

Obituary.

Katherine Bernhart Merchen, born at Wunderd Housen, Germany, December 4th, 1828. She was united in marriage to John Merchen February 2nd, 1851. She and her husband came to this county in 1857, and located at Wheatland, Iowa, where she united with the German Reformed church and remained a loyal, consistent member until her death. Her husband predeceased her to the other world in 1876, after which she came to Knox county and since 1892 has resided with her sons in the vicinity of Crofton, Nebraska. She ended her pilgrimage at the home of her son, Lewis Merchen, six miles northeast of Crofton, August 27th, 1915, at the great age of 86 years, 8 months and 23 days.

She leaves to mourn her departure seven sons as follows: Lewis, Philip and Charles, of Crofton, Neb.; Frank of Lynch, Neb.; Henry of Holt county, Neb.; John of Idaho and George of Colorado. One daughter, Mrs. J. P. Schneider, of Wheatland, Iowa, also 36 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren and a large circle of friends.

Mrs Merchen was a faithful wife a devoted mother and a loving friend. Services were conducted at the Blyville school house on Sunday, August 27th at 2:00 p. m., by Rev. G. W. Brownback, pastor of the Congregational church at Crofton, who preached a fine sermon from Psalms, 16-6 "I Have a Goodly Heritage." Interment was made in the Swedish cemetery northwest of town.

The newspaper title and date are not cited.

How soon succeeding generations forget: "Wunderd Housen?" The names of (at least) three children who predeceased her are not mentioned.

Notes by Dr. Paul Riedesel