

Bendigo Cemetery



There are 3 MUELLER graves in this location.
These notes just apply to the grave for Ernst Mueller.
Notes for Ernst Mueller Grave #9328 in section A3.

Images:
MUELLER_A3_076.JPG
to
MUELLER_A3_076C.JPG



1st grave (large grave with small fence)

In loving remembrance of
GUSTAV HIRONYMUS SONDERMANN
MUELLER
Second beloved son of
ERNEST and ANNA B.F. MUELLER
died December 16th 1854
Aged 2 years and 8 months
and the above
ERNEST MUELLER
Born at Erfurt Thuringen
died at Bendigo July 23rd 1910
Aged 77 years
"He kept a good heart."



The following people were buried in this vault #9328 Sect A3 as per cemetery records.

9328 Gustav Hironymus Sondermann MUELLER 18/12/1884 2y 8m
15960 Baby MUELLER 4/05/1900 Stillborn
20763 Ernest Carl MUELLER 23/07/1910 77 yrs
32303 Christian Adolph Lorenz MUELLER 30/06/1941 49 yrs
33960 Anna Bertha MUELLER 10/01/1946 88 yrs

Ernst Mueller

Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Mon 25 Jul 1910 Page 4
DEATH OF MR E MUELLER AFTER A SHORT ILLNESS.

A NOTABLE CAREER.

One of the most notable of Bendigo's mining pioneers - and one that the industry could ill afford to lose - was removed by the death of Mr Ernst Mueller, which occurred at his residence, McLaren Street, about 3.15 o'clock on Saturday morning. It was announced in the press on that morning that the old gentleman was suffering from a severe attack of bronchitis, but little did most readers imagine, when they were reading of his indisposition at breakfast that even then death had closed such a grand career. The end, which was quite unexpected, was peaceful - a fitting termination to a noble life.

News of his lamented demise quickly spread throughout the city, and caused the expression of universal and profound sorrow. The Stock Exchange - where the deceased had been such a familiar and popular figure - was thrown into a state of gloom. The flag was promptly flown at half mast, and business suspended for the day. On most of the other principal business establishments bunting fluttered in a saddened aspect - signifying that a highly respected personage had "crossed the bar".

The sun shone brightly o'er the city,
but even its brilliancy could not break through
or chase away the dark cloud of gloom
which seemed to o'ershadow everybody and everything.

All classes of the community alike had good cause to mourn, the deceased had been a friend to all, and was loved by all. In short, anybody who knew Mr Mueller could say with indisputable truth and honesty, "He was a man". The end was deplorably sudden, and even deepened the widespread sympathy felt for Mrs Mueller and family. On Thursday the deceased, although suffering from a slight cold, went around a number of mines as was his daily want, and also attended several directors' meetings.

Upon his arrival home that evening, however, his cold became worse. On the following morning his condition necessitated medical attendance, and Drs Atkinson and Penfold were hastily summoned. They diagnosed the ailment as bronchitis, and, heart failure supervening, the patient, gradually became worse during the day and night. Shortly after three o'clock next morning he passed peacefully away, with his devoted wife at his bed side. Even up to the last he appeared to be unconscious of the presence of death, and not long before passing assured Mrs Mueller that he was going to visit certain mines that day. But that day it was left for Bendigonians to mourn the loss of a citizen, who could be ill spared from our midst.

The deceased possessed a combination of attributes seldom found in man. He was of a loving and kind disposition; and benevolence seemed to be an inseparable part of his nature. He was undoubtedly a "tramp's mark". No matter how ragged a tramp was, he could always approach Mr Mueller with no fear of being turned

away without assistance.

Geniality was another attribute of deceased's. He was always in a cheerful mood himself and he loved to see everybody else happy. He was a good citizen, and his integrity of purpose was absolutely beyond the slightest impeachment. He was very reserved and never spoke much about himself; thus his many acts of charity will ever remain unknown. The deceased at all times was anxious to befriend the miner. When the gold stealing crusade was at its height on the field, he once remarked to his wife, "It's a good job the gold is there for the poor fellows to take."

