

JOS. HAUSMANN DEAD

SUCCESSFUL EARLY SETTLER SUCCUMBS TO OLD AGE.

HAD INTERESTING CAREER

Came to America a Poor Young Man and by Industry and Thrift Built Up a Large Industry—Always Public Spirited and Generous to Good Causes.

Joseph Hausmann, president of the Hausmann Brewing company, and one of the oldest brewers of the state, died yesterday morning at 10 o'clock at his home, 307 West Gorham street, aged 74 years. He had been ill four weeks prior to his death, which was caused by a general breaking down consequent upon old age. The funeral will be held tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock from the church of the Holy Redeemer.

The decedent came to America with nothing more than a great store of energy and determination to succeed. By a life of industry and thrift he had amassed an ample fortune and built up a flourishing industry, capitalized at \$200,000 and employing some 30 men in the entire year and at times many more. This business will be continued by his sons.

Always public-spirited and generous Mr. Hausmann aided many charitable and municipal improvement movements. When help was needed, it was generally remarked that "Joe" Hausmann would start it off in good style. When the question of lighting the city by electricity was brought up years ago and John W. Hudson, George W. Gilman and Carl J. Hausmann formed a corporation for that purpose, the elder Mr. Hausmann gave space in his engine room in the brewery to put up steam power, dynamos and

other things required.

Mr. Hausmann's life was a varied one, both in the old and in the new world. He was born in Baden, Germany, May 26, 1828, his parents being Jacob and Anna Hausmann. He worked hard both as a young man and as a boy. He served in the German army fourteen months in the revolution of 1849-49—or the Baden and Prussian war—and received a saber wound on one cheek, the mark of which he carried through life. He came to America in March, 1852, and went direct from New York to Freeport, Ill., where he lived for a time with a sister.

He obtained work on a railroad which was being constructed. He was set to work digging but in a few days his hands became so sore that the section boss set him at driving an ox team. This was a new thing for a German just out of the war, and he found a new job in the Yellow Creek brewery, at Freeport, where he went by foot and remained a short time, when he went by team and by foot to Milwaukee in 1853, and found a good place in the Krug (now Schlitz) brewery.

In 1854 Mr. Hausmann left Milwaukee for Portage City, where he soon became foreman of the Haertel Brewery. In that city he married Miss Sarah Blass of New York city and soon after the marriage he took advantage of pecuniary aid from Mr. Haertel, went to New Lisbon and built a small brewery. Mr. Hausmann himself dug the cellar and Mrs. Hausmann worked hard in carrying out the dirt.

After the building was up and the brewing began Mrs. Hausmann turned the crank of the little malt mill while her husband looked after the feeding.

The water for brewing purposes was carried on Mr. Hausmann's back from a creek some distance off. There was hard work in New Lisbon. In 1858 he sold his property there and went to Iowa, bought land, quarried some stone and was about to have a business place erected when he was advised to go to Madison and take charge of the Sprecher brewery property, now owned by the Fauerbach Brewing company. Mr. Hausmann disposed of his Iowa property and started for this city. Mr. Sprecher had died.

Mr. Hausmann looked about and found the late Mathias Breckheimer, foreman of the Rodermund brewery, at the outlet of Lake Mendota, and entered into partnership with him. In a day or two the Sprecher brewery was rented from the widow. Business went on nicely and both prospered. In 1864 the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent and Mr. Hausmann purchased the brewery established some years prior to that time by Edward Voight. This business was conducted by him many years. The name was finally changed to the Hausmann Brewery company, (father and sons, William P., Carl J. and Otto S.). But the Voight brewery was a small affair in comparison with the present establishment which fills almost an entire block.

Mr. Hausmann was married twice. From the first union six children were born, four sons and two daughters, Albertina, wife of Col. Adolph Wagner, William, Carl J., and Otto B., are now living. Mr. Hausmann married Miss Paulina Roesch in 1882 and to them were born three sons, Adolph, August and Frank.