

DEALER
ROHLFING
MILWAUKEE

Our First dealer in Milwaukee was H.N.Hempsted, who was shipped #3476 on June 27 1860. There are a few diary notes, but otherwise, no information.

William Rohlfing born 1830 in Germany, came to the U.S. in 1852 and worked for pianomakers in New York and elsewhere, including Knabe in Baltimore. for quite a few years, until he moved to Milwaukee in 1878 and opened up a music store.

Don't know if he bought out Hempsted, or if S&S switched. Given the fairly close relationship with Knabe in William's generation, I suspect that we switched to the stronger horse.

I don't know how long the Steinway agency or the Rohlfing store lasted. William Rohlfing had 5 sons, and a couple were in the business with him according to articles in the file. In my time we had Gram, and I think he had been a Steinway dealer for some years.

Diary notes -

- 14 Oct 1861 (In Milwaukee) Visit Hempsted.
- 24 Jul 1862 (in Milwaukee) See Hempsted.
- 12 Sep 1878 Hempsted from Milwaukee in town.
- 31 Jul 1879 Spend forenoon with Hempsted of Milwaukee and Fred Cluett.
- 6 Apr 1881 Lunch with Mr. Rohlfing of Milwaukee, who orders heavily.
- 8 Apr 1884 W. Rohlfing of Milwaukee in town
- 27 Mar 1885 Rohlfing in town.
- 21 Jul 1886 Arrive Milwaukee 3:30 nearly an hour behind time. Felix Kraemer, Rohlfing recieve me. I stop at his house.
He is there on some seminary matters as well as business. There are entrys 22,23,24,25,27,28,29 and finally Aug. 3. Interspersed with a trip to Chicago and back. Picnics, fishing trip and much social life, not transcribed here.
- 4 Oct 1889 See also the Rohlfings, Wm., jr. having returned with ALLER today.
- 23 Jul 1890 (In Osnabruck, Germany) Am recieved by Rohlfing, jr. and Marie Rohlfing at depot. Also Uncle Rohlfing, we dine at a Hotel, walk to Rohlfing's factory which is very primitive, but they make a fair medium sized upright, very poor grands, see old Grandma, 82 years old. (Relatives in Osnabruck still operate a retail piano store, not Steinway dealer. Did not answer my letter a few years ago.
- 4 Feb 1891 (In Milwaukee) Rohlfings recieve us at Depot, we drive to their house on Cass street. After dinner, wife drives out with Mary and Ella Rohlfing
- 5 Feb 1891 (in Milwaukee) Stop at store, see our pianos and others, depart 11 AM for Chicago.
- 15 Feb 1893 Wm. Rohlfing called.
- 8 Oct 1893 Wm. Rohlfing, his youngest son, and his brother from Osnabruck call.

- 25 Dec 1893 Rohlfing sent a Hirschkeule (Venison) which we tasted today and news came that his mother at Osnabruck aged 86 years died 11 Dec.
- 31 Mar 1894 Wm. Rohlfing of Milwaukee at Stetson's office.
- 3 Apr 1895 Wm. Rohlfing from Milwaukee calls on me, he had selected quite a number of pianos.

MILWAUKEE OF TODAY THE CREAM CITY OF THE LAKES.

C. H. STARKE & CO.

There is no feature of the rapid development of the Northwestern states of more interest than that of the prompt completion of public works of a difficult and extensive character, requiring the highest order of talent and practical experience, coupled with ample resources. There is thus great credit attaching to our leading contractors and engineers for the great achievements, marking their career. In the city of Milwaukee, no firm stands higher in this connection than that of Messrs. C. H. Starke & Co., contractors for all kinds of public works, dredging and piling, whose offices and yards are located at 265 South Water St. This extensive business was established thirty-five years ago by Messrs. Starke Bros., the firm consisting of Messrs. C. H. and Henry Starke. They were succeeded by Conro, Starke & Co., Starke, Smith & Co., and in 1883, the present firm was organized, the co-partners being Messrs. C. H., Henry and Wm. A. Starke, the last named being the son of Mr. Henry Starke, and Mr. Conrad Starke, Frederick Bues and Conrad Niederman. The partners are able and experienced contractors, and their engineering skill and ability have been fully demonstrated in the many important contracts that they have so successfully executed in Milwaukee and elsewhere. They have lately built the United States Harbor of Refuge, Milwaukee Bay, large dry dock for the Milwaukee Ship Yard Company, Racine Water Works, extending 7,000 feet into the lake, Milwaukee City Water Works, extending 5,000 feet into the lake, and many others. Their yards, which have an area of seven acres, are located on Canal street, and have excellent railway and water facilities, and a dock frontage of 1,800 feet. They own a number of powerful dredges, tug boats, scows, etc., and employ constantly one hundred and fifty workmen. Messrs. C. H. Starke & Co., promptly execute contracts for bridges, trestle work, dredging and pile driving. They closely follow specifications, and having always the capital and material at command, promptly execute all contracts let to them. The partners are widely known for their ability, and no more honorable and successful engineers and contractors can be found in the ranks of the profession. They are popular members of the Chamber of Commerce.

