

## **Louise Magdalena Karlen**

**March 13, 1850, - January 19, 1916**

Mrs. Louise Magdalena Karlen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Klossner, (nee Margaret Rebmann), was born March 13, 1850, at Latterbach, Canton of Glarus, Switzerland. The days of her youth were spent in the land of her nativity, where she received a good education, having attended various schools. She was confirmed at Erlenbach on Good Friday, 1866.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage to Rudolph Karlen on Feb. 10, 1871. Shortly after their marriage the couple emigrated to America coming direct to Wisconsin and locating on a farm in Washington township. This union was blessed

with nine children—five sons and four daughters, one of the latter having passed away in early infancy.

It was in July, 189], that Mr. Karlen passed to his eternal reward but Mrs. Karlen, with her children, continued to reside on the old homestead farm until her removal to this village in 1901. During the time she lived on the farm home she was a faithful member of the Washington township Reformed church, always taking a keen and active interest in the affairs of the congregation, It was there, too, that most of her children, in the Sunday school and otherwise, received their Christian education. Upon her removal to Monticello she transferred her membership to the local church. As long as health permitted she was present at most of the services.

Mrs. Karlen was also a charter member of the German Reformed Ladies' Aid society, serving as vice-president up to the time of her death. Her death is the first to be recorded in the long history of the society.

Her health had been rather poorly for some time and she had been confined to her home a great deal during the winter months. Her condition became more serious two weeks ago, though even the near relatives were unaware that the end was so near. Monday evening, Jan. 17, she retired as usual, and slept soundly until between 3 and 4 o'clock the next morning, when she was suddenly taken with a coughing spell and passed away shortly thereafter.

The deceased is survived by eight children as follows: Jacob Karlen. of West Butte, Mont; Ernest Karlen, of Chicago; William, of Washington township; Herman and Fred Karlen, Mrs. Louise Elmer and the Misses Hulda and Freda Karlen, of Monticello. One sister still lives in Switzerland and she is also survived by four grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Friday at 1: 30 from her late home and at 2 o'clock from the German Reformed church. the services being conducted by her pastor, the, Rev. A. Muehlmeier. Interment was in Highland cemetery. Despite the inclement weather, the church was well filled by sympathizing neighbors and friends of the family who came to pay their last tribute of respect to the departed.