The deceased at the time of his death was in his 77th year. He was born at Erfurt in Thuringen, Germany, and was an only child. At 18 months of age he was left motherless. Very early in life he entered the Prussian army, and was brought out while yet in his teens. Subsequently he crossed to England - he was then about 17 years of age - and took a position as tutor of the German in an English school.

In part payment for his services he was taught English. He remained there for upwards of two years, when he decided to undertake the then perilous voyage to Australia. He arrived here just before teaching his twentieth year, sometime about the middle of the fifties. Upon arrival at Melbourne young Mueller did not possess much, and endeavoured to pawn portion of his stylish English dress for the purpose of raising sufficient capital to get to the goldfields, where the gold fever was then raging. He was informed by the pawnbroker that "there's no demand for those kind of things here," and departed on his way. Disheartened and disgusted, he walked along the street, but he had not gone far when his life long run of luck began.

He picked up a small bag containing slightly over £1 in silver. This amount enabled him to start straight away for Bendigo. He arrived here when the place was but a diggers' camp. He got a position as a gold buyer at Raywood for a Mr Schlemn, and that is the first Bendigo commenced to know of a future mining magnate. The young man was ever desirous of compiling a fortune. And he eagerly grasped every opportunity that might enable him to reach his goal.

Subsequently he came to Bendigo as a sharebroker - which position at that period was a very lucrative and profitable one.

From that he became an investor, and his connection with mining in that capacity has been a long and most eventful one. At one period he was on the directorate of practically 50 mines, and when he died he was either chairman or a director of the following companies:

- New Chum Goldfields, Goldfields Consolidated, Goldfields North, Goldfields Extended (Nell Gwynne line), Eureka, Garibaldi (New Chum line), Great Southern, Lazarus, New Chum Victoria, Victoria Consols, Great Central Victoria, Ironbark, Hercules, Pearl, New

Victoria Catherine, United Devon, Duchess of Edinburgh, Phoenix, St Mungo, Ellenborough, Catherine Reef, Catherine Reef Extended, Ulster, Londonderry, Horwood and Burrowes, The Sea, Garden Gully, Victory and Pandora, Unity, Carlisle, Cornish, Koch's Pioneer, Windmill Hill, Confidence, Golden Age, Golden Pyke, Johnson's Reef Extended, McDuff, Consolation, Great Northern, Virginia, Specimen Hill, Clarence (Garden Gully line), Great Extended Hustlers, Hustler's Royal Reserve No 2, United Hustlers and Redan (Hustlers line).

From the foregoing list it will be possible to draw some estimate of the deceased's great interest in mining. And when the list is studied, it will be also possible to gauge the amount he annually expended in the payment of calls. In addition to the companies mentioned, he was also connected with the following ventures, now defunct:- Lady Barkly, Sado WA, Northern United, Hustlers and Redan Black Forest, as well as many others. Mr Mueller practically owned the Units Devon, and was one of the largest sharholders in the Pearl, Garden Gully, and Great Extended Hustler's Companies.

At one time he owned half the Cornet, but he disposed of that property to Mr Lansell just before the mine became so prosperous. It was frequently his want to say that he got more money out of the Clarence mine than anybody else. He was a large holder in the Maxwell's and Great Columbian companies at Inglewood. The Bendigo field will suffer by the removal of such an interested investor. The deceased differed in one respect from the late George Lansell, "The Quartz King", as he was a continuous market operator.

In this way he made a great deal of money from particularly the Catherine Clarence, and Specimen Hill mines. Right up to the last it was the deceased's practice to daily visit several of the mines in which he was interested, and mine managers and workmen were always pleased to see him driving up to the different mines. He always had a cheery "Good-day" for each and all of them. Owing to the whole of his time being devoted to mining pursuits he did not figure in public life, although he was ever willing to financially support any worthy public movement or institution.