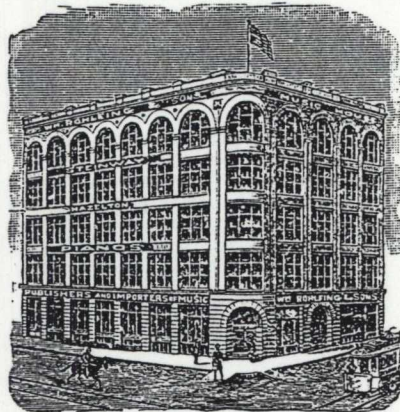
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1841, and first learned the trade of baker. He afterwards went to Montreal, Canada, and entered the office of the Montreal Witness as bookkeeper, and eventually became the cashier. Mr. Smith resigned the position and went to New York city, where he was connected with one of the leading daily newspapers. In 1873 he removed to Milwaukee, and in 1874 entered the employment of the late William Harper, and in 1880 became a partner in this business. Mr. D. Harper, Jr., the vice-president, is a native of Milwaukee, and a son of Mr. Wm. D. Harper, while Mr. D. F. Wilson, the secretary, was born in South Carolina, but was brought up and educated in Sarina, Ont., Canada.

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of pianos in his native city. He was born in 1830, in Hanover, Germany, and landed in the United States in 1852. He has been connected with the leading manufacturers of pianos throughout the East, his first engagement being with Weise Brothers, of Baltimore, Md. Then in 1855, he became foreman of Louis Stirn's manufactory at Baltimore, Md., afterwards being engaged with several of our leading manufacturers. His sons Charles and William, who are associated in business with him, and whom he reared to the business, have acquired an extensive and valuable insight into all phases of the business, and are able seconds to their talented and capable father. The sons, Charles and William, were admitted to the business in 1888, and the present business style was then adopted. The business is conducted at the corner of Broadway and Mason streets, where two floors and the basement of a fine four-story building are occupied for business purposes. The premises are 80x150 feet in dimensions, and are splendidly furnished. A full stock of the finest musical instruments is carried, all of which have been selected with the greatest possible care. The stock includes the standard Steinway & Sons, Hazleton Brothers, Emerson Piano Company's and other reliable makers, and the Fort Wayne Organ Company's and Smith-American organs are also handled. This house also imports and publishes every variety of sheet music, a specialty being their celebrated edition Rohlfing. They have also a complete stock of musical instruments, flutes, cornets, violins, musical boxes, guitars, mandolins, etc., and do an immense business in the sale of these. The second floor of the building is used as a recital parlor, and is very handsomely furnished. Thirty-five competent and agreeable assistants are employed. Their catalogue of their own publications is represented in Germany at Leipzig by Fritz Schuberth, and in London by Stanley, Lucas & Weber.

1886

Xerox From

Wisconsin Hist. Society

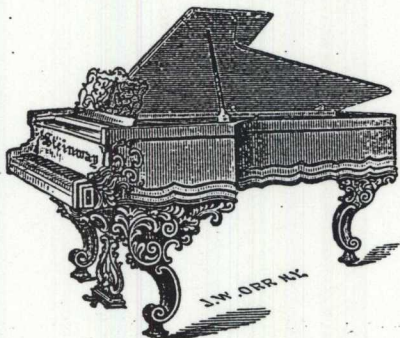
tends to almost every State in the Union, but is principally confined to the Northern and Western States, and is steadily increasing. They employ from 100 to 150 experienced workmen for the various departments of their establishment, and traveling men are kept constantly on the road. This establishment has machinery of the latest device for their use, and is run by a fifty-horse power engine. Mr. J. P. Rundle is a native of the State of Connecticut, born at Hartford in 1842. He came to Milwaukee in 1858, and has ever been connected with the commercial interests of this city. Both Mr. Spence and Mr. Smith are natives of Milwaukee and are widely known as pushing business men.

