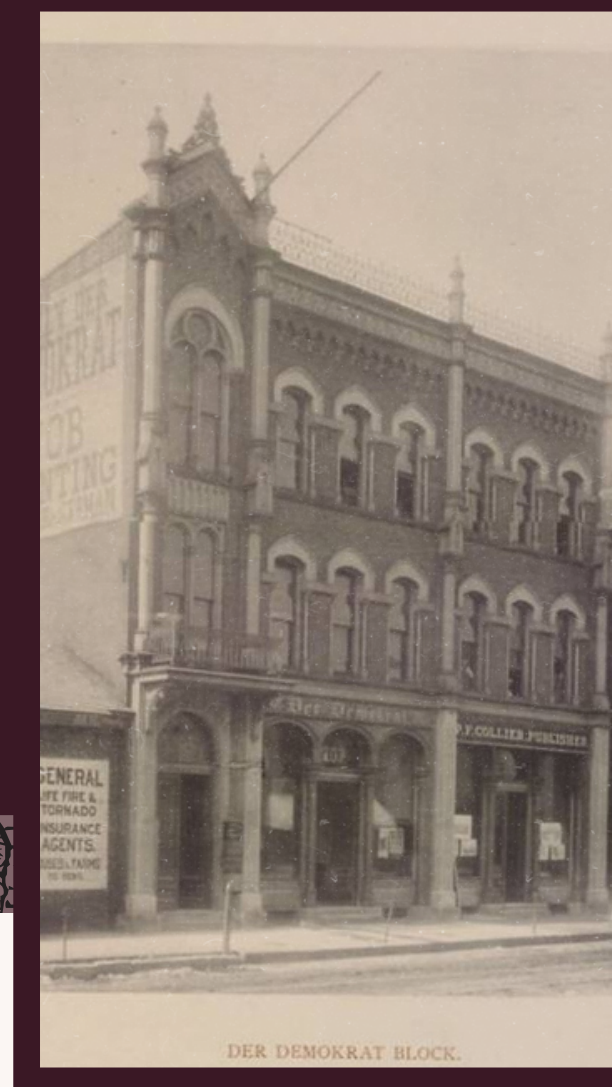
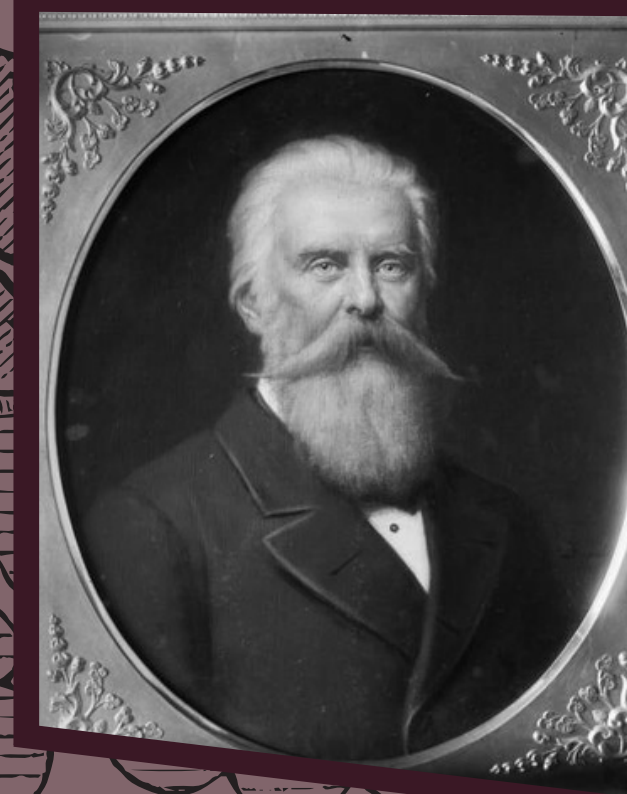


THE GERMAN AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER & MUSEUM
PRESENTS:

HIDDEN HABSBURGS: IMMIGRANTS IN IOWA

1846-1868



BOTSTIBER INSTITUTE FOR
AUSTRIAN-AMERICAN STUDIES



GERMAN AMERICAN HERITAGE
center & museum

HIDDEN HABSBURGS

Who Were They?

While the majority of immigrants to Davenport and Scott County came from Schleswig-Holstein and areas of what was then considered Germany, many others came from parts of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, ruled by the Habsburg dynasty. These Habsburg emigres played major roles in the settlement of Midwest, just as their German counterparts had. But why are they not as familiar in our knowledge of early Iowa? Why are their stories absent from many histories of the Midwest?

This significant emigration from the Habsburg Empire left a lasting impression on Davenport, Iowa, and the Upper Mississippi River Valley. Bringing the chronicles and accounts of these influential immigrants to light enriches the story of America and its connections to Austria and Hungary today. Their influence was significant to our history. The ideas of revolution and freedom that they brought with them impacted support and participation of skilled fighters and speakers on behalf of the abolitionists and Union Army in the United States Civil War. We can also find their experiences and contributions in newspaper editorials, salons of high-minded discussion, and even American West folklore.

This exhibit is dedicated to those "Hidden Habsburgs" who are lesser known for their contributions. Explore the exciting and varied experiences of these early immigrants to Iowa and discover what brought them here, and ultimately how they disappeared from our history books.



View of Der Demokrat Building.



Picnic at Schuetzen Park, Davenport, Iowa.



Fejervary Park, Davenport Iowa.



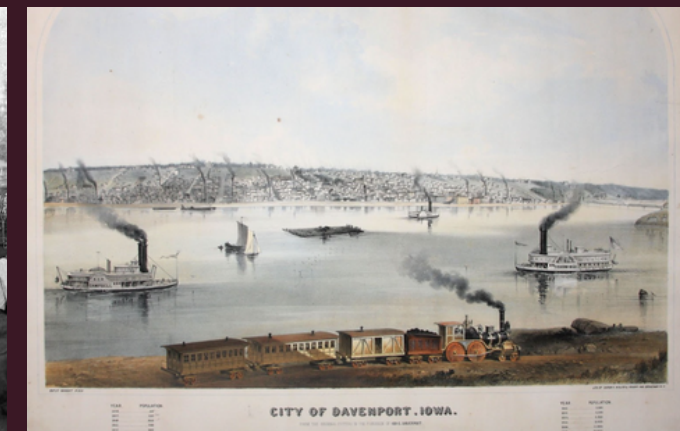
Example of an editor's salon.



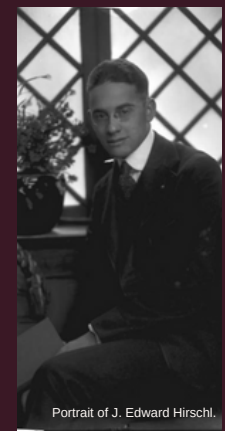
Painting depicting revolutions in Hungary.



German-speaking women's club portrait.



CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA.



Portrait of J. Edward Hirsch.

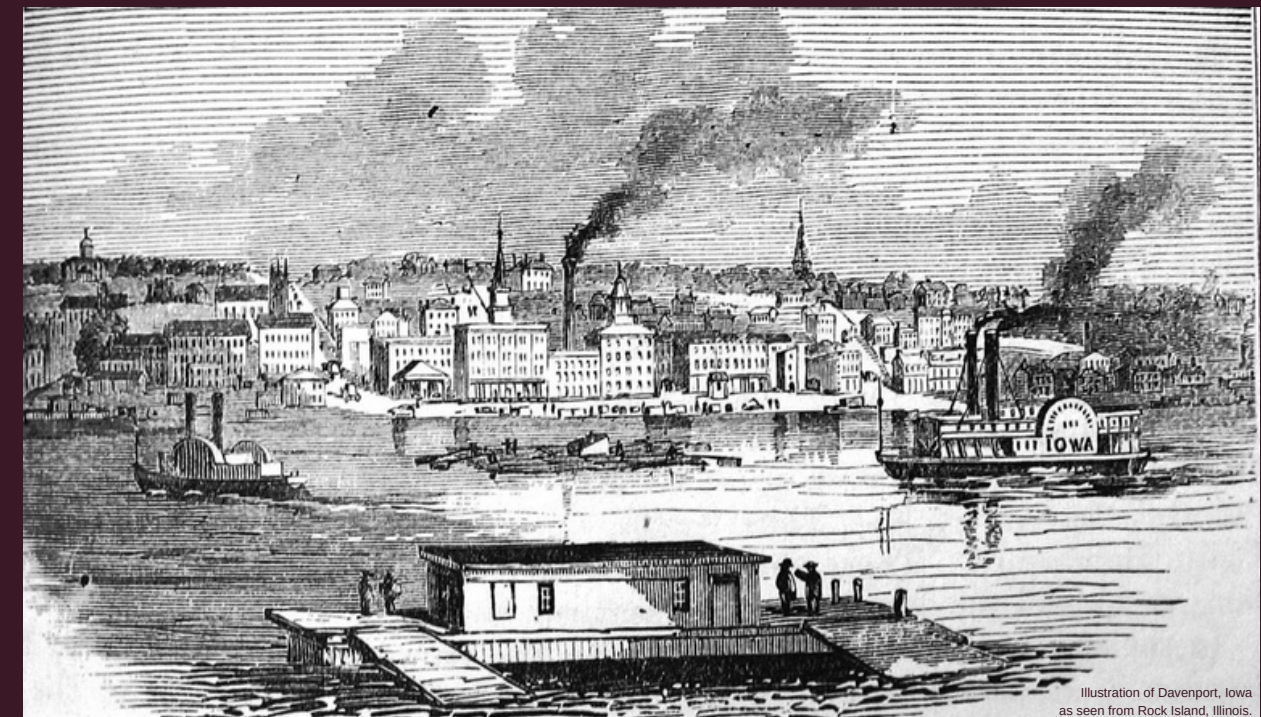


Illustration of Davenport, Iowa, as seen from Rock Island, Illinois.



MAP 15-2 THE AUSTRIAN HABSBURG EMPIRE, 1521-1772 *The empire had three main units: Austria, Bohemia, and Hungary. Expansion was mainly eastward: East Hungary from the Ottomans (seventeenth century) and Galicia from Poland (1772). Meantime, Silesia was lost, but the Habsburgs retained German influences as Holy Roman emperors.*



Civil flag of the Habsburg monarchy.
(1700-1806)

HABSBURG EMPIRE

A Vast and Complex History

The Habsburg empire existed in the central and eastern areas of Europe from the 13th century until 1918. Although the Habsburgs trace their roots back into the 10th century and present-day Switzerland, the family came to prominence in the 1270s.

Rudolf I, newly-elected King of Germany and a Habsburg, objected to King Ottokar II of Bohemia's refusal to accept Rudolf's authority. Rudolf implemented his claims through war. When the battle ended, this early Habsburg had taken possession of a small Duchy called Austria for his crown, which included a place called Vienna, which became the de facto capital.