His widow who is well and popularly known as a sterling philanthropist, always had her late husband's co-operation and assistance in the numerous charitable efforts she has undertaken. Both Mrs Mueller and the deceased were particularly interested in the Watson's Substantiation Fund, and by their united effort that fund has up to the present benefit to the extent of upwards of £1100.

The miners deeply sympathise with Mrs Mueller in her sad bereavement. In addition to a widow the deceased is survived by one daughter and four sons. Miss

Lovie Mueller has reached fame as a vocalist, and is at present in Vienna. The sons are Messrs Ernst, Louis, Adrian, Christian, and Otto Mueller. Mrs Mueller was married to the deceased in 1879.

The deceased was a trustee of the Savings Bank. Owing to his death the mining meetings to have been held today have been postponed.

The funeral will move from "Lancewood House," McLaren Street, at 4 pm today for the Bendigo Cemetery. Citizens attending are requested to drive via Mundy Street to "Lancewood House," having their vehicles facing towards Williamson street upon reaching the stopping place.

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Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Mon 25 Jul 1910 Page 5

The late Mr Ernst Mueller was born at Erfurt, on the Rhine, Germany, in September, 1833, and was the only child of Mr Carl Mueller, a successful merchant. His father, died when Ernst was but 16 years of age, leaving him a fairly large sum of money. The greater portion of this legacy was used by Ernst when he became 21 years of age to buy himself out of the German army. He then went to England, and after living privately for a little time his means became exhausted. He then entered a school, as a German tutor, teaching the students German in return for English, and at the same time receiving a small salary.

He was careful of his earnings, and soon became possessed of enough money to take him to Australia. He had learnt to speak English fairly well, and when he arrived in Melbourne he made straight for the Bendigo diggings. Shortly after his arrival in Bendigo he started work at a flour mill owned by the late Mr J B Loridan, and situated in High Street, where the present Salvation Army Barracks now stand.

After serving some time with Mr Loridan, Mr Mueller entered the tobacconist and gold buying establishment conducted by Mr W Schlemm, in Pall Mall, on the present site of Mr J Richardson's grocery store. In those days the Mining Exchange was situated in that portion of the city, and hundreds of brokers, speculators and diggers congregated there daily. Mr Mueller was engaged as a shop man, and soon won the esteem and confidence of both his employer and the public.

So trustworthy did Mr Mueller prove himself to be that at when the rush broke out at Raywood Mr Schlemm commissioned him to open a branch business there. Taking with him a stock of tobacco and cigars, the necessary equipment for gold buying, and a large amount of money, Mr Mueller proceeded to Raywood in a waggon, and set up a lucrative business among the diggers on the new field. Mr Mueller, worked hard and strenuously in the interests of his employer, and after conducting the business at Raywood for about nine months he returned to Bendigo.

He then started business as a commission agent and sharebroker in a small way. His sterling qualities as a business man earned him many commissions, and one of his biggest transactions was in Messrs C Ballerstedt and Son's properties, the 180 mine, the Fortuna battery and equipment and house, on the site where "Fortuna Villa" now stands, which he purchased on behalf of the late Mr George Lansell for £30,000. This was in 1871.

The 180 mine was originally opened up in the fifties by the Wittscheibes, who parted with it for a paltry £30 to Messrs Carl Ballerstedt and Son. The latter prospected the claim and realised an immense fortune. They obtained so much gold that they believed the mine to be thoroughly exhausted, and parted with it, as already mentioned. This was recognised as one of the largest mining deals in the history of Bendigo, and it was the success with which Mr Mueller conducted the negotiations for both parties that placed him on the high road to fortune.