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Milwaukee's Largest Music House.

Cor. Broadway and Mason St.

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Rohlfing & Co., on the corner of Broadway and Mason street, extending from Nos. 102 to 110 Mason street. This house was established in Milwaukee in 1878, and has a trade which extends over all parts of the Northwest. The leading pianos manufactured are sold by this firm, the Steinway and Knabe being their specialties. Organs, too, are handled in large variety and sold at prices and on terms not easily duplicated. Their large stock of sheet music and musical mer-

chandise is complete in every respect. Importing of foreign music is their specialty in this line, and they are agents for the United States for several European music publishing houses. They are also publishers of the prize cantata—"Columbus," for which Mr. John Plankinton donated \$1,000, and which was awarded by the judges, Prof. E. Catenhusen, Dr. F. L. Ritter and Dr. L. Maas, to Mr. C. Joseph Brambach, musical director at Bonn on the Rhine. It was chosen from forty competing composers from all parts of the world, and will be sung at the 24th National Sngerfest to be held in this city next July, from the 21st to the 25th. Wm. Rohlfing, the enterprising head of this establishment, was born in Quackenbruck, Province of Hanover, Germany, December 17th, 1830. He came to America in 1852, after having acquired a thorough knowledge of the business in the extensive piano manufactory of his father. He immediately entered the house of Wm. Knabe & Co., of Baltimore, where he remained for twenty years, and where he achieved such remarkable success in his chosen line. He came to Milwaukee in May, 1878, and began business in a small way, but through his energy and experience it soon developed into the large establishment we see to-day. He is ably assisted by his three sons, who are a tower of strength to this enterprise. The great secret of this firm's prosperity is due largely to the fact that they are practical piano makers and can thus judge of the quality of the instruments which they handle, giving their customers the benefit of this experience. The firm consists of Mr. Wm. Rohlfing and his three sons, Wm. Rohlfing, Jr., Charles and Albert. They are all practical musicians, having been brought up in the business under the tutelage of their father, who is acknowledged to be the best judge of musical merchandise in the country. This firm has long been highly esteemed by the musical circles of the country, the latest compliment being their representation in the leading committees of the Sngerfest which is to be held in this city next July.

WILLIAM A. ROLFING
R.R. #2, Bethany Road
Sycamore, Illinois 60178

January 10, 1984

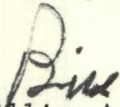
Mr. Henry Z. Steinway
109 West 57th Street
New York, N. Y. 10019

Dear Henry:

My research on the matter of relationship of William Rohlfsing & Sons, Milwaukee, with the Rolfing family of Wurlitzer affiliation came up negative. My aged Mother, who is the resident expert on such matters, knows of no relationship, and seems certain that there was never any communication between her husband and the Milwaukee folks at any time.

I'm told that there are several Rohlfsing listings in the Milwaukee phone directory, but I've never pursued that subject.

Best regards, Happy New Year, and resounding success as the Steinway archivist.


William A. Rolfing

Diary notes

R

Rohlfing Milwaukee

July 21 1886 Kraemer and Rohlfing meet in Milwaukee, he stays with Rohlfing - There on "seminary" matter having to do with Liederkrantz

23 July 1890 visits Rohlfing family in Osnabruck. [relative??]

4 Feb. 1891 sees Rohlfings with wife in Milwaukee

5 April 1894 w- Rohlfing in town

Dec. 25 1893 " Rohlfing's mother at Osnabruck aged 86 died "

Thus definitely related to the piano dealer family still in Osnabruck

HENRY Z STEINWAY
109 West 57
NY NY
10019

Dear Rohlfing Family -

I hope you can read English, because I can not write German, though I do understand it.

I am formerly president of Steinway & Sons, now retired, and spending my time with old family and business records of many, many years ago.

One of my interests is Piano stores in the United States, and I find that there was a firm named Rohlfing in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, very active in selling pianos in the 1880s. The principal was William Rohlfing, and we have a picture, xerox of which is attached. I am wondering if by any chance you are related to this firm, now long out of existence, and know any of it's history.

With all best wishes -

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Henry Z Steinway". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

20 March 1985

Keine Antwort

4/25/86

2118



WILLIAM ROHLFING,
William-Rohlfing & Sons, Milwaukee, Wis.