During the next 650 years, the Habsburg family accumulated more and more possessions and titles. The lands making up this empire (and the relationships between them) changed continuously thanks to weddings, wars, inheritances, family divisions, and political agreements. Certain regions were under Habsburg control for much of their rule. This included modern-day Austria and Slovenia, with adjoining portions of Bavaria and Italy. Additionally the regions of Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, most of today's Czechia, southwest Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, and northern parts of ex-Yugoslavia. This also depended on the state of relations with the Ottoman empire to the east. The Habsburgs were the rulers of Spain from 1516 to 1700, and often held the title of Holy Roman Emperor. Through Spain, they acquired lands around the Mediterranean and part of the New World, spreading eastward to include the Philippines.

In the 19th century, change came to the Habsburg Empire, as it did to much of Europe, with the development of industrialization and modern economic growth. The Habsburg Empire was the second largest "country" in Europe, after Russia, until the foundation of a united Germany in 1871. The Habsburg Empire stretched for 767 miles, equivalent to the aerial distance for the Atlantic coast to St. Louis. Its north-south span of 579 miles is comparable to the distance from St. Louis to New Orleans.

Timeline

- 1273 The period without a German king, known as the Great Interregnum, ended with the election of a Habsburg prince, Rudolf I.
- 1485 Matthias Corvinus, King of Hungary, captured Vienna and made the city his capital.
- 1496 Philip, heir to Austria, married Joanna, a daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, in the second of the great Habsburg marital alliances.
- 1680 Feudal labor laws demanding *corvée* (compulsory unpaid labor) were imposed by the Habsburgs on the Czech peasants of Bohemia.
- 1792 France declared war on the Austrian emperor, an event that plunged Europe into more than 20 years of conflict.
- 1806 Francis II formally brought to an end the 1000-year-old Holy Roman Empire, to keep it from the clutches of Napoleon.
- 1848 An uprising in Vienna led to the resignation, on the following day, of the long-serving chancellor Klemens von Metternich.
- Another uprising in Vienna caused the emperor Ferdinand I to flee for safety to Innsbruck.
- Suppression of unrest in Hungary provoked a third violent uprising in Vienna and another flight by Ferdinand I, this time to Olomouc.
- 18-year-old Francis Joseph became emperor of Austria when his uncle, Ferdinand I, abdicated at the end of a year of unrest.
- 1849 Nationalist leader Lajos Kossuth announced the independence of Hungary and the deposition of the Habsburg dynasty.
- 1867 The Habsburg emperor Franz Joseph moved to consolidate the “multinational empire.” To reconcile with Hungary, he granted equal status to Hungary and the Austrian Empire which became the Dual Monarchy of Austria-Hungary. Amnesty was granted to revolutionaries and they were invited to return back to their homeland without punishment.



Imperial Middle Coat of arms of the Habsburg monarchy (c. 1765–1790)



VIENNA AND THE REVOLUTIONS

Tensions Rose to a Breaking Point

The generation coming of age in the mid-nineteenth century (1850 - 1870) focused on modifying Habsburg society which concentrated imperial power on the influential culture of Vienna in the 1890s, having no counterpoint in European history.

Life during this time period was difficult for many and the middle class citizens wanted better opportunities and rights as citizens. The issues throughout Austria, Hungary, and the rest of Europe at the time were concerning and included issues like suppression of news and information, an elaborate spy system, and widespread oppression. There were many instances of starvation, the government not helping the poor, sick, and dying, as well as the institution of serfdom.

On March 13, 1848 revolution broke out in Vienna, leading to the overthrow of State Chancellor Metternich, freedom of the press, and the proclamation of a constitution. The only major law passed was the act abolishing all feudal obligations on peasants, enacted on September 7, 1848. This finally removed the last remnants of the feudal state.

The 1848 revolutions were the result of mostly middle-class citizens wanting more rights. They were liberal and demanded a more democratic system of government. Some of their demands included the creation of constitutionally directed government structures, the end of serf-like oppression and censorship, the restoration of aristocratic privileges, and democracy. People wanted more power, greater rights, and more protection of those rights.

Those in Germanic Europe additionally wanted to unify the German states, either under Germany's or Austria's leadership.

Endless cycle of serfdom:

Imagine knowing you and all of your descendants will have to live and work the same land in a continuous debt cycle to an aristocratic family. Imagine the joy and relief when that cycle is broken. Imagine being part of that first generation who had the freedom to leave and build their own lives. Revolutionaries had everything to lose, but an incredible amount to gain.



Revolutions in the year 1848 occurred across Europe. These revolutions generally failed and the conservative governments stayed in power.

In the Habsburg Empire, Franz Joseph ruled after his uncle, Emperor Ferdinand, abdicated at the end of 1848. Franz Joseph's reign began with nine years of 'neo-absolutism,' but the unaccountability of his regime led to financial ruin. Franz Joseph abandoned neo-absolutism. In February 1861, he ordered the establishment of a parliament or "Reichsrat" and, later, gave Hungary home-rule. The rise of nationalism throughout the empire existed alongside an explosion of artistic and intellectual vitality that took place in Vienna around 1900.

The fate of the Habsburg Empire was sealed in the First World War, beginning with the murder of Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo in June 1914. To withstand the Russians, the Habsburg armies increasingly depended on German reinforcements. By passing strategic command of its forces to Wilhelm II in 1916, the Habsburg Empire's demise was imminent. Franz Joseph's nephew Karl was the last emperor.

The Group	The Goals	
Liberals	<div><div>▶ Limit church influence and state power</div><div>▶ Republican (non-monarchy) government</div><div>▶ Economic freedom and civil liberties</div></div>	
Nationalists	<div><div>▶ National unity based on common language, culture, religion, and shared history</div></div>	
Radicals	<div><div><u>Democrats</u></div><div>▶ Universal male suffrage</div></div>	<div><div><u>Socialists</u></div><div>▶ Worker ownership of the means of production (higher taxes)</div></div>





COMING TO THE UNITED STATES

Fleeing Europe and Finding a New Home



Several thousand immigrants fled the Habsburg Empire after 1848. The immigrants were often aristocratic and brought cultural insight as well as income and assets. They no longer saw a future in their homeland after the failed revolutions and sought liberty in the sparsely settled lands of Iowa. Iowa became the 29th State in the Union on December 28, 1846. Austrian and Hungarian immigrants quickly influenced the region with political thought and engagement. Individuals like Samuel Hirschl, John Jacob Wunderlich, and Nicholas Fejérváry were heavily involved in the community and had a major influence on Davenport.

Why Iowa?

Many of these individuals were drawn to Iowa because of the large German population, farming communities, and language similarities. It was an ideal place to move either permanently or temporarily that was familiar to their homeland.

Unlike many German revolutionaries with whom they found common ideology and language, these Hungarian individuals often left Iowa and returned to their homeland after 1867. Thousands of recent immigrants returned to the dual monarchy of Austria-Hungary after just eight or nine years of living in the United States. Although these individuals left, their influence remains in Eastern Iowa.

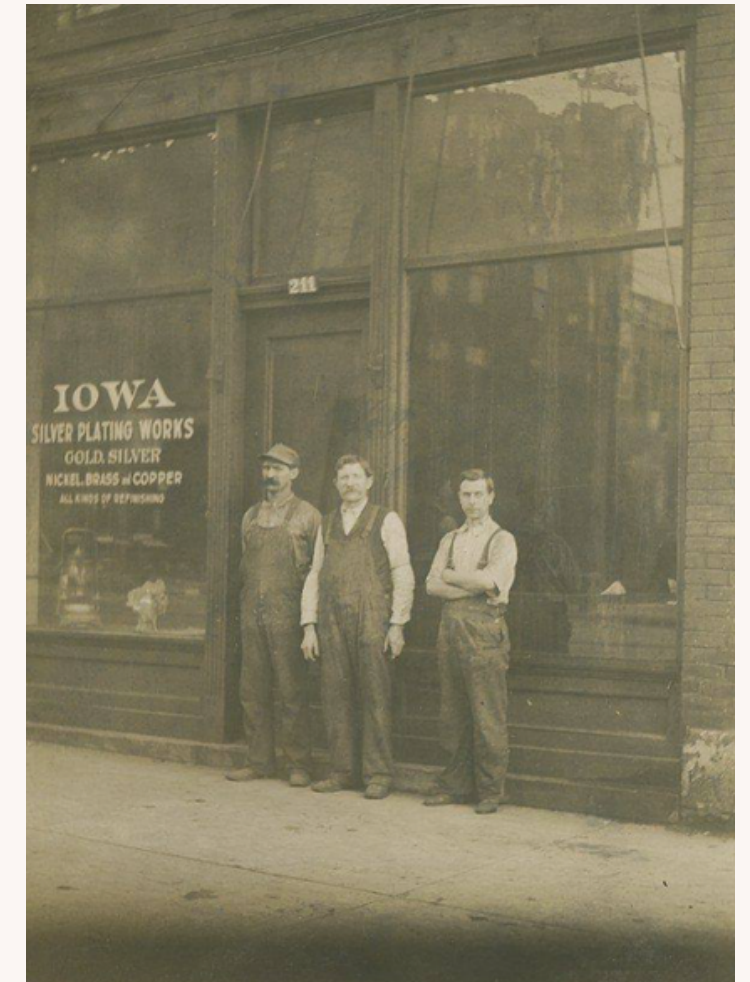
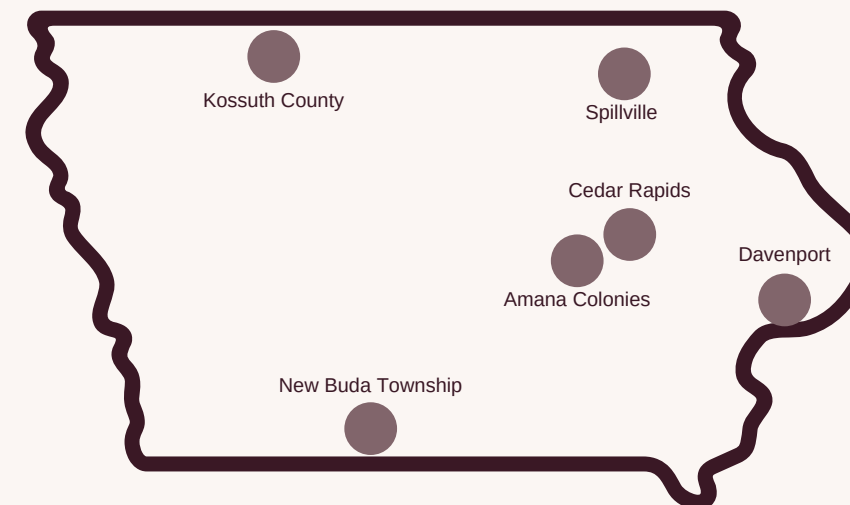
Many areas of Iowa were attractive to immigrants and many towns still have European settlements and neighborhoods today. Kossuth County, in northwest Iowa was named after Lajos Kossuth, who was one of the most notable revolutionaries from Hungary.