As part of his commission on the sale Mr Mueller received from Mr Theodore Ballerstedt the fine residence in Inglewood Road now occupied by Mr I E Dyason. Mr Theodore Ballerstedt then returned to Germany, where he is still living. It is believed that the late Mr George Lansell also gave Mr Mueller a large commission, as the transaction had been so well carried out on behalf of both parties.

Mr Mueller then decided to confine his attention to sharebroking, and for a number of years he was a most popular, although exceedingly reticent, figure "Under the Verandah". Of course, Mr Mueller had his financial depressions just the same as every other mining sharebroker and investor. However, his success far outweighed his failures, and soon he relinquished his connection as a broker and became an earnest and plucky mining investor.

Just about this time tributes were let in the Garden Gully mine, and Mr Mueller joined the late Mr Bonati in sinking the shaft. The move proved a good one, and really laid the foundation of Mr Mueller's fortune. His success in this mine was followed by rich returns from the Pandora mine, in which Mr Mueller was very largely interested. Then the rush came on, and in all the claims from the Garden Gully to Koch's Pioneer tributes were contracted for.

Mr Mueller had acquired large interests in every mine along the line, and so reaped an enormous amount of wealth. He was also a large shareholder in the late Mr Carl Luffsmann's and Mr D C Sterry's claim, and he married the former's eldest daughter, Anna.

One of the mines in which Mr Mueller at this time lost a great deal of money was the Comet. Those were the days of registered companies, and forfeiting shares in lieu of paying calls was not permitted by the law. Mr Mueller paid call after call, but ultimately he decided to sell out his large interests to Mr Lansell.

Subsequently the rich reef at about 1100ft was discovered, and substantial profits were made by Mr Lansell while operations were conducted on the reef. Soon after the New Chum Consolidated cut a good reef, and Mr Mueller, feeling very confident of the resources of the line, invested a large amount of capital at a good price. There came a wave of prosperity in both the market and gold yields, and again the far-seeing investor accumulated great wealth. From this time onward Mr Mueller became interested in almost every mine in Bendigo except the Moon reef line. This line was the only one with which he would have nothing to do.

While he obtained great amounts in dividends, he was also one of the largest call-payers Bendigo has ever known. It is stated upon good authority that the late Mr Mueller has been paying upwards of £1000 per month in calls. It is asserted that the deceased gentlemen held more than half the interests in all the mines from the Victoria Quartz to the Williams's United at Eaglehawk.

At the time of his death the late Mr Mueller was on the directorate of the following mines:- Windmill Hill, Confidence Extended, Golden Age, Johnson's Reef Extended, Constellation, Golden Pyke, Macduff, Great Northern, Virginia, Hustler's Royal Reserve No 2, United Hustler's and Redan, New Red White and Blue, Great Columbian, St Mungo, Phoenix, Ellenborough, Catherine Reef United, Catherine Reef Extended, Great Southern, United Ulster, Londonderry, Horwood's and Burrowes's, Sea, Garden Gully United, Victory and Pandora, Carlisle, Cornish United, Koch's Pioneer, Goldfields South, New Chum Goldfields, Goldfields Consolidated, Goldfields North, Goldfields Extended, Thistle, New Chum Consolidated, Lazarus, Victoria Consols, Ironbark, Hercules and Energetic, Pearl, United Devonshire, Duchess of Edinburgh and New Victoria Catherine.

It is impossible to state the extent of the late Mr Mueller's wealth. His will, if one has been made, has not yet been found. Some anxiety as to the future of mining is felt on account of the sudden close of such a useful life, as it is generally recognised that Mr Mueller has been instrumental in keeping a very great number of the non-paying mines going.

The funeral will take place at 4 o'clock this afternoon, leaving deceased's residence, "Lancewood House," for the Bendigo Cemetery. On account of Mr Mueller's death a number of directors' meetings today will be allowed to lapse.



**The Late Mr Ernst Mueller
(Bartlett Broths Photo)**



Compiled by Pat & Ian Belmont
in June 2019
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