CABINET A Drawer 3 Left

GENERAL HISTORY of the MUSIC TRADES in AMERICA

Bill & Bill publishers 3 E 14 NY NY 1891

- Page 10 History by Morris Steinert, with illustrations for his Collection
- Page 23 Steinway & Sons
- Page 51 Blasius & Sons Founded 1855 Store 1119 Chestnut
- Page 80 Lyon & Healey
- Page 85 Krueger & Sons piano mfg. Factory at 21st at 2nd NY
- Page 106 Steinerts - bios on all the sons
- 108 Smith & Nixon Cincinnati est. 1843
- 109 Lyon Potter W- Steinway, pres.
- 111 W. J. Dyer & Bros. Minneapolis
- X 112 W- Rohlfing & Sons Milwaukee
- 112 Mellor & Hoene Pittsburg
- 114 Hollenberg Little Rock

HENRY Z STEINWAY
109 West 57
NY NY
10019

Dear Bill -

I am spending my retirement looking through old stuff accumulated around here for years.

I am seeking information on William Rohlfing & Sons, a piano dealer in Milwaukee many years ago. I am just curious if there is any remote relationship to your family.

All I have is a picture, and I know we sold him pianos.

All the best to you -

A handwritten signature, possibly reading 'H. Z. Steinway', is written in dark ink at the bottom center of the page.

Garten.

1. Mai 1881.

1stes

Concert !

— von —

Jos. Glauder's Militär-Kapelle.

Spezial Anzeige.

W. Rohlfing & Co.

Edc

Broadway u. Masonstr.,

Praktische Pianomacher,

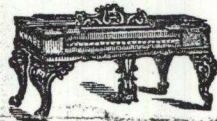
haben jetzt ein größeres, feineres und in jeder Beziehung vollständigeres Lager von

Steinway,

Knabe,

Hazeltan und Behning

PIANOS,



an Hand, denn je zuvor hier zum Verkauf angebotene Instrumente jeder Gattung, für jeden Geschmack und jeden Preis. Alle vollständig garantirt für 5 Jahre. Die Bedingungen werden jedem zufrieden stellen.

Die Größte Niederlage im

Nordwesten,

von direct importirten

Musikalien.

Program m.

Erster Theil.

1. Marsch „Heimliche Liebe“,.....Glauder.
2. Concert Overture.....Kerffen.
3. Immortellen Walzer.....Gungl.
4. Ein Scherz, großes Potpourri,.....Kiesler.

Zweiter Theil.

5. Rakoczy Overture,.....Keler Bela.
6. Bombardon Polka.....Jos. Glauder.
7. „Bravour Arie“, Solo für Cornett,.....Hassellmann.
vorgelesen von Hrn. Aug. Hoyer.
8. Großes Potpourri, „Die Reise d. Europa“ Conradi.

Dritter Theil.

9. Fantasie, Es ritten 3 Reiter zum Thore hinaus“,.....Stredice.
10. „Die schöne Reiterin“, Gavotte.....Rigner.
11. Finale a. d. Oper, „Feldlager“,.....Alberti.
12. Voccaccio-Marsch,Suppe.

Eintritt 10 Cents.

Kinder in Begleitung der Eltern frei.

Achtungsvoll

Karl Kron.

SPECIAL

Announcement.

We have now a larger, a finer, and in every respect a more complete stock of

PIANOS



On hand than has ever before been offered for sale in this city. All fully warranted for FIVE YEARS.

Terms to suit all!

STEINWAY,

KNABE,

HAZELTON and BEHNING

PIANOS.

Importers of

SHEET MUSIC

AND

Musical Merchandise.

W. ROHLFING & CO.,

Cor. Broadway & Mason St.,

MILWAUKEE.

ESPENHAIN & BARTELS,

Eigenthümer des

WEST SIDE DRY GOODS BAZAAR,

Edc Dritter- und Prairie-Straße,

ist nicht allein das größte deutsche Ellenwaaren-Geschäft im State, sondern auch das billigste.

From Henry C. Knabe Milwaukee

WM. ROHLFING & SONS.