Many Czech and Slovak immigrants settled in Spillville and Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Cedar Rapids still has the Czech Village and New Bohemia neighborhoods in the central area of the city along the Cedar River.

The Amana Colonies were settled by Germans in 1856.

New Buda in southern Iowa was a Hungarian settlement founded in 1850. Many residents of New Buda moved to Davenport or returned to Hungary after the *Ausgleich* or amnesty of 1867.

Davenport was attractive to many German and Hungarian immigrants. Germans were the largest ethnic group to settle in Davenport.



United States German population in 1872. The dark red areas indicate a higher number of Germans. Hungarians and Austrians tended to associate with the German population due to a number of similarities.

NIKOLAUS (MIKLÓS) PERCZEL

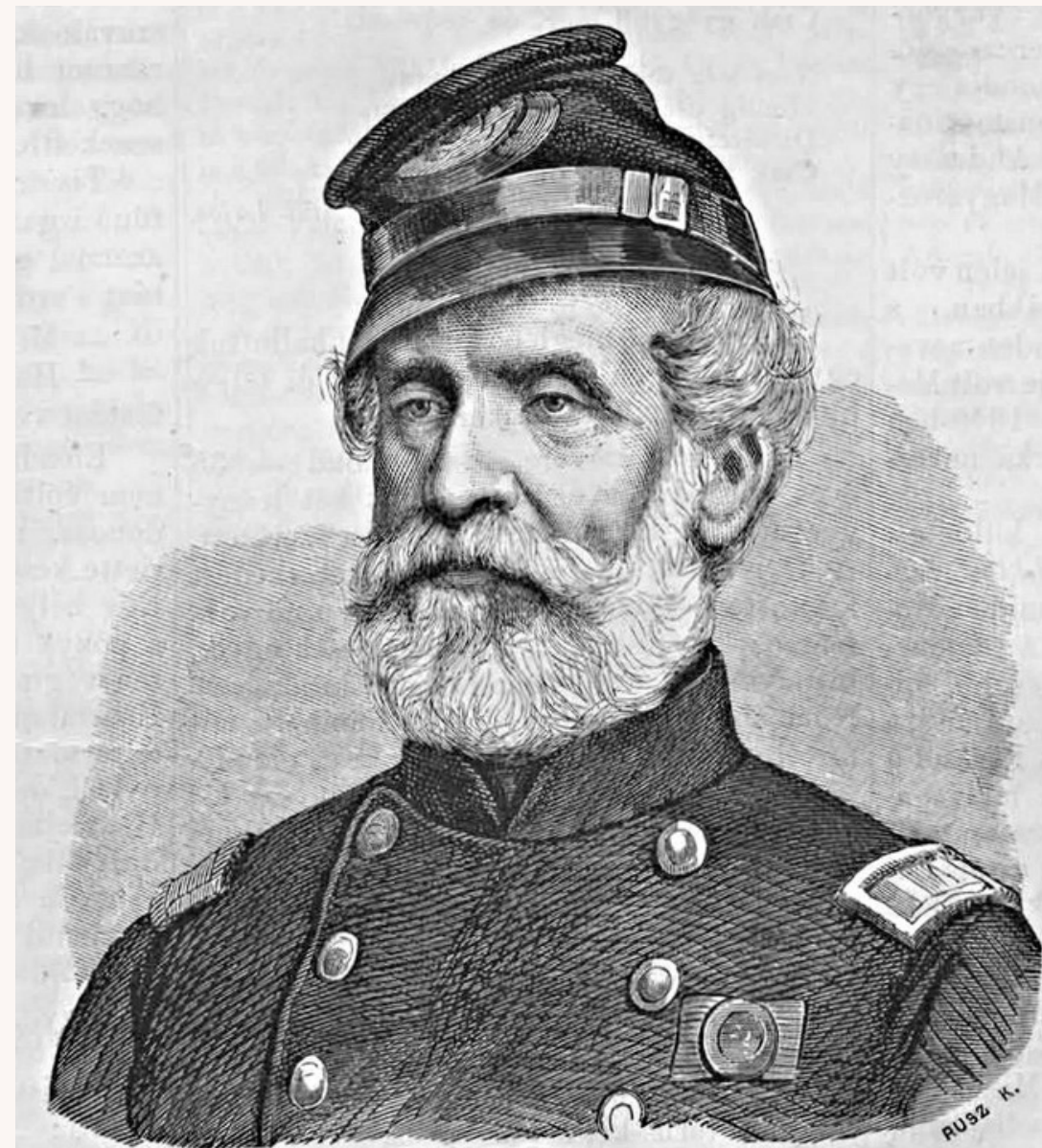
1812-1904

Nikolaus Perczel was born in 1812 and was one of Hungary's most notable heroes. He was active in the revolution and served under his brother, General Moritz Perczel. His experience on the battlefield ended with a short imprisonment in Turkey. In 1852 he spent some time in England before traveling to the United States. It was here in New York where he met Nicholas Fejérváry. At Fejérváry's request, Perczel moved to Davenport a year later. Like many other Austrian and Hungarian revolutionaries, Perczel enlisted and served in the American Civil War. He served as a Colonel in the 10th Iowa Infantry until he resigned due to illness. After living in Davenport for a few years, he moved back to New York in 1865 where he opened a Hungarian wine store.

In 1867, after the amnesty, he returned to his former homeland in Hungary. He was appointed to a seat in the upper house of Parliament but chose to accept an electoral mandate to the lower house.

Perczel was highly esteemed by all Hungarians. In castles and forts throughout the empire, people spoke of him as a passionate leader. He was admired as a hero by citizens of both the upper and lower classes. While Lajos Kossuth preached, orated, and wrote manifests and proclamations, Perczel and his troops swept through the Kaiser's army like a hailstorm, routing them from Mura River areas (Austria, Croatia, Hungary, and Slovenia).

Perczel died on March 14, 1904 at the impressive age of 91.



An engraving of Nikolaus Perczel by Károly Rusz in the Vasárnapi Újság ("Sunday News") October 13, 1867.

LAJOS KOSSUTH

1802-1894

Lajos Kossuth was an aristocrat, lawyer, journalist, politician, and the Governor-President of the Kingdom of Hungary during the European Revolts of 1848 - 1849. He was one of the great speakers of the century and used his oratory skills to spread his ideas.

Kossuth was born September 19, 1802 in Monok, in the Kingdom of Hungary. His family moved around when he was a child and they spoke numerous languages when he and his four younger sisters were children including Hungarian, German, and Slovak.

Kossuth started the first Hungarian newspaper to debate needed reforms in the Habsburg Empire. From 1841 to 1849 he increased its circulation to an astonishing 7,000 copies each week. He clashed with the imperial government and in the early 1850s, his political influence ended. He fled to England, and on December 6, 1851 he arrived in New York City via the U. S. S. Mississippi, welcomed by an enormous crowd.

During the first three months of 1852, Kossuth toured the major cities of America, and "Kossuth fever" increased the size of the crowds. He visited St. Louis and other cities in the Midwest.

Kossuth lost much of his influence as he settled into exile in the emerging nation of Italy and then England. He became autocratic and more involved in Italian independence and unity. He was no longer aware of changes in the Kingdom of Hungary as the western provinces of the empire began to industrialize and expand their economy. He opposed the Compromise of 1867 (Ausgleich) which created the dual monarchies of Austria and Hungary and emancipated the peasants and Jews in the Habsburg Empire. The traditional unpaid labor which peasants had been forced to perform was ended; Jews received equal rights as citizens to vote and marry Christians.

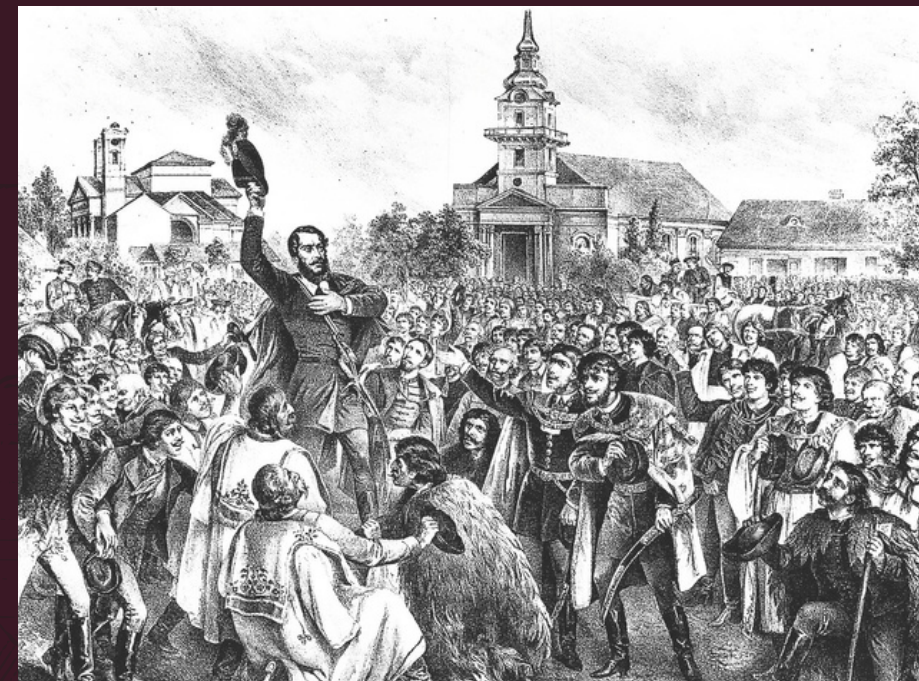
He passed away in Turin, Italy in 1894. He is regarded as "Hungary's purest patriot and greatest orator" which is inscribed on a statue of him in Kerepesi Cemetery in Budapest.



Colored lithograph of L. Kossuth by August Prinzhofer, printed by Johann Rauh, 1849.



Daguerreotype portrait of Lajos Kossuth by Southworth & Hawes, May 1852.



Kossuth inspired many Hungarians to rise up against the Austrian Empire in a speech he made in the town of Cegléd on September 24, 1848.



COUNT NICHOLAS FEJÉRVÁRY

1811-1895

Nicholas Fejérváry became well-known in Davenport and the greater Quad Cities area. Most recognizable from “Fejervary Park,” Fejervary is a household name even today.

Nicholas Fejérváry was born in Pest, Hungary in 1811. He was born to an aristocratic family. After his mother’s death, he was raised by his maternal grandparents on their estate. There he often interacted with the workers on the estate and understood their hardships. His interest in the lives of the working class influenced his decisions for the rest of his life.

