

AGED GROTONITE DIES ON COAST

HENRY HOLTZ BREATHES LAST RESULT OF HICCOUGH ATTACK

Henry Hóltz, an aged pioneer of Groton, died at his temporary winter home at El Centro, California, last Thursday from the after effects of hiccoughs—an attack that lasted the better part of ten days, and which paved the way for a high blood pressure, which ultimately caused his death.

Mr. Holtz left for California to spend the winter last fall. At that time his family did everything they could to persuade him to remain in Groton for the winter, but their efforts were unavailing.

When he left Groton he went to Canada, where he has land interests. After placing his affairs there on a satisfactory basis, he intended to go to Los Angeles, for the winter, but upon the persuasion of an acquaintance, made the trip to El Centro, about 100 miles south of Los Angeles and made his temporary residence at the home of a Mr. Nelson.

California's balmy weather apparently agreed with Mr. Holtz's health, and he was enjoying life to the utmost despite his advancing age of 80 years. But on January 4th he was seized with a violent attack of the hiccoughs which lasted until the 13th. During this period everything possible was done to make the old gentleman comfortable, but his vitality was so sapped by this unusual malady that he failed to rally from the after effects and expired, it is thought, from a high blood pressure, resulting from the hiccoughs.

The deceased was one of the earliest pioneers of this district. He arrived here in the early eighties when the possibilities and bright prospects of the future were marred by hardships and inconveniences attendant upon settling a new country. But with an indomitable spirit, which was manifested in the last years of his life, he lived through the hardships of pioneering to the day when his faith in this country brought him golden rewards. He proved up on land southwest of town early in 1881 and with characteristic thoroughness and foresight, remained through the lean periods, enjoying the fat ones, satisfied and contented with the land which brought peace and prosperity.

When Mr. Holtz felt that he had wrought from the soil a sufficient income to keep him through his declining years, he moved to Groton with his family, where he has since resided. It was during this period of rest, perhaps, that most happiness came to make glad the days spent in pioneering. For Mr. Holtz possessed a remarkably keen memory and his wealth of knowledge gained through extensive travel and observations while in distant places, served to make him a most excellent conversationalist. This happy quality found an outlet in the course of social intercourse with a host of friends, with whom he conversed freely and intelligently on the life of a pioneer and conditions as he had found them in places other than South Dakota.

The deceased was born in Germany August 1, 1843, and came to this country with his parents while he was a young lad. The family settled on a farm in Wisconsin near Milwaukee. In November, 1868, he was married to Miss Minnie Dietzen, who with four children live to survive him. They are: Mrs. Henry Holtz and two sons, Ed and Walter, and two daughters, Mrs. A. B. Westover and Mrs. Wm. Graham, all of whom are well known in this section, although Ed lives in Aberdeen.

The body is expected to arrive in Groton this Friday evening, when arrangements will be made for the funeral.