WILLIAM ROHLFING was born December 17, 1830, in Hanover, Germany. His father, C. R. Rohlfling, was a piano-maker in that country, and William was trained in his father's manufactory. He came to the United States in January, 1852, and soon engaged with Lighte, Newton & Bradbury, the piano-makers of New York. In 1855 he was called to Baltimore, Md., as foreman of Louis Stirn's piano manufactory. On September 27th, 1855, he mar-

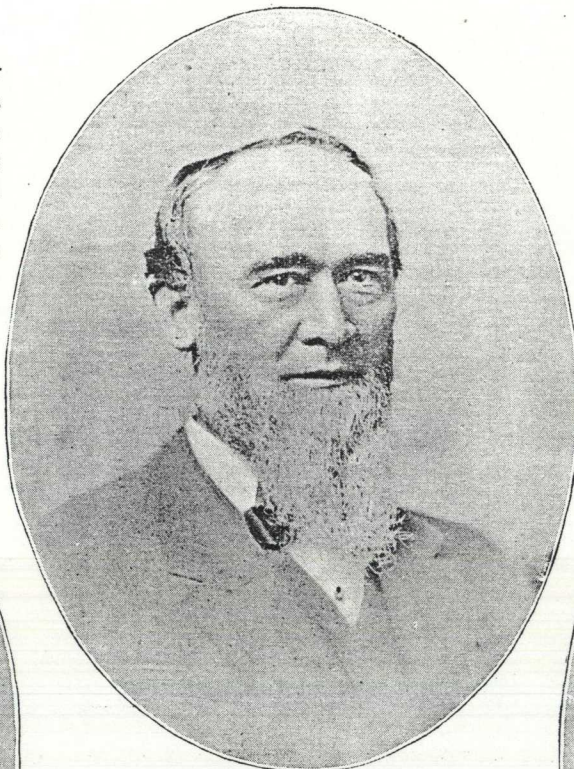
learned his trade of practical piano-maker with his father's brothers, whose factory is located at Osnabruck, Germany.

On the 1st May, 1878, Rohlfling & Sons opened their present great store at the corner of Broadway and Mason street, Milwaukee. It is 80x120 feet and five stories high.

Wm. Rohlfling & Sons have the exclusive agency for the Steinway, Knabe and Hazelton pianos for Wisconsin and the region of Lake Superior. They are large importers of foreign music, and their fine publications are known all over the world.



WILLIAM ROHLFING, JR.



WILLIAM ROHLFING.

ried Miss Emma Stirn, daughter of his employer. Just before the Rebellion he engaged with Knabe & Co., with whom he remained until his removal to Milwaukee, Wis.

Mr. and Mrs. Rohlfling have seven children—five sons and two daughters—all living in Milwaukee. All the sons were brought up in the sheet music and piano business, the elder two—Charles and William—being associated in their father's business at the present time.

Charles has been from early boyhood connected with the sale of sheet music. William



CHARLES ROHLFING.

MELLOR & HOENE.

THIS firm consists of Charles C. Mellor, who was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1836, and Herman H. Hoene, born in 1837 at Osnabruck, Hanover, Germany.

John H. Mellor, the father of Charles C. Mel-

lor, up when Mr. J. H. Mellor went into the music business are dated December 1, 1831, and are preserved in the present firm's private office.

Mr. C. C. Mellor is a well-educated musician. He has always been considered the leading organist in Pittsburgh. For twenty years he played the largest organ in that city—that of

United States, Chicago Cottage and Æolian organs.

Mellor & Hoene's warerooms are a perfect pattern of taste, commodiousness and order. By day the spacious windows admit abundance of natural light, and at night the vast



Steinwa

DEALERS, IN THE PRINCIPA

1886

Xerox From
Wisconsin High Society

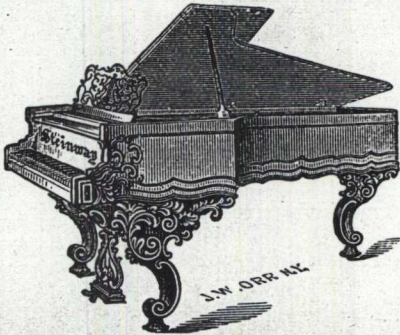
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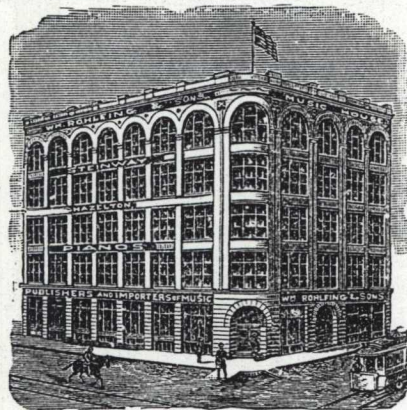
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WM. ROHLFING & SONS.