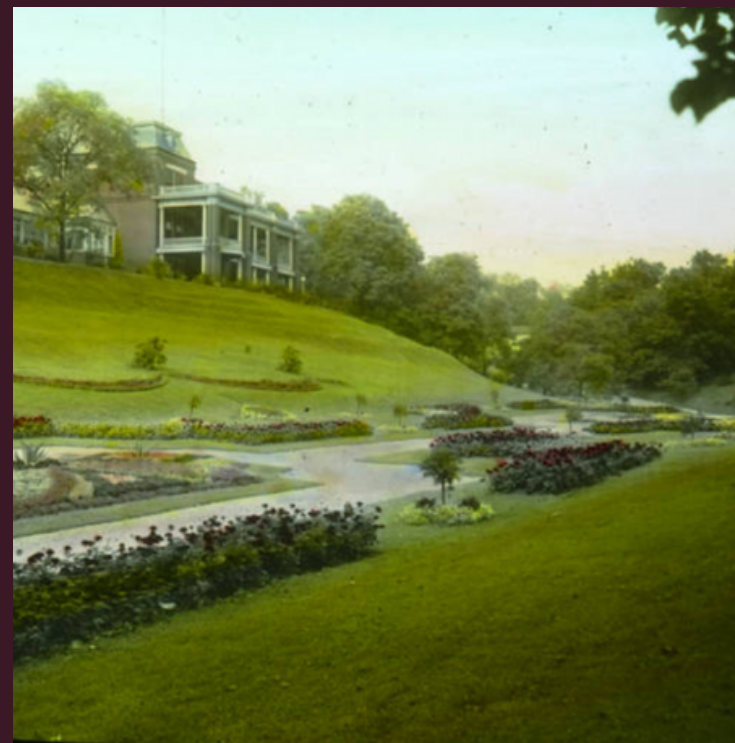
He attended an academy and studied law in Pest, finishing his studies in 1830. He then sat in the royal assembly as a baron’s representative. Fejérváry became a jurist on the royal legal panel in Pest but refused the office of censor later. In 1843 he was sent as a deputy to the state assembly in Pressburg, where he joined the Liberal Party. He was regarded as one of the most involved patriots of the revolutions. He retired from this public life in 1844 and settled on his land in the Pest district.

He married Karolina Karasz de Horgos in 1845 and they had two children, Nicholas (Miklós) and Celestine (Celesztina). By 1847, the revolutions were in full swing and many of his friends had been exiled or executed. As a captain in the national guard, he took only a small part in the revolution. Unlike Lajos Kossuth, leader of the Hungarian Revolutions of 1848 -1849, he came to America as an immigrant with a visa from the Austrian embassy in Brussels. Fejervary decided on the “West” as a place to settle his family. He did not like the commercial East nor the institution of slavery in the South, so he and his wife moved to Iowa, where opportunities were seemingly limitless.

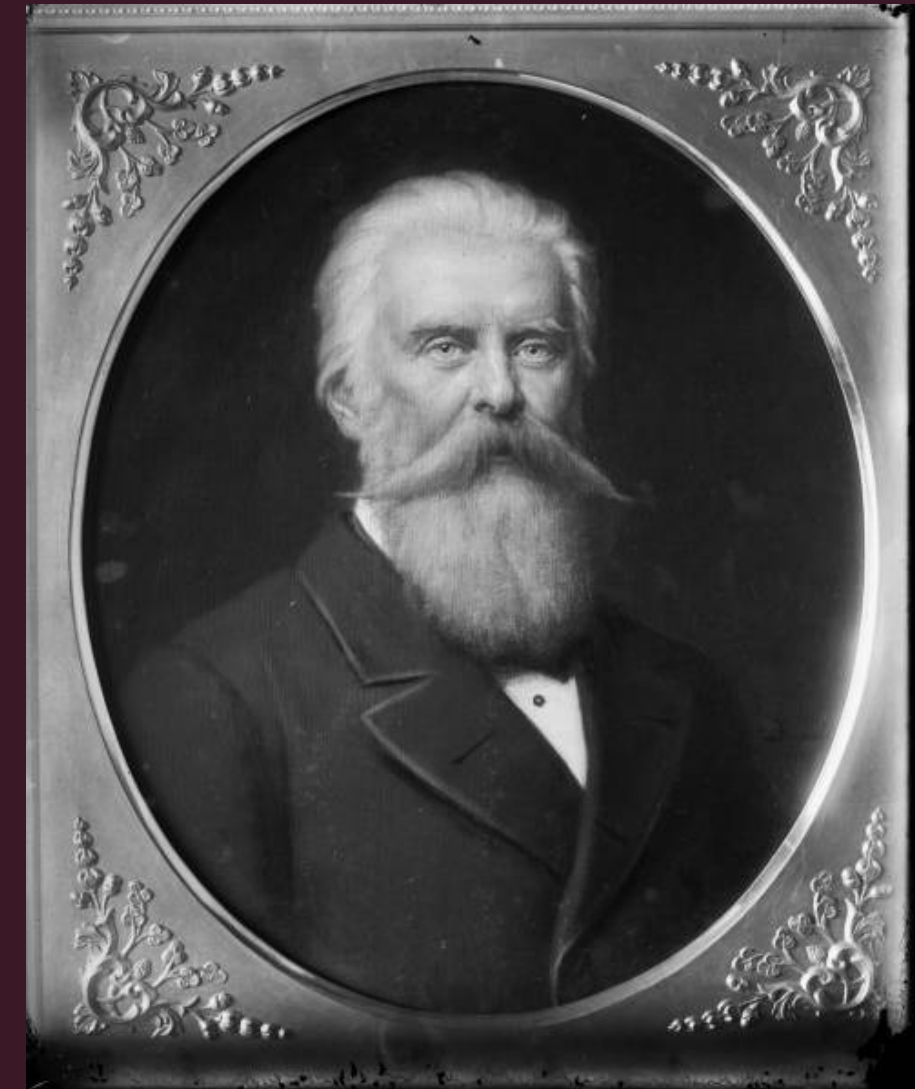
After first living in a home at Second and Perry Streets, they bought land on the bluffs of the Mississippi River, now Fejervary Park. At this location, the Fejérvárys welcomed fellow Hungarian exiles and refugees. Their son, Nicholas, enlisted in the Union Army at the outbreak of the Civil War and died in battle at age 17.

In his later years, Fejérváry led a quiet life. He made a fortune in real estate and was able to support many local charities and causes with his philanthropy. He was a member of the Cook Home for Aged Women and established a counterpart—the Fejervary Home for Aged Farmers. He was an outstanding linguist who mastered Hungarian, German, and English, but he was also familiar with Latin and the other Romance languages.

Fejérváry remained in Davenport for the rest of his life. In 1859, he received a letter from Lajos Kossuth urging him to return to Hungary and assist with the “struggle for liberty.” Fejérváry ignored this plea, believing that independence would not be possible for Hungary during that time. Fejérváry died on September 19th, 1895 at the age of 84. His wife, Karolina, had passed away five years earlier in 1890.



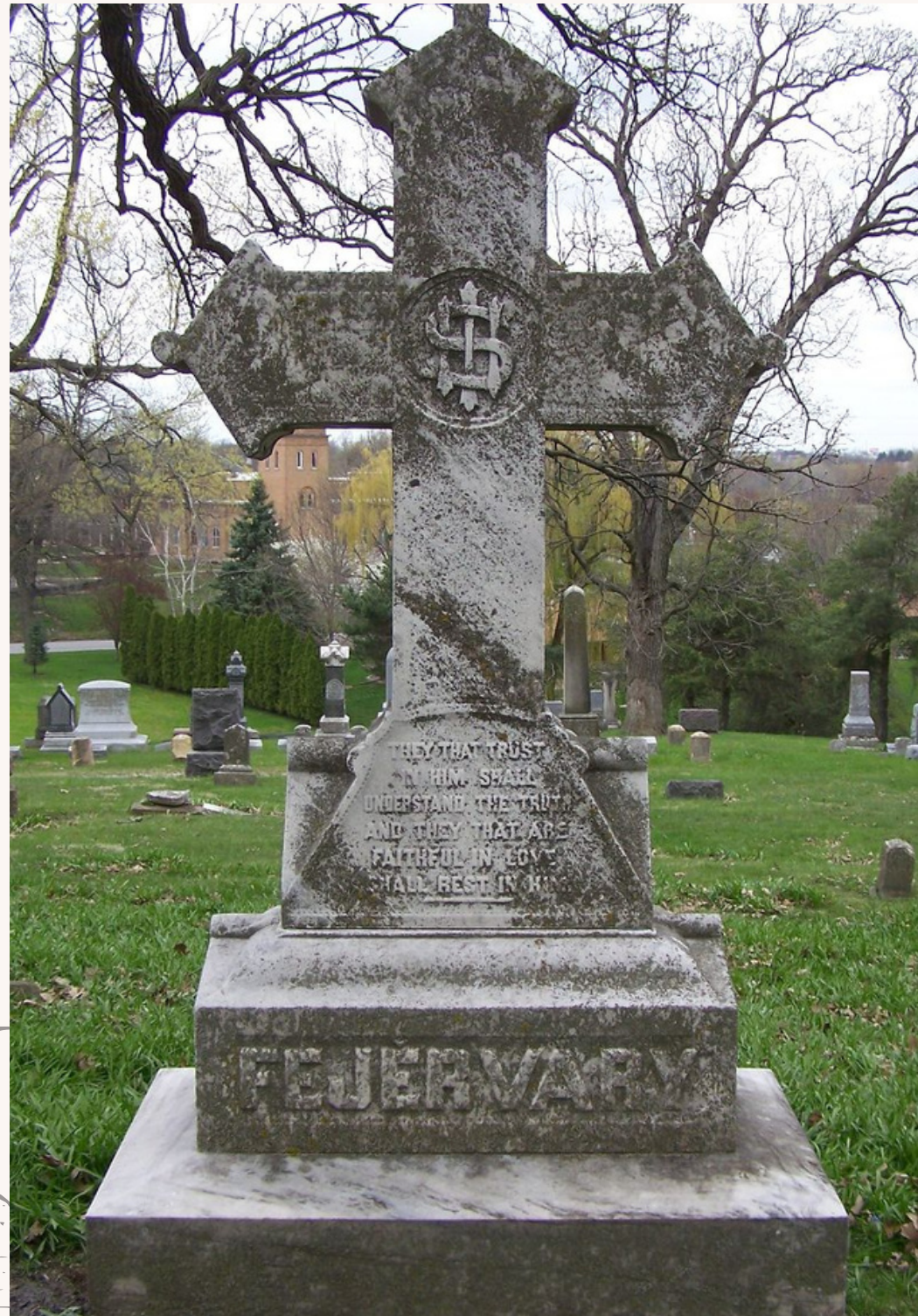
Photograph of Count Fejérváry's home and greenhouse on hill to the left. There is a garden in the foreground. c. 1913.
Upper Mississippi Valley Digital Image Archive, Putnam Museum and Science Center.



