

Our father, John P. Thiessen was born in the Muntau Colony in South Russia on May 20, 1839. On November 12, 1860 he was united in Holy wedlock to Miss Anna Thiessen, a daughter to Peter Thiessen, Schoenau, Russia, but who was taken from his side in the year 1876. To this union were born one daughter and nine sons of whom three children are living: Mrs. Margareta Beisel, Waldeck Sask.; David Thiessen, Lambert, Montana; and Isaak Thiessen, Mountain Lake, Minnesota.

On October 29, 1876, our father was married to Helena Ratzlaff, a daughter of Johann Ratzlaff. She preceded him in death by only six weeks. To this union there were born three daughters and 10 sons of which three sons have passed on before.

On September 26 of this year, father received a stroke of paralysis and since that time was helpless. The last five weeks he suffered much and as long as he was able he found comfort in singing and often sang the song "Jesus Heiland Meiner Seele," etc. He longed to be relieved and when his suffering became unbearable he would murmur, "O, Lord have Mercy and take me home." His longing was fulfilled at 10 o'clock in the evening on October 28.

He reached the age of 87 years, five months and eight days. Besides a host of friends and relatives, there remain to mourn his death one brother, William Thiessen at Langham, Sask., Canada; four daughters, nine sons and 49 grandchildren. May we all join him some day at the Throne of God.