

Obituary of Fred Dienst, Sr.

Friedrich Heinerich Daniel Dienst was born June 9th, 1841, in Hoheleye, in Kriese, Wittgenstein, Province Westphalia, Germany, on a farm. He was baptized in the christian faith in 1855 and was confirmed by his uncle, William Florin, in Girkhausen, in the Evangelical church. Mr Dienst emigrated to America in 1869, landing in New York City, from there he went to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and worked one year. In 1870 he went to Lancaster, Wisconsin, where he worked on a farm five years. In 1875 he came to Wheatland, Iowa, where he worked on a farm for three years.

On March 4th, 1878, he was united in marriage to Miss Lisette Peck and they moved on his farm 1½ miles southwest of Toronto, where he has lived continuously for 45 years. In November, 1891 his dear wife passed away leaving him with six small children. To this union were born nine children, three having died in infancy.

Mr Dienst passed away peacefully at his home Tuesday afternoon, May 29, 1923, at the age of 81 years, 11 months and 20 days, after suffering the past two years from the dreaded disease cancer, the children being at the bedside. Mr. Dienst underwent an

operation three weeks ago in Davenport to relieve his suffering, but all medical aid could do nothing more than give temporary relief and he gradually grew weaker until the end.

He leaves to mourn six children, Carl, Pauline and Mrs. Henry Ziegler, of Twinbrook, South Dakota, Lydia, Fred and Adolph at home; and three grand children, one brother, of Battle Creek, Iowa; and one sister, Bertha Richstein, of Germany.

Brief funeral services were held at the home Friday afternoon, after which the remains were taken to Wheatland where services were held in St. Paul's church, conducted by Rev Wm Bollmann, and attended by a large gathering of friends and neighbors. Burial was made in the family lot by the side of his wife and children.

Besides his brother, Adolph, of Battle Creek, who was with him just previous to his death, the other relatives who were at the funeral were Mrs. Clara Grau and Mrs. Fred Spies, of Manning, and Mrs. Geo. Sauer and Mr. Paul Florin, of Rutland, Illinois.

Mr. Dienst was a kind father, good neighbor, honest and upright in all his dealings and one of Liberty township's most progressive farmers. His many Toronto friends extend sympathy to the bereaved children.

Card of Thanks.

We desire to express our sincere thanks to neighbors and friends who kindly assisted us during the illness and death of our beloved father, the late Fred Dienst. Advertisement.

The Children.

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His birthplace was a hamlet of a few houses called Hoheleye that actually that belonged politically to the village of Girkhausen in the district of Wittgenstein. The church in Girkhausen was Protestant (*Evangelisch* in German) but was Reformed/Calvinist in doctrine as was St. Paul's in Wheatland. The uncle who confirmed him was his mother's brother, who served as the pastor for Girkhausen, Wunderthausen and Diedenshausen for many years.

The family name of his wife was originally "Peck" (rhymes with cake) but came to be spelled "Peck."

Notes by Dr. Paul Riedesel