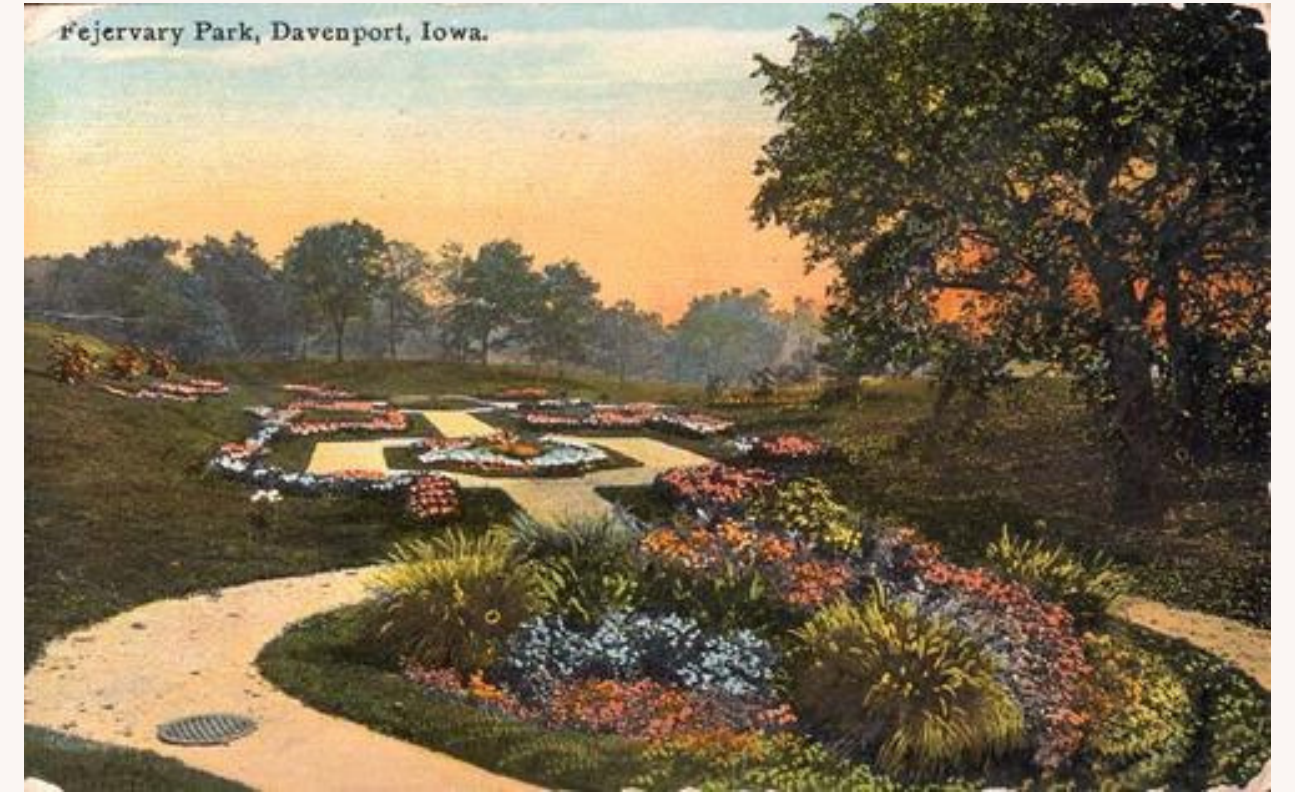
Count Nicholas Fejérváry, image is a reproduction of a painting c. 1910.
Upper Mississippi Valley Digital Image Archive, Davenport Public Library Richardson-Sloane Special Collections.

Celestine Fejerváry

Their only surviving child, Celestine, inherited her father's land and assets. She returned to Hungary and continued a life of philanthropy as her father had done. She donated the estate and land to the city of Davenport to be used as a park. To this day, Fejervary Park is still open and maintained. The Fejerváry home was torn down in the mid-1930s and the park added new amenities such as an aquatic center and zoo. The zoo closed in 2008, but the park remains open to the public. The only original building that is still standing is the carriage barn.



Nicholas Fejerváry's grave in Oakdale Memorial Gardens, Davenport, Iowa.
Photo by Christine Masterson, 2011.



Postcard of Fejervary Park, c. 1913. Rock Island Post Card Co. (Rock Island, Illinois.)



Fejervary Park entrance present day.

MARY KATHERINE HORONY

"Big Nose Kate"

Mary Katherine Horony, or “Big Nose Kate,” was an interesting character among the "Hidden Habsburgs" who immigrated to Davenport. She was born in 1849 in the Kingdom of Hungary, present-day Slovakia. Her father was a physician and he had two children with his first wife, and then seven children with his second wife, Kate Horony being the oldest of the seven. Their son Imre died as an infant in 1857 while the family was still in Hungary. Horony came to the United States with her family in 1860. The ten of them sailed to New York City and settled in Davenport, Iowa around 1862. They were drawn to the area due to the high number of German settlers and lesser known Hungarian population. They made their home in a modest structure across the street from Washington Square Park, on the southwest corner of Second Street and Western Avenue in Davenport. The park was a gathering space and cultural hub for German immigrants in the area surrounded by German newspapers, grocers, cigar stores, and a nearby lumber mill. It is now the site across the street from the German American Heritage Center.

Horony's parents died from illness within a month of each other in 1865. They were buried in Davenport City Cemetery on Rockingham Road where many early German-speaking immigrants were given last rites. Her older half siblings were young adults by this time and were settled in their lives. Horony was about 16 and her younger siblings were between the ages of six and thirteen. These younger children were placed in a foster home with Otto Smith, a German immigrant who worked as real estate agent and attorney. Horony did not like the living arrangements; there were rumors that Smith assaulted her or attempted to rape her. She soon ran away from these conditions and eventually stowed away on the Mississippi steamship *Ulysses*. St. Louis was her home for a short period of time before she took to a life of travel and eventually sex work. Her whereabouts were often unknown and she went by different names and aliases during this time. In 1874 she resurfaced; she worked at a brothel in Dodge City, Kansas, run by Nellie “Bessie” Earp, the wife of James Earp. The Earp brothers would later appear in Kate's life.



Photo of Mary Katherine Horony c. 1890.



Kate Horony (left) and younger sister Wilhelmina c. 1865. Horony was approximately 15 when this photo was taken.



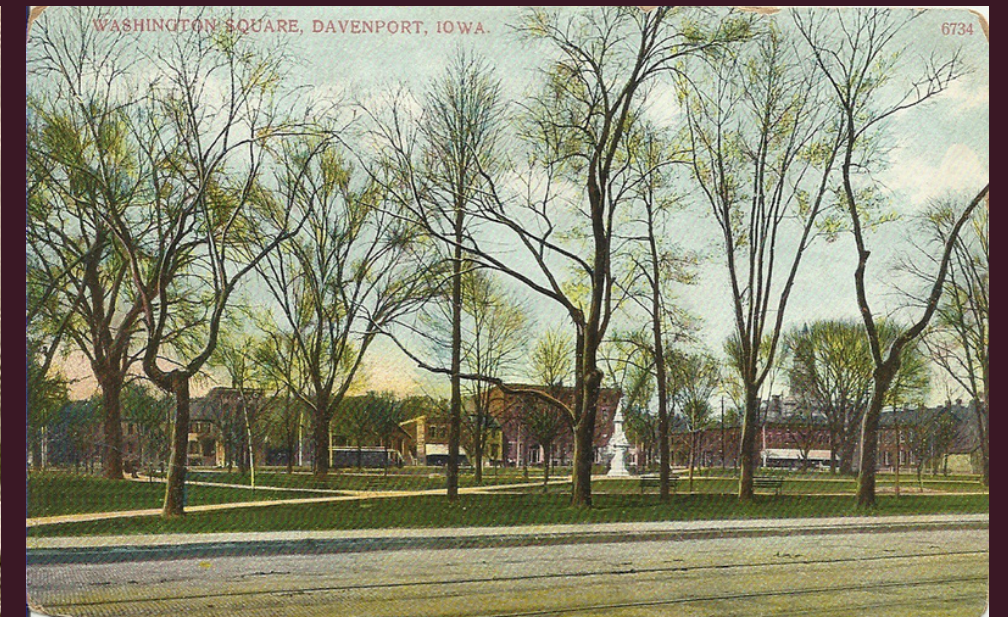
Photos of Kate Horony, years unknown.



Horony drifted to Texas and in 1877 she met John Henry Holliday, better known as “Doc Holliday,” dentist, professional gambler, and gunfighter. They became close and had an on-again, off-again relationship for years. Holliday became her common-law spouse and together they traveled around the United States. Their relationship was toxic, filled with screaming matches, but they always made up shortly after.

Doc Holliday was good friends with Wyatt Earp and his brothers. Wyatt Earp was born in Monmouth, Illinois, worked in law enforcement, and was also a gambler, like Holliday. Earp and Holliday spent a lot of time together and are well-known for being involved at the O.K. Corral gunfight in 1881. Kate Horony claimed she witnessed this event, but this is unsubstantiated. She was not called as a witness in the aftermath of the event, but she wrote a letter to her niece years later explaining her memory of the event. This letter was written when Horony was 89 years old; its validity is suspect.

Doc Holliday died from tuberculosis in 1887, and in 1890, Horony married George Cummings. He was a blacksmith and they worked in mining camps together. He became an abusive alcoholic and Horony left him in 1899. She moved around Arizona and worked as a housekeeper before settling at the Arizona Pioneers' Home in 1931. She was one of the first female residents of the home and was not afraid to advocate for the other residents. She sought fair living conditions and comfort for the residents of the home. She was also adamant about writing letters to the Arizona government with her requests. She died in 1940 and is buried in the Arizona Pioneers' Home Cemetery. Horony never returned to Davenport, but connected with some of her siblings and relatives in her later years. Her sister Wilhelmina stayed in Scott County and raised her family here. Her other siblings moved to places like Texas, California, and New York.



Washington Square Park, Davenport Iowa c. 1900. The Horony Family lived adjacent to the park in the 1860s.

ANZELM ALBERT

1819-1893

Anzelm Albert was born in 1819, the son of an Austrian military officer. As a child he lived in Pest. After graduating from military schools in Graz and Vienna, he served 14 years in the Austrian army, leaving as a first lieutenant. At the start of the 1848 revolution, he joined the Hungarian army and served as a major and general's chief of staff. After the army lost the battle of Timisoara (Romania), he and others fled to Bulgaria where they were captured and held in a mill. When it was set on fire, he and his comrades were saved by General Józef Bem's troops. General Bem was a war hero and supporter of the 1848 Revolutions. Bem was revered for his courage and heroism. In Hungarian, he is often referred to affectionately as Bem apó, which means "Grandpa Bem" or "Old man Bem."

Albert entered Turkish military service and converted to Islam to keep his rank. Later, he came to America via France, landing in New Orleans in 1851. After a short stay in St. Louis, he moved to Davenport where he was a shipping agent before buying a farm in the area. After a few years, he moved to Omaha and then returned to St. Louis in 1859.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, he served as captain in the 3rd Missouri Infantry Regiment, later becoming chief of staff for General Sigel as a lieutenant colonel. At Wilson's Creek he was severely wounded, exchanged as a prisoner, and recovered. Later he joined General Fremont's staff as Chief of the Mountain Department in Virginia.

