

Nicholas Hoffman Jr., was born on February 12, 1845, at Hessen Darmstadt, Germany. He is a son of Nicholas and Margaret (Hines) Hoffman. Nicholas Hoffman Sr. came to the United States in 1853 with his family. They sailed from Bremen and had a very long and stormy passage, being on the water nearly three months. At the end of this journey they landed in New York and came at once to Illinois, locating at Peoria. Here they remained the first winter and the father worked with his brother-in-law. In the spring he engaged in farming for himself, renting a farm near Peoria and there continued for eight years. At the expiration of that time he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land in Peoria county, called Pottstown, and this he improved and put under cultivation, creating a good and substantial home and erected a comfortable house. Here he continued until his death, which occurred when he was sixty-eight years of age. His wife Anna died when she was ninety years of age, in 1899, in Macon county, Illinois. Nicholas was one of five children born to his parents and the third in order of birth. Five of these children are still living. Nicholas Hoffman was a Democrat in politics and both parents were members of the Catholic church.