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**JOEL B. BASSETT,
PIONEER OF CITY,
IS DEAD IN WEST**

One of Minneapolis' Founders,
First County Probate Judge,
Succumbs.

**OLD FARM IS NOW
NEAR CITY'S CENTER**

Was Early Lumberman and Ac-
tive in Milling Industry—
Was 95 Years Old.

Joel B. Bassett, one of the founders of Minneapolis, died at midnight last night at Los Angeles, Cal. A telegram to this effect was received today from W. L. Bassett, his son, by L. P. Dollif, who has been looking after his business in Minneapolis.

Mr. Bassett came to Minnesota in 1851, first to St. Anthony, and took one of the first claims on the west side of the river, just north of Bassett's creek, which bears his name. He settled on this claim in 1852, and that fall was elected the first probate judge of Hennepin county. In after years he was always known as Judge Bassett. He was always active in politics and in civic affairs until his retirement from active business in 1896. He was one of the pioneer lumbermen of Minnesota, and his name is closely woven into the history of early Minneapolis, in business and in politics.

Mrs. Bassett died a number of years ago, and W. L. Bassett, his son, is the only surviving child.

Mr. Bassett was born in New Hampshire March 15, 1818, and would have been 94 years old had he lived a few weeks longer. He had been a resident of Los Angeles for the last six years, coming back each year for a short visit until last year.

Interested in Lands.

In 1853 Joel B. Bassett's name appears as one of the incorporators of the first Hennepin County Agricultural society. In 1854 he was elected to the territorial legislature on the Whig ticket, and in 1855 he was one of the founders of the republican party in Minneapolis and Minnesota. Shortly after this, however, he became active in the lumber business. As Minneapolis grew his farm became too valuable to keep, and in 1857 he sold 140 acres for \$250 to Willard D. Orland and A. Bradford, to be platted into city lots as part of Case, Bassett & Moore's addition.

Mr. Bassett built a sawmill on the river at the foot of Bassett's creek, and began to operate heavily in timber in the Rain river valley, under the name of J. B. Bassett & Co. Later he built a waterpower mill on the site of what was later the west side pumping station, adjoining St. Anthony Falls. He sold it to the city for a pumping station in 1878, for \$18,000, and moved the mill to an adjoining site, where he continued to operate, Isaac Olpatrick being associated with him. In 1892 the mill was rebuilt as a steam mill, using the first band saw ever installed in Minneapolis, and the company changed to the J. B. Bassett Lumber company.

Founder of Flour Mill.

Mr. Bassett became interested in the flour business as a founder of the Columbian Mill company, later merged into the Consolidated Milling company, in which he became a stockholder. He retired from the lumber business and from all active business in 1896.

Always a sturdy, uncompromising character, Mr. Bassett was a strong force in city affairs. He took a prominent part many times in opposing large municipal expenses, championing the interests of taxpayers. He was prominent in the old Board of Trade, and was its president for some years. His brother, Daniel Bassett, also prominent for many years in the city's life, died a few years ago, and when Isaac Atwater passed away, the only one of Mr. Bassett's former associates and friends left was Calhoun D. Dorr, another pioneer lumberman who still resides in Minneapolis.

Mr. Bassett lived at his friends' that when he came to locate his home, stood, he looked first at a piece about at Tenth street and Park avenue, but decided it was too small. He lived for a number of years in a house adjoining Immigrant Convention church on Third street N., but later moved to Nicollet street, occupying a home on Grove street during his later years in the city.

Recent definite information has been received as to burial, but it is expected that the body will be brought back to Minneapolis, and that the last services and interment will take place in this city.