One of the leading piano houses of the West is the well known and popular concern of Wm. Rohlfing & Sons, of Milwaukee, Wis. The business of this splendid concern was established by Mr. Wm. Rohlfing in 1878. Mr. William Rohlfing is a practical piano maker and a genius in musical instrument manufacture. He was trained in the art of piano making by his father, who was a manufacturer



of pianos in his native city. He was born in 1830, in Hanover, Germany, and landed in the United States in 1852. He has been connected with the leading manufacturers of pianos throughout the East, his first engagement being with Weise Brothers, of Baltimore, Md. Then in 1855, he became foreman of Louis Stirn's manufactory at Baltimore, Md., afterwards being engaged with several of our leading manufacturers. His sons Charles and William, who are associated in business with him, and whom he reared to the business, have acquired an extensive and valuable insight into all phases of the business, and are able seconds to their talented and capable father. The sons, Charles and William, were admitted to the business in 1888, and the present business style was then adopted. The business is conducted at the corner of Broadway and Mason streets, where two floors and the basement of a fine four-story building are occupied for business purposes. The premises are 80x150 feet in dimensions, and are splendidly furnished. A full stock of the finest musical instruments is carried, all of which have been selected with the greatest possible care. The stock includes the standard Steinway & Sons, Hazleton Brothers, Emerson Piano Company's and other reliable makers, and the Fort Wayne Organ Company's and Smith-American organs are also handled. This house also imports and publishes every variety of sheet music, a specialty being their celebrated edition Rohlfing. They have also a complete stock of musical instruments, flutes, cornets, violins, musical boxes, guitars, mandolins, etc., and do an immense business in the sale of these. The second floor of the building is used as a recital parlor, and is very handsomely furnished. Thirty-five competent and agreeable assistants are employed. Their catalogue of their own publications is represented in Germany at Leipzig by Fritz Schubert, and in London by Stanley, Lucas & Weber.

Supplement to Freund's Music and Drama Harry E. Freund, editor

Nov. 8 1890

Steinway & Sons dealers in the principal Cities
Of the United States

An 11" x 18" double page spread with tinted portraits of the
following dealers. Original given to

MUSEUM OF MAKING MUSIC year 2000

Herman, Oscar, & Otto Bollman Bollman Bros. Kansas City & St. Louis
S. Nordheimer A. & S. Nordheimer Toronto Canada
R. Denton Denton, Cottier Buffalo NY
Henry M. Brainard Brainard Cleveland Ohio
E.F.Droop Droop Washington, D.C.
W. Wander Wander & Son Hartford CT
Otto Sutro Sutro Baltimore
Charles Blasius Blasius & Sons Philadelphia
E.D. Buckingham Buckingham, Moak, & Marlow Utica NY
J.W.Martin Martin Rochester
E. Cluett Cluett & Sons Troy and Albany NY
M. Steinert Steinert, New Haven (Father)
A. Steinert Steinert Boston
H. Steinert Steinert Cincinnati Ohio
E. Steinert Steinert Providence R.I.
Henry Kleber Kleber Pittsburgh
F.W.Ludovici Matthias Gray San Francisco CA
G.W. Lyon Lyon Potter & co. Chicago
E.A.Potter same
Wm. Rohlfing Rohlfing Milwaukee WI
C.J. Whitney Whitney Detroit
W.W.Knight Knight, McClure Denver
W.J.Dyer Dyer Bros. St. Paul MN
Max Meyer Meyer Omaha
A. Leiter Leiter Bros. Syracuse NY
H.L.Schreiner Savannah
L. Grunewald Grunewald New Orleans
T. Goggan Galveston TX
W.H.Currier Whitney, Currier Toledo Ohio
Jesse French Nashville TN
R. Dorman same

W. W. WALLIS IS DEAD.

Oct 5 - 1908
Conducted Loan and Brokerage Business
on Third Street—Had Lived Here
Forty Years.

W. William Wallis, a resident of Milwaukee for forty years, and during a greater part of that time engaged on West Water street and Third streets in the loan and brokerage business, died on Sunday night at the Waldheim sanitarium, Okouchee, after an illness of a year. The body was brought to the city this morning and funeral arrangements will be made later.

Mr. Wallis, who was an uncle of Walter W. Wallis, manager of the Goodyear Rubber company, was a native of St. Louis. Some forty years ago he moved from that city to Milwaukee and engaged in the loan business on West Water street. Some ten years ago he erected a large three-story brick business house on Third street, north of Grand avenue, removing his business to that location.

