

# WELL KNOWN MAN PASSES TO THE GREAT BEYOND

## Billy Garbanson, Who Once Drove President Harri- son's Carriage, Dies From Exposure.

With his body weakened by recent illness and his brain burning from excessive drinking, William, better known as Billy Garbanson last night at about seven o'clock, walked from his room in the Washington rooming house on South El Paso street, the icy road to death.

He had been drinking heavily for several days and had been confined to his room, in a critical condition. Yesterday he thought he was all right and remained restless all day, until about seven o'clock, when he dressed himself and left the hotel by way of the back stairway.

A short time afterward Mrs. J. M. Kinne, proprietor of the hotel, discovered his absence and immediately spread the alarm. Frank Carr at once began a search for the unfortunate man and in a short time several mounted policemen were in pursuit but no trace was found of him. At a late hour the rescuing party gave up the hunt and everyone returned to his home, knowing that the morning would find Billy Garbanson's corpse.

Sure enough at a very early hour this morning word was telephoned to the police station that a dead man had been found on the canal back of Finnigan's hide nouse on Seventh and El Paso streets. Captain Mitchell went down and identified the man and notified Nagley & Carr, the undertakers, who went down and removed the body to the morgue, after Justice Spencer had held the inquest over the body. The verdict of the inquest was to the effect that the deceased had come to his death from sickness and exposure.

Billy Garbanson was a well known character about El Paso, having come here in an early day. Before coming to El Paso about twenty years ago, he was a stage driver in this section. After leaving that work he came to El Paso where he served on the police force for a number of years under Marshal Thomas White, brother of our present chief of police. He also served for three or four years under Marshal Frank Carr.

About five years ago he began work as a hackman and was very successful. He made the Gem saloon his headquarters and his white team was always in readiness there. Billy Garbanson had the honor of driving the carriage that was occupied by President Harrison and his party when the former visited El Paso a number of years ago. He was very proud of the compliment of driving his coach of six on that occasion.

He was a member of no orders except the "Friend in Need" society, from which he will be entitled to about \$270 for burial purposes. He was about fifty-five years old and had retained a strong physique until recently, when strong drink got the better of him. He has a sister, Mrs. Rachel Shannan, living at Winterset, Iowa, and who is wealthy. Nagley & Carr have telegraphed the news of the death to her but as yet have received no instructions relative to the disposition of his body.