

Gottfried Wittwer Dead.

Well Known Citizen Expires at Madison Following Operation.

Nov. 28, 1858 - 1908

Gottfried Wittwer, brief mention of whose critical illness was made in these columns last week, passed away on Wednesday afternoon last between 5 and 6 o'clock, his death occurring at the Madison city hospital, where he underwent an operation for ulcers of the stomach on the previous Friday. While relatives here had been prepared to hear the worst at almost any time, never-the-less the sorrowful news of his death came with crushing force, and a shadow of gloom hovered over the entire community as the sad tidings spread throughout the village where for sixteen years he had continuously made his home.

Mr: Wittwer had a very severe illness four years ago, but subsequently he had fully recovered and his health had been fairly good up to a few months ago. About three weeks ago his case again took a serious turn and his condition finally became such that an operation lay the only hope of prolonging his life. Dr. Malone, of Milwaukee, was called to Madison to perform the operation, and, although the patient passed (words obscured) at the time, it ultimately proved to no avail.

The deceased was a native of Switzerland, having been born at Spiez, Canton of Bern, on Nov. 28, 1858. He came to this country with his parents in 1879, first locating at Monroe. He was married in 1884 to Miss Ella Dick, of Washington township, who with three children, Ernest Wittwer, Miss Lora Wittwer and Miss Elgia Wittwer, survive to mourn the loss of a kind and indulgent husband and father.

Sixteen years ago the subject of this sketch and his brother Albert Wittwer moved here from Monroe and embarked in the hotel business in which they have been very successful. Six years ago they erected the Grand Central hotel which, with the store building formerly erected by them, completed a solid and modern brick block on Main street, the like of which is seldom seen in a village the size of Monticello. Mr. Wittwer was up-to-date and progressive in his ideas, a man who always had the best interests of the town at heart, a citizen such as any community can ill afford to lose. Mr. Wittwer moved to Madison last fall so that his daughter, Miss Lora, could attend the university, and since then the family had been making that city their home temporarily. Besides his immediate family he is survived by an aged mother, four brothers and five sisters, some of whom live at a great distance.

The remains were brought here from Madison Thursday evening and the funeral was held on Saturday at 1 o'clock from the hotel and 1:30 from the German Reformed church, the Rev. Carl Heyl officiating. Interment was made in the new Highland cemetery. The funeral was one of the largest ever held here, many friends from neighboring towns being present to pay their last tribute of respect to the departed. The unusually large number of choice floral offerings, sent by sympathizing friends of the family, were particularly noticeable. Mr. Wittwer was a member of the Germania lodge, G. U. G. G., of Monroe, which order was represented at the funeral by a large delegation of members.