

# ALLEN BLACKER, PIONEER JURIST, DIES AT HOME

**Former County and District  
Judge, State Legislator  
and Alderman, Ends Long  
and Useful Life.**

Judge Allen Blacker, one of the most prominent of the early citizens of El Paso, a man identified with the city in the days when every man wore a six shooter and the law of might too often was the law of right, passed away quietly Tuesday afternoon. His health had been extremely poor for several years, and his death came at the end of a gradual decline.

Funeral services will be held Thursday morning at 10:30 o'clock from the late residence of deceased, 800 San Antonio street. The Pioneers' association, the El Paso Bar association, the G. A. R. and Confederate Veterans—all organizations with which he was closely allied—will attend the services in a body. The body will be laid to rest in Evergreen cemetery.

Judge Blacker was 73 years of age. He came to El Paso in 1869.

During his life in this city, judge Blacker was lawyer, county judge, district judge, city councilman and member of the state legislature.

Born February 5, 1832, in Ross county, Ohio, judge Blacker was educated in the schools at Springfield and Salem, Ohio. He studied law under that eminent jurist, Allen G. Thurmond, in the latter's office in Chillicothe, Ohio.

For a time he was city clerk in Chillicothe. From that city he went to Nebraska to become chief clerk in the federal court in Nebraska City, under the territorial government.

When the war broke out, judge Blacker enlisted in the First Nebraska infantry, as captain of company A. At the close of the war he left the service with the rank of major. He was staff officer on general Rosecrans' staff and held other important positions.

At the close of the war, he went to Fort Leavenworth, where he held the position of judge advocate.

In 1869, with the man who later became governor Mitchell of New Mexico, who died but a few days ago, judge Blacker came to El Paso on his way to Chihuahua, where he was interested in business matters. When his business was terminated, he remained in El Paso, and has lived in this city ever since that time.

In 1900 judge Blacker's health became exceedingly feeble, and he moved to Cloudcroft, N. M. While in that city he served as justice of the peace, postmaster and county commissioner.

His health improved rapidly for a time, but in 1904 there was another relapse, and as no physician lived at Cloudcroft, at that time, he came to El Paso.

While a student of law, judge Blacker was married to Miss Martha Porter Robinson, of Greenfield, Ohio. Mrs. Blacker joined him at Fort Leavenworth, Kas. and then remained behind while he came to El Paso, joining him in this city again in 1873.

Allen Blacker was one of the first of El Paso's district judges, serving in this capacity from 1876 to 1880. It was in the following year that he went to the legislature, where he took an active part in the deliberations of the lawmakers. In 1890 he became county judge, serving one term.

For four years, during Cleveland's administration, he held a position in the department of the interior.

Of late years, judge Blacker has been closely confined to his room. He made an effort never to miss a meeting of the Pioneer society, and his reminiscences at these meetings were always of peculiar interest.

He was always a public spirited citizen, identified with many different interests. In the preparations for the World's Columbian exposition, judge Blacker was a world's fair commissioner.

His widow and five children survive him. The children are: J. R. Blacker, night jailer, of El Paso; Mrs. (Lida) Reuben Hemingway, Louisville, Ky.; Mrs. (Belle) J. P. Thompson, Aguas Calientes, Mex.; Mrs. (Mary) George Halle, El Paso; Miss Allene Blacker, school teacher in this city.

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