

#### Dead at 86 Years

Lewis Homrighausen, for many years a well known farmer and respected citizen of Valley and Osawatomie-twps., died Sunday morning, November 29, 1914, at the home of his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. James Knoche, two miles north of Osawatomie, near Plum Creek school house, where he had resided with them six years. His death was the result of old age and a general decline.

Mr. Homrighausen was a native of Germany, born in Westfahlen April 2, 1828, being 86 years of age at his death. He grew to manhood and was married there, and leaving his wife in Germany he first came to America in 1850, locating in Illinois. Returning to Germany in the latter 50s, he told the young men of his native town of the great advantages in America and twenty of his acquaintances came and settled in various parts of the United States. Among them was the well known George Homrighausen, who settled in Paola-twp. and was among our most prominent citizens until he went to Arizona five years ago and died there.

On Mr. Homrighausen's return to Germany he served in the army and was in the Prussian war against Denmark in 1864 and in the Austro-Prussian war in 1866. He educated his family in Germany, and again coming to America he settled in Valley-twp., this county, where he engaged in farming. His wife died there eight years ago. In his younger days he was a hard working man of remarkable physique, and knew few idle moments. He was a member of the Lutheran church and was well versed in the scriptures. In Germany he was a regular attendant at church, but owing to his advanced age and long distance from church, of recent years seldom attended. As a farmer he was quite successful, part of his estate being 80 acres in Valley-twp. and 160 acres in Osawatomie-twp. He was the father of nine children and is survived by two sons and three daughters, Lewis in Osawatomie-twp., George and Mrs. James Knoche in Valley-twp., Mrs. Annie Rieber of Saline-co., Kas., and Mrs. Mollie Knoche, wife of John Knoche, of Paola-twp., also numerous grandchildren.

The funeral services, conducted by Rev. I. C. Paugh, pastor of the Methodist church of Osawatomie, were held from the residence Tuesday afternoon and were largely attended. The remains were buried in the Osawatomie cemetery.

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His birthplace was Wunderthausen. Church records there confirm that their oldest child was born in 1853 prior to their marriage. He obviously returned to Germany sooner than the "latter 50s."

Whether he was really a key motivator for others in Wunderthausen to emigrate is not clear, but many Homrighausens and Knoches found new homes around Paola in Miami County.

Comments by Dr. Paul Riedesel