

Mr. Hoffman was first employed as an ice cutter on the Illinois River. The country around was mainly owned by Indians and Mr. Hoffman witnessed the growth of the United States from the last period of Indian warfare, during the Civil War, through World War I, and into the early years of the second great European conflict beginning in 1939.

Living to the age of 97, his experiences as a living part of progressive America were numerous and interesting, and he thrilled his great-grandchildren with tales out of the past.

At intervals during the trip from Peoria to Maroa, farmers would come out of their homes to investigate the "strangers," with guns to the shoulder, thinking that perhaps the travelers were belligerent Indians.

Later in his lifetime, Mr. Hoffman owned a number of farms, in Idaho, where he took up a claim, in Iowa, and Illinois. He also moved to Long Beach California with his second wife.