

## CHARLES FELTMAN DEAD.

Coney Island Pioneer Who Turned Sandy Wastes Into Pleasure Ground.

Charles Feltman, a pioneer who turned the sandy wastes of Coney Island into a pleasure ground, died yesterday morning at Cassel, Germany. He was born in Verden, Hanover, Germany, in 1841, and came to this country when he was 14 years old. He had at first to work as a laborer in a coal yard and on a farm, but in a little while obtained a job with a baker on Smith Street, South Brooklyn. It was while he was delivering bread along the ocean front that he first dreamt of the possibilities of the site.

He started in business as a baker on Classon Avenue in 1866, and built a large building at Sixth Avenue and Tenth Street before the streets were cut through. As he established himself he applied to one railroad proprietor after another to help him in his grand idea. He suggested to Martin Gunther, President of Gunther's Railroad, and to the Brooklyn & Coney Island Horse Car Road that they should make their service sufficient to enable business men to come down in Summer to the ocean to spend the evening in recreation. Hij ideas were laughed at, but at last A. R. Culver, who was then planning a line to Coney Island, promised to cooperate with Mr. Feltman.

Thus encouraged, Mr. Feltman erected an ocean pavilion at the cost of \$20,000. He secured the Seventy-first Regiment Band, and at once began to attract crowds. The next season he added vocal music, and gradually added other attractions. He brought a merry-go-round from Germany and the first Tyrolese yodlers ever heard in this country, and reaped success.

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