Mr. Wallis is survived by his wife and the following daughters, a son, W. W. Wallis, Jr., having died a few years ago; Mrs. Harry Smith, Mrs. Charles Anderson and Miss Addie Wallis, all of this city, and Mrs. George Mitchell, a resident of Port Washington, Wis. The family residence is at 103 Thirteenth street.

Lyman L. Saunders.

Lyman L. Saunders, a resident of Milwaukee since 1879, died Sunday evening at his residence, 887 Marfetta avenue, after an illness of eight months. He was 59 years of age. The funeral will be held on Wednesday. Brief services will be held at the residence at 8:15 o'clock in the morning by Rev. W. W. Perry, secretary of the grand lodge of Wisconsin Masons, and at 9:50 o'clock the body will be taken over the North-Western to Waukesha for burial. Members of Lincoln lodge, No. 183, P. & A. M., of Menomonee Falls, of which Mr. Saunders was a member for many years, will have charge of the funeral. Services will be held in Waukesha at 11 o'clock under Masonic auspices. Mr. Saunders was employed for a number of years as a salesman for the Milwaukee Harvester company. He is survived by a widow and one son, Dr. W. F. Saunders.

Miss Susan Hill.

Miss Susan Hill, whose death at the age of 73 occurred yesterday at the residence of her nephew, William H. Greer, 711 Hackett avenue, had lived in this city

for several years. She was the sister of Mrs. Joseph H. Greer and the aunt of William H. Greer, Miss Minnie Greer and Mrs. Luther H. Caufy. Miss Hill was an active woman in her time. For forty years she was in business in New York city, successfully conducting with another sister a drygoods and clothing business on Third avenue. Six years ago

MAJ. WILLIAMS DEAD

Was Identified with Early History.
Milwaukee—To Cremate Body at
Oct Forest Home. 191908

Maj. Charles Henry Williams, who died at his home in Baraboo, Saturday, October 17, at 7:40 p. m., and whose remains will be cremated at Forest Home cemetery tomorrow afternoon, was prominently identified with the early history of Milwaukee, where he resided between 1842 and 1853. Some of the notable incidents in his career are related elsewhere in this issue of The Evening Wisconsin.

Maj. Williams was the eldest son of Micajah T. Williams, and was born in Cincinnati, December 21, 1818. He was educated as a civil engineer, and pursued his profession in connection with the great canal works of Ohio and Indiana until the suspension of operations on internal improvements following the panic of 1837. In the early 40's he represented his father's real estate interests in Milwaukee and Toledo, in the laying out of both of which cities Micajah T. Williams bore a prominent part. In 1849 he married Sarah Clark Thomas of St. Clairville, O. His career in Milwaukee and Baraboo is set forth in the notice before referred to, and need not be repeated here. Mrs. Williams died at Baraboo, March 12, 1892, and her remains with two children, who died in infancy, repose in the family lot at Forest Home cemetery in this city. The surviving children are Micajah T. Williams, who has spent many years in Arizona and California, and is now located at Baraboo; Charles Henry Williams, Jr., who lives at Pennington, and Samuel M. Williams, a well known lawyer of this city.

The funeral will take place at Baraboo Tuesday morning, in charge of Joe Hooker post, G. A. R., and the remains will be brought to the city.

William G. Rohlfing, Dead Piano Merchant.



DEMISE IS A SHOCK TO FRIENDS.

Oct 4 - 1908

William G. Rohlfing, one of Milwaukee's pioneer piano dealers, and an active resident of the city for thirty years, died suddenly this morning at 5 o'clock, at his residence, 543 Cass street, at the age of nearly 78 years. The funeral will be held on Saturday afternoon, interment to be at Forest Home.

So sudden was the death of Mr. Rohlfing that no member of his family had the least intimation of an approaching end until within an hour before he passed away. His son George and a daughter were summoned to his room about 4 o'clock and found their father apparently rapidly sinking. His only words to them were "I am dying," and within a few moments the end came quietly and peacefully. Heart trouble was the direct cause of death.

Kept in Touch with Business.

Mr. Rohlfing, who was at the head of the Rohlfing Piano company, visited the store at 130 Oneida street, during the day on Tuesday, where he made particular inquiries of the manager, his son, George Rohlfing, as to the condition of the business. In the evening, as had long been his daily practice, he visited a cafe in the Seventh ward, where he always met old associates and warm friends. With several of these he passed a pleasant hour, returning home early, apparently as well as he had been for months past, although he remarked to a friend during the evening that he had not been feeling as well as usual, but that he thought he was much better and remarked that he did not intend to miss meeting his friends each evening in the future.