In 1864, he and General Fremont left military service. Colonel Albert then focused on his business career in St. Louis, becoming president of a bank. After losing his money through unfortunate circumstances, he worked on the editorial staff of the *Amerika* newspaper. Later, he became city tax assessor, a post he held for years until he retired for health reasons. He died on November 20, 1893.



General Alexander Asboth with his staff in the Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark., March 6th and 8th, 1862.
First from the left is the Hungarian Colonel Anzelm Albert.

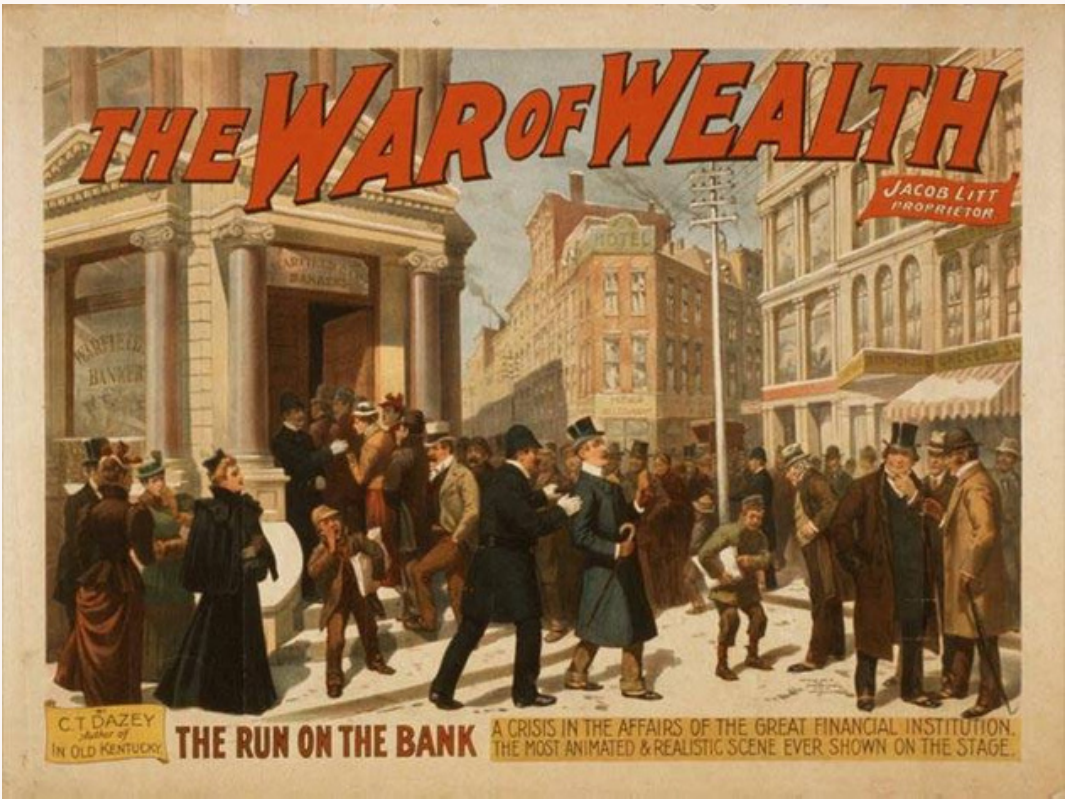
From *Lincoln's Hungarian Heroes: The Participation of Hungarians in the Civil War 1861-1865*.
Edmund Vasvary. 1939. pg. 24.

DR. IGNATIUS LANGER

1816-1879

Originally from Arad, present-day Romania, Dr. Ignatius Langer studied medicine in Vienna. He worked as a staff doctor in the Revolutionary Army in 1848 to 1849. After the failed Revolution, he was forced to flee Europe and traveled to the United States. His traveling papers documented him as a “servant” for one of his friends. He opened a practice in Davenport where he emphasized the importance of prevention rather than curative medicine. After several years, he ended his medical practice and began operating a farm on 2,000 acres of land near Duck Creek. His timing was unfortunate because of the Panic of 1857 in banking followed by crop failures in 1858 and 1859. These crises financially ruined Dr. Langer as well as many farmers across the country.

When duty called in 1861, Dr. Langer served in the American Civil War as a physician in the Army of the Potomac. After the war, Dr. Langer returned to Europe and lived in Vienna and Arad. He was active in philanthropy and was regarded as a good man. He died in Arad in 1879.



Americans ran to withdraw their money from the failing banks in this poster called "The War of Wealth." The Panic of 1857 led to a severe economic depression in the United States which lasted three years.

"The war of wealth," 1895. Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress.

Dist of all Passengers taken on board the Bremen Ship, Columbia, whereof S. J. Gerger is Master, at the Port of Bremen and bound for NEW-ORLEANS.

NAMES.	AGE.	SEX.	OCCUPATION.	Country to which they belong.	Country of which they intend to reside.	Number that have died on the voyage.
Klaus, Ad. Rosewald	21	Youngman	merchant	Leipzig, Prussia	St. Louis	
Leop. Rosch, Adm.	28	22	do	Leipzig	do	
Fritz, Albert	24	do	Apothecary	Hannover	St. Louis	
Aug. Dietrich, Reich	22	do	merchant	Leipzig	do	
Heinr. Kampff	23	do	do	Leipzig	do	
Ignatz Langer	30	do	Doctor	Vienna	St. Louis	
Samuel Hirschl	40	father	merchant	do	do	
Therese	do	30	mother	do	do	
Clemens	do	7	son	do	do	
Pauline	do	5	daughter	do	do	
Julius	do	4	son	do	do	
Felix	do	2 1/2	do	do	do	
Lajos	do	3 1/2	do	do	do	
Adolf Engel	36	Youngman	merchant	Vienna	St. Louis	
Josephine, Adm.	33	Singl.	do	do	do	
do	do	do	Steward	do	do	

In the passenger records from the ship to New Orleans from Bremen, Germany, it seems that Dr. Langer was with Samuel Hirschl and his family, circa 1850.

"Ignatz" Langer, a doctor, age 30, was headed for St. Louis. Immediately below his entry, Samuel Hirschl, his wife Therese, and their children Clemens, Pauline, Julius, Felix, and Lajos were listed and headed for St. Louis as well.



HEINRICH RAMMING

c. 1829-1865

Heinrich Ramming was a native of Hungary who had become an officer in the Austrian army. He migrated with five members of the Kehrmann family and three other Hungarians from the city-state of Bremen.

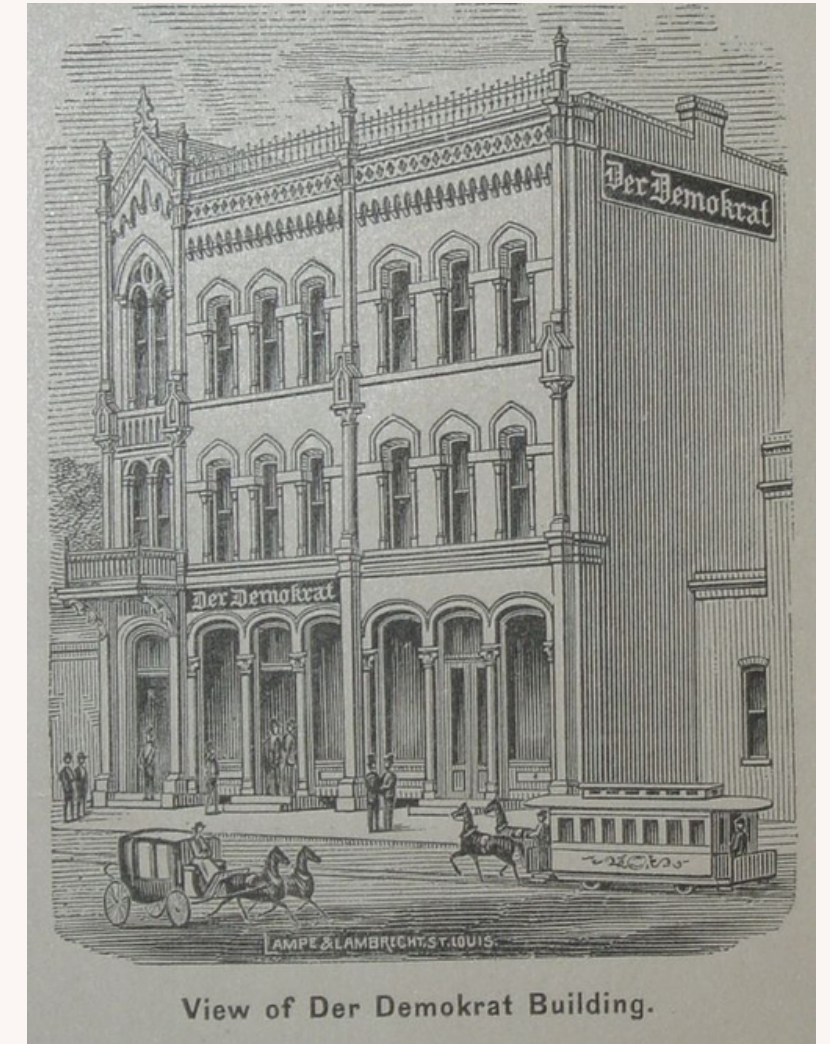
Ramming arrived in Davenport, Iowa in late 1855. He was in his early 20s and was soon hired by the German language newspaper, Der Demokrat. He was Associate Editor, working for four years under the flamboyant writer and editor, Theodore Olshausen. He sublet a room in Theodor Gülich's apartment located on West Third Street across from Davenport's Washington Square Park. Gulich was a prominent revolutionary, known as an 1848er, who had represented the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein at the parliamentary meeting in Frankfurt. He had supported their failed attempt at creating a free and independent republic.

Ramming represented the second ward in the Davenport City Council from 1857 to 1861, while Gülich had been Alderman from 1860 to 1861. There was divisive partisanship in eastern Iowa as the three editors of the major newspapers debated and argued over implementing the reform agenda in Iowa which had failed in Europe.

In 1861, Iowa Governor Kirkwood appointed Ramming to a Committee of Five, which on April 17, 1861, publicly announced major resolutions. One of the resolutions was that Iowa support the federal government against the assault of treason. Ramming then enlisted on June 17, 1861 in Friedrich Hecker's Jaeger Regiment, 24th Illinois, which was centered around Belleville, Illinois, 10 miles east of St. Louis. He served until his death on November 17, 1865.



