for America, arriving at Monroe on March 28th of the same year. Shortly thereafter they took up their home on a farm in Washington township. Eight years later he acquired the old homestead farm in the immediate vicinity of the Washington township Reformed church, which is now owned and conducted by the eldest son, John Moritz, Jr.

Mrs. Moritz preceded her husband in death on July 18, 1889. One year later he retired from farming and moved to Monroe. In 1901 he was married to Mrs. Sophia Ritschard, a widow, who also preceded him in death on March 20, 1913.

Mr. Moritz experienced a period of failing health in 1912 and the same year underwent an operation and for six months thereafter was a patient in a Milwaukee hospital. Since then he had made his home with his youngest daughter, Mrs. Otto Loveland, of Washington township.

The deceased was 86 years, 2 months and 11 days of age at the time of his death.

Surviving him are three daughters, Mrs. John C. Becker, of Palmyra, Mrs. John Schuler and Mrs. Otto Loveland, of Monticello, and three sons, John and Albert, of Monticello, and Fred of Monroe. Sixteen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren also survive him.

Mr. Moritz was one of the pioneers of Washington township; a successful farmer and a worthy and honorable citizen and neighbor. He was a charter member of the Washington township Reformed church and for some years was secretary of the congregation.

Funeral services were held at the Loveland home at 1:30 Sunday afternoon and at 2 o'clock at the Washington church, interment being in the adjoining cemetery. Rev. A. Muehlmeier officiated.

Although the weather was inclement, many neighbors and friends from the surrounding neighborhood and other parts of the county were present to pay their last tribute of respect to the departed.