Native of Germany.

William G. Rohlfing was a native of Osnabrueck, Germany, where he was born.

Comes to Milwaukee.

Arriving in Milwaukee he engaged at once in the piano trade on his own account, opening a large music store here and continuing in the business at various places in the city, until his death. During those years Mr. Rohlfing was Milwaukee agent for some of the leading pianos in the United States. In later years his sons were connected in the business with their father under several firm names, the latest firm being the Rohlfing Piano company. For more than ten years the senior Rohlfing was treasurer and an active member of the Milwaukee Musical society, and in 1886 he was chairman of the financial committee which managed the great saengerfest in this city. He was a life member of the Musical society. He was also a director of the Deutscher Gesellschaft, a member of the Deutscher club, and active in several other societies. He was a man of most genial traits, a remarkably happy disposition, and was a warm friend and companion of many men considerably younger than himself, who enjoyed his society and kindly nature.

On September 27, 1855, Mr. Rohlfing was united in marriage to Miss Emma Stirn, sister of his early employer in Baltimore. His wife and seven children survive him. The sons are Charles, William, Jr., Herman and George Rohlfing, associated at various times in busi-

OBITUARY MENTION.

Oct 4 - 1908
Louis Gold, an old resident and for many years engaged in the tailoring business, died Friday evening, at 5 o'clock, at his residence, 633 Hackett avenue, at the age of 70 years. Mr. Gold, who is survived by his widow and six children, retired from business some years ago. The funeral will be held Sunday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, from the residence, Rabbi Samuel Hirschberg of Temple Emanuel, officiating. Interment will be at Greenwood.

Frederick Collingbourne.

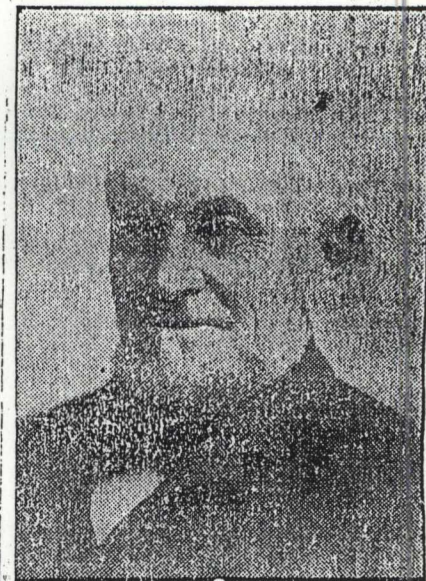
The funeral of Frederick Collingbourne was held this afternoon at 2 o'clock from the undertaking rooms of Patterson & Bridgen, 461 Milwaukee street. The funeral was under direction of Milwaukee lodge, No. 2, I. O. O. F. Interment was at Forest Home.

Thomas H. Stone.

The body of Thomas H. Stone was today sent to Westport, Wis., for interment.

Oct George Bryan. 26 1908

George Bryan, an old resident of Milwaukee, died on Sunday evening at his residence on Seventh street, following a stroke of paralysis with which he was stricken several days previous. He was 78 years of age and had been a resident of Milwaukee for sixty years. The funeral will be held from the residence on Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, burial to be private. Mr. Bryan



GEORGE BRYAN.

is survived by his wife and four children, George W. of McGregor, Ia.; Mrs. George R. Bailey, Oshkosh, Wis.; Mrs. William Lund and Miss Nettie Bryan of this city.

Oct 21 - 1908
Mrs. Mary Collingbourne.

Realizing a wish expressed upon the death recently of her husband, that she would be permitted to follow him, at once, Mrs. Mary Collingbourne, widow of Frederick Collingbourne, who died on Wednesday of last week, passed away on Wednesday evening, at 7 o'clock, at the residence of John A. Holt, 755 Fifth street, a friend of the family, where she went immediately after the death of her husband a week ago. Mrs. Collingbourne was 80 years of age. The funeral will be held on Saturday afternoon, interment to be at Forest Home. Mr. and Mrs. Collingbourne had been residents of Milwaukee for sixty years, coming here from Cincinnati. A year ago Mr. Collingbourne was run down by an automobile which resulted in a broken hip from the effects of which he never recovered. The owner of the machine never put in an appearance.

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