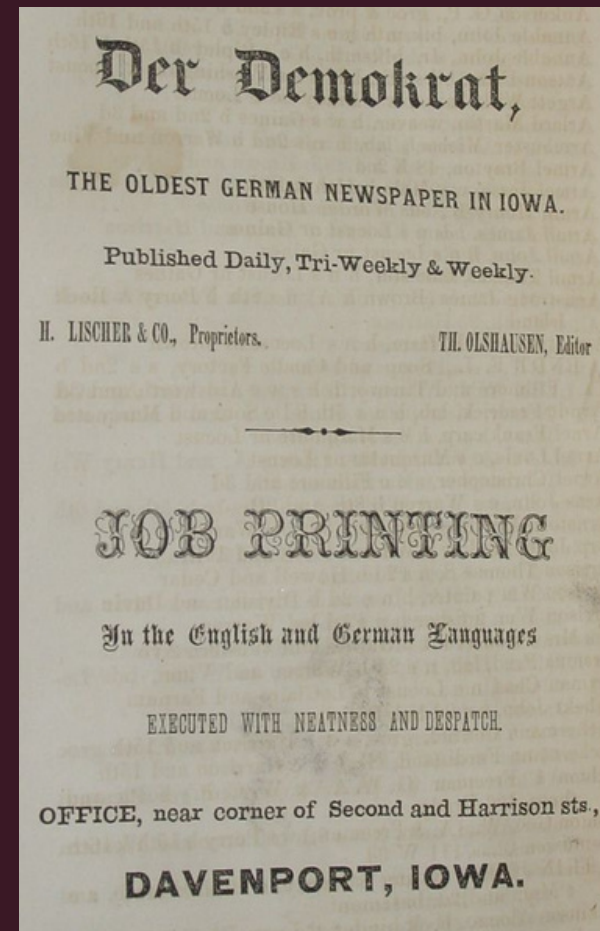
Photograph of Der Demokrat building, date unknown.



Der Demokrat building located at 207 W. Third Street in Davenport. This rendition is from 1878.



View of 4th street in Davenport between Main and Harrison Streets. H. Lischer Printing Co., publishers of Der Demokrat newspaper can be seen on the right. c. 1912



Der Demokrat was founded as a weekly journal beginning in November of 1851 by Theodor Gülich. In 1856, Lischer and Olhausen purchased the paper. Der Demokrat was a strong and loyal supporter of the principles and institutions of the United States and allies during World War I. Unfortunately, the paper ended publication forever on September 7, 1918, due to the strong anti-German sentiment of the time. According to the publisher's statement on the first page of the final issue, it was "Prejudice against everything printed in German," that was responsible for the decision to suspend the paper until peace could be restored. The intention was for the suspension to be temporary but it would never be published again. In 1918, Iowa was the only state in the Union to outlaw the speaking of any language other than English in public.



Six of the eleven Rombauer children.

TIVADAR "THEODORE" ROMBAUER 1803-1855

Tivadar Rombauer was born in 1803 in Lőcse, now Levoča, Slovakia. As a young adult he enrolled in a mining academy and studied forestry. He graduated in 1825 and married Bertha Rombauer in 1827. Rombauer and his wife Bertha had 11 children, three of which died during the revolutions in Hungary.

A skilled laborer, he worked with machinery at an iron foundry where he found much success. Notably, his factory received an award in 1842 at the First National Industry Exhibition that was organized by Lajos Kossuth.

Rombauer and Kossuth became close friends. Kossuth invited him to be a staff member of the first independent government formed by Kossuth in 1848. Conflicts arose due to Rombauer's role in politics and his position as the new head of the factory. After the Surrender at Világos, which marked the end of the Hungarian Revolution of 1848, Rombauer, Kossuth, and many others were forced to flee. They concocted disguises in order to avoid recognition and capture.

Rombauer fled to America with his wife and eight remaining children. They settled on a farm outside of Davenport, Iowa. However, their farm was not prosperous, so the family moved to the city where there were large numbers of German, Hungarian, and other immigrants. Rombauer became a co-editor at Der Demokrat, the German-language newspaper. The newspaper was an outlet for revolutionary thought, which made for a good fit for Rombauer. Unfortunately his tenure working for the paper was not long, he died at the age of 52 in 1855.

Rombauer and his eldest daughter Berta are buried in City Cemetery in Davenport under the names Theodore and Bertha. The rest of his children grew to be successful and have families of their own. They relocated to areas including Missouri, Tennessee, and California.



Sample of Der Demokrat title page, 1863.

FELIX SPELLETICH

1815-1890

AND DESCENDANTS

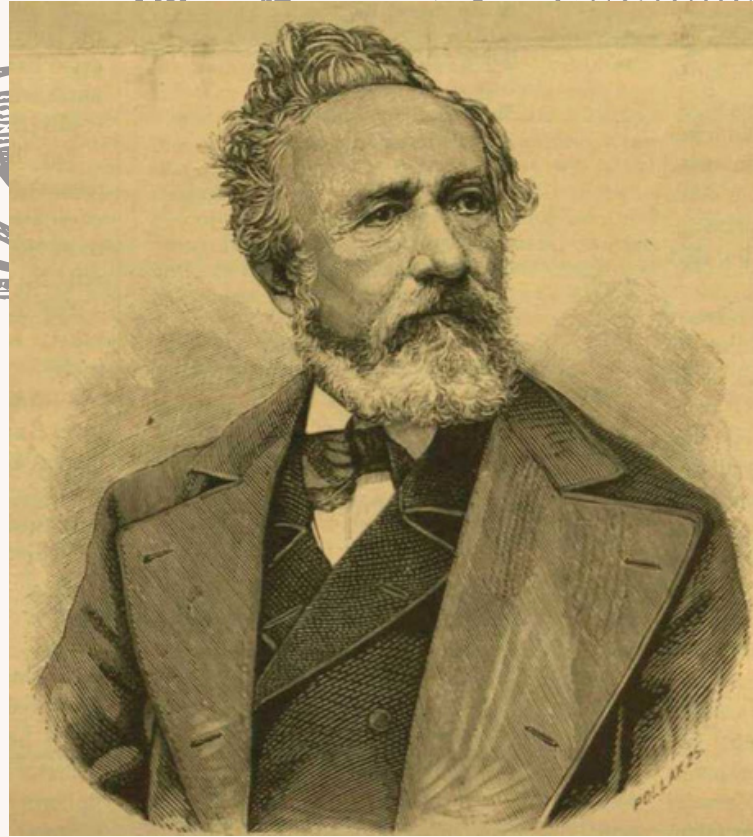
Felix Spelletich was born Bódog Spelletich in 1815 and later anglicized his name to “Felix.” He was a native of Hungary and a follower of Lajos Kossuth during the 1848 revolutions. At one time, he was the governor of a southern province in Hungary. He was a Commissary of the Hungarian Government under Kossuth but his involvement in the revolutionary groups led to his imprisonment and he suffered poor treatment. Eventually he managed to escape imprisonment by wearing a disguise and fled to England. Soon after, he planned to immigrate to America with his family and settle as a farmer. In 1851, he arrived in New York with forty-six other Hungarian refugees. Spelletich and his family came to Scott County and established a farm. He and his wife Pauline raised their three sons and two daughters on the farm. Unfortunately, their son Adam died unexpectedly in 1863 at the age of 16. In 1867, Spelletich, his wife, and two daughters returned to Hungary after the revolutions had died down. Here he remained until his death in 1890.

Spelletich's two remaining sons, Stephen (István) and Michael, remained in Scott County. Stephen joined the military at the age of 18 and served with the 2nd Infantry Regiment of Iowa in the Union Army. He was a highly respected soldier and came to be known as the hero of Fort Donelson after an act of bravery during the siege of Fort Donelson. He was given an award by Major General H. W. Halleck and received special recognition by Governor Samuel Kirkwood of Iowa. Stephen died of unknown causes in 1868 at the age of 24 and was buried on the family farm with his brother Adam.

Michael Spelletich lived the rest of his life in Scott County and became a highly prominent and respected figure in the community. He served as justice of the peace and was also a member of the school board. Michael married Isabelle Stevens and they had a son, Kalman Spelletich, on January 25, 1885. Kalman grew up to be a prominent citizen in Scott County, living up to his family's name. Michael was buried at Oakdale Cemetery in Davenport. His brothers' graves were later moved to this location.

Felix's grandson, Kalman Spelletich, was an industrial leader and became the head of the Gordon-Van Tine Company. The Gordon-Van Tine Company specialized in construction materials and ready cut materials for homes. Davenport was once an important center for lumber manufacturing. The Gordon-Van Tine Company became a national corporation operating all over the United States. The Gordon-Van Tine historic district is east of Downtown Davenport. Two of the buildings have since been converted into apartment complexes.

Kalman Spelletich married Hilda Von Korff, whose family was of German nobility. They had four children and raised them in Scott County. In addition to his work with Gordon-Van Tine, Kalman Spelletich was active in the community. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Outing Club, one of the founders of the Country Club, was on the vestry of Trinity Cathedral, and trustee of St. Katherine's School. Kalman died at age 73 in 1959. He lived in the McClellan Heights neighborhood of Davenport at the time of his death and was buried at Oakdale Cemetery. His children remained in the Quad Cities area, but he now has descendants across the United States.



Felix Spelletich illustration by Zsigmond Pollák, prior to 1890.



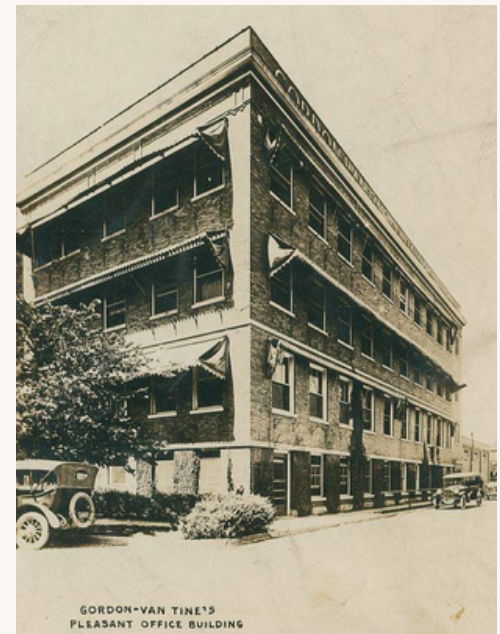
The "Devonshire" which was the ship the Spelletich Family took from England to New York City in 1851.



Gordon Van Tine Company Advertisement c. 1916.



Gordon Van Tine buildings present day. The buildings are now apartments.



Gordon Van Tine Office Building c. 1926.

OTHER NOTABLE HIDDEN HABSBURGS

Dr. Mihály Horony

Dr. Mihály Horony, Big Nose Kate's father, immigrated to Iowa ten years after the revolution in Europe. They lived in a small brick house on the southwest end of Second Street and Western Avenue, where in April of 1865, he died suddenly of a stroke while working in his flower and vegetable garden. The doctor had a son, Victor, a barber-surgeon, who married the daughter of another barber-surgeon. They moved to Omaha, where she died soon after. Purportedly, Victor was vain and made poor decisions. After finding himself single, he allegedly used arsenic to improve his looks. This ruined his health and shattered his nerves and he turned to drinking. His alcoholism led to his suicide by ingesting strychnine, which is a highly toxic poison.

