

Heine, Friedrich Wilhelm b.3-25-1845 in Leipzig, d. 8-26-1921 in Milwaukee. As a young man, Heine studied at the art school in Weimar and soon afterwards accompanied the Austrian army as a war artist during the 1866 war with Prussia. He later served in a similar capacity during the Franco-Prussian War, contributing sketches to the Gartenlaube, a well known illustrated weekly. He was present when the King of Prussia was proclaimed German emperor at Versailles. Following the war Heine lived in Dresden, where his paintings of Battle scenes and other depictions of military life were frequently exhibited. Uniquely qualified to work on panoramas of battle scenes, Heine was the first artist recruited by Lohr and thereafter played a key role in the production of panoramas in Milwaukee. From 1887 to 1890 he was in Partnership with August Lohr for the purpose of continued work on panoramas. At the same time however, he maintained a studio of his own at 59 Oneida Street, where he had his own art school and did commercial art work. From 1891 to 1893 he served as art superintendent for the Hake and Stirn Printing Company, a German language publisher in Milwaukee. His picturesquely furnished studio served as a meeting place for a chapter of the Schlaraffia, a German fraternal organization, which included several of the panorama painters among its members.

Following the Spanish-American War, Heine spent six months in San Francisco working with George Peter and Franz Rohrbeck on a panorama of "The Battle of Manila." He subsequently produced a series of murals depicting church interiors in Jerusalem which were exhibited at the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis. In 1908 he made sketching trips to Door County, Wisconsin and to Muir Woods, California.¹² In May 1921 a few month before his death, the local history museum in Leipzig held an exhibition of Heine's water colors, mainly American landscape studies and views of old Leipzig.¹³ Heine's death was due to poisoning caused by a tainted can of paint.