Alexander Feher

Alexander Feher was from Hungary and immigrated to the United States through New York. He worked professionally as a carpenter and builder. He immigrated in 1852 and worked on the construction of the first railroad bridge across the Mississippi which was completed in 1856.

Joseph Kovacs

Joseph Kovacs was captured as an officer in the revolution and came to Davenport after several years of imprisonment. He died here in very humble circumstances. His brother Martin left Davenport for St. Louis, where he established a pharmacy.



Franz Ineze

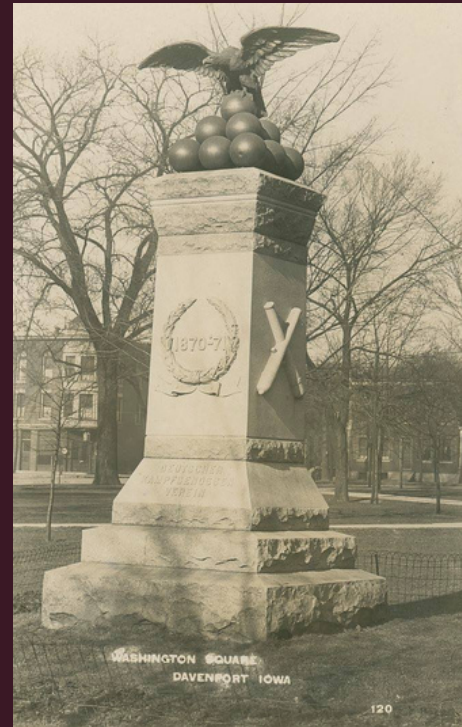
Franz Ineze was born in 1828. He came on the sailing ship with Kossuth to America in 1852. After several years in Cincinnati, he came to Scott County in 1856 and purchased a farm on Middle Road, two miles east of the city limits at that time. There he had a successful fruit farm. He died on April 1, 1896.

Karl Zerdehelyi

Karl Zerdehelyi, a young Hussar officer, escaped the Austrians and his many debts with a trip to America. He fought in the Civil War as a captain in an Illinois regiment. After the war ended, he entered a regular cavalry regiment as a soldier. Later he secured a position in a registry office in Washington, D.C.

Johann Radnics

Johann Radnics, a captain in the Hungarian artillery, was a tutor for the family of Felix Spelletich in Hickory Grove and later a farmer. In 1859, he joined Garibaldi's free corps and after the amnesty returned to Hungary. His brother Paul, also an artillery officer, participated in an insurrection in Cuba, was captured and placed in Spanish captivity at Centa. After his release he came to America and found the colony of his fellow countrymen in New Buda, Iowa (Decatur County).



Prussian war monument in Washington Square Park, Davenport. It was erected in 1907 to commemorate German victories in the Franco-Prussian war by German-Americans. The monument was removed in 1918.

Franz Ammon

Franz Ammon was a state assemblyman and a quartermaster officer in the Revolutionary Army at the time of Hungary's declaration of independence. After his arrival in Davenport, he purchased an entire section of land (640 acres) in Liberty Township. He had neither farming nor business talent and went bankrupt due to unsuccessful enterprises. He regretted his time in Iowa and returned to Hungary in 1867.



Original Lady Germania Fountain in Washington Square Park, Davenport. This was removed during WWI due to anti-German sentiment.



Washington Park or Washington Gardens, was a popular tavern to spend time and socialize, a favorite among Germans in the neighborhood. Located at 13th and Marquette Streets in Davenport, it is still operational as a bar today and is on the National Register of Historic Places.



WHY WERE THEY HIDDEN?

Immigrants from the Habsburg Empire Overlooked and Overlapped

Although the immigrants who came in the 19th century from various parts of the Austrian Empire were lesser known than their counterpart German 48ers, they had two things in common: the German language and the desire to live in a democratic society, free of class structures and systemic oppression. Their dissatisfaction with the results of the 1848 revolutions throughout Europe was the political “push” these groups shared. With this exhibit we wish to highlight not only their contributions to our community and region but also to emphasize how immigrants past and present enrich the American mosaic.

We describe them as “hidden” because many newspapers, books, and other historical documents inaccurately refer to these immigrants from the Habsburg Empire as “German.” The Germans were so dominant, especially in the west end of Davenport and farm fields of Scott County, that it was easy and convenient to group all of these people together into one category. Many of these Hungarian and Austrian immigrants found success in industries where German immigrants were also successful and prolific—banking, publishing, and agriculture.

The immigrants from the Habsburg Empire also had the unique opportunity to return to their homeland, which many of them did. Revolutionaries were granted amnesty beginning in 1867 and would not be punished for any revolutionary involvement if they decided to return to Austria-Hungary. This was not an option for many immigrants from German duchies, like Schleswig-Holstein.

The similarities between these populations led to merging them together and simply referring to them all as German. Intense research, examination of primary sources, and dedication to finding these individuals reveals a more complex story than we once knew. Ultimately, the history of these citizens from lands ruled by the Habsburgs are no longer hidden.



Fejervary Home for Aged Farmers, c. 1908.

The home and land were donated by Nicholas Fejervary on March 29, 1892.

St. Kunigunda Parish and St. Joseph's Church

Hungarian Influence in Davenport

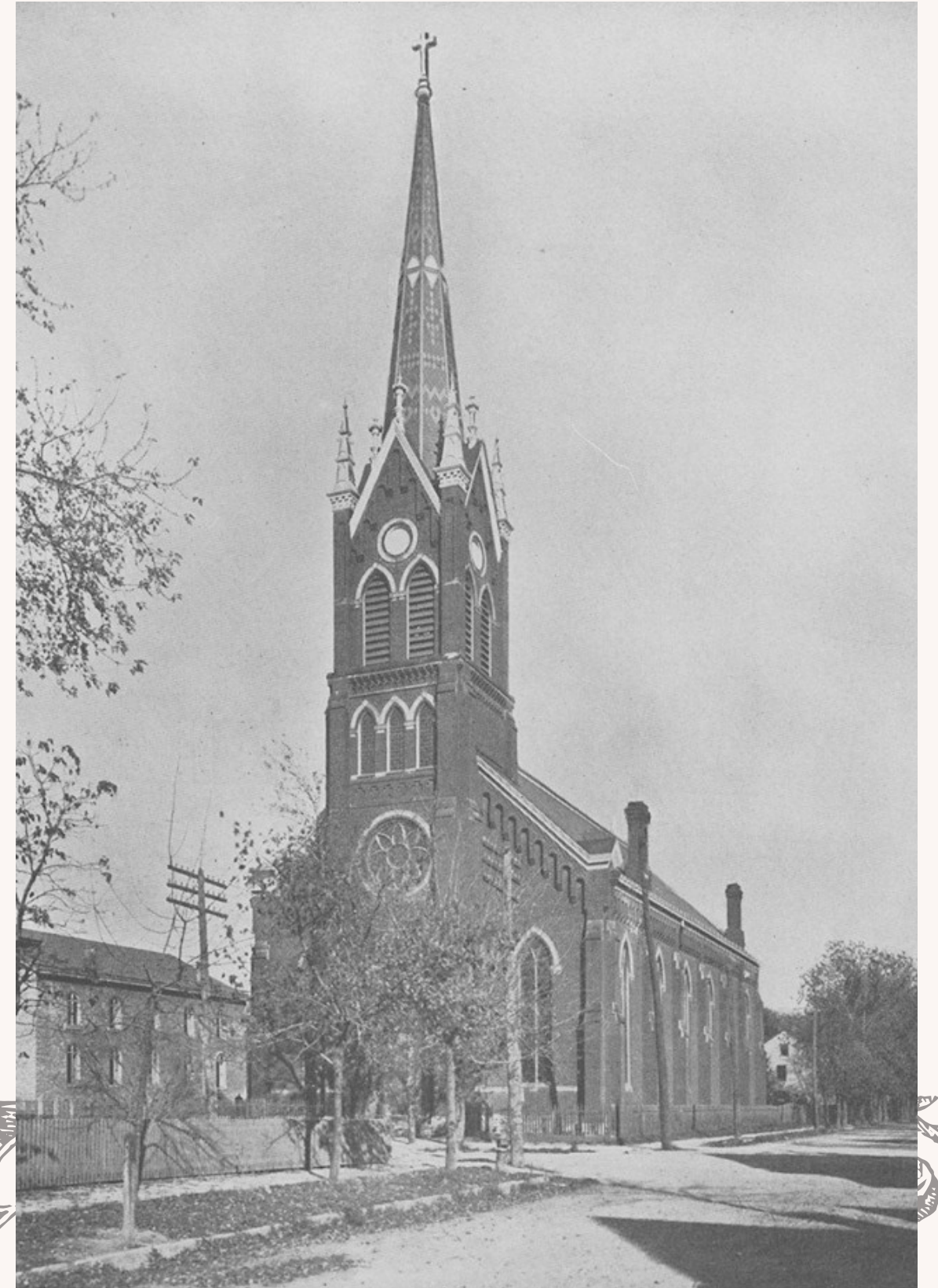
St. Kunigunda's Parish was established in 1855 as part of the Diocese of Dubuque. This Catholic parish aimed to serve the large number of German immigrants who settled in the western side of Davenport. The current structure, located on the corner of Sixth and Marquette Streets, was built in 1881 around the same time the Diocese of Davenport was established. It was also at this time that they changed the name to St. Joseph's Parish. The beautiful gothic revival architecture makes the church an iconic part of west Davenport. The tall, slender, steeple is recognizable and a dominant part of the neighborhood.

Over the years the church has transformed and adjusted to meet the needs of its community. The German immigrant community became less prominent by the 1960s and services were held in English and Spanish to accommodate the growing Mexican-American community in the 1970s. Eventually, the diocese closed the church and school in 1999 due to low numbers. The building has changed hands a number of times since then, but it has remained with religious and non-profit groups.

It is thought that St. Kunigunda Parish received its name from Kunigunda of Halych, who was the Queen and Regent of Bohemia from 1278 until her death in 1285. She was married to King Ottokar II of Bohemia in 1261 and they reigned together until his death in 1278. Kunigunda's only son Wenceslaus II ruled the Kingdom of Bohemia and also succeeded in obtaining Poland and Hungary. Ultimately, she is one of the pivotal ancestors of both the House of Luxembourg and the Habsburgs.

It is also possible that the church was named after St. Cunigunde (Kunigunde) of Luxembourg. She was Empress of the Holy Roman Empire by marriage to Holy Roman Emperor Saint Henry II. She was crowned in the year 1002, which was the first known crowning of a German Queen. After the death of her husband, she joined the Order of Saint Benedict and remained with them for the rest of her life. St. Kunigunda is the patroness of Luxembourg, Lithuania, Poland, and the Archdiocese of Bamberg, Germany.

St. Joseph's Church, 1903. Originally St. Kunigunda Parish, the name has Hungarian roots and served the German population of Davenport in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The structure is still located at 6th and Marquette Streets in Davenport.



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH — DAVENPORT.

