

PIONEER EL PASOAN CLAIMED BY DEATH; FUNERAL HELD FRIDAY

HARRISON H. BROKENBROW, 87, El Paso pioneer, died at Hotel Dieu late Thursday afternoon following an illness of several weeks.

He was taken to the City-county hospital two weeks ago after he had accidentally been overcome by gas in his room in the rear of 1127 North Oregon street.

Mr. Brokenbrow came to El Paso in 1888, from England, and soon became prominent in the pioneer social life of the city. He was an expert cabinet maker.

"Harry" Brokenbrow as he was known to all old-timers, was particularly known and loved for his modesty and tenderness of character, and his unfailing willingness to give all he had to the service of his fellows or of the community.

In the earliest pioneer days, he was an active member of the old McGinty club, and his high tenor voice was heard on many a gala occasion in the "blow-outs" of the famous club.

He sang in men's quartets, in choruses, and in church choirs, and kept up this work after he had definitely arrived at old age, because he loved it.

He was charitable to the last degree, and always was willing to share whatever he had with others less fortunate.

In his declining days, he scorned to ask or receive charity, and in spite of his almost destitute circumstances, it was with the greatest difficulty that even his nearest friends could prevail on him to accept aid.

"Harry" kept up his work as an expert cabinet maker and repair man almost to the day of his death. He was a workman of the old school, highly skilled, and making a work of art of every slight repair job. He loved fine work, and would perform no other.

Only a few weeks ago, an old friend of his walking home in the early evening, found the old man sitting on the low wall of Cleveland square, his head in his hands, and well nigh spent with fatigue.

Beside him on the sidewalk stood a heavy cabinet which he had been making or repairing. Greeting his old friend, he asked a "lift" so he might get the cabinet on his brave old back and "tote" it home to its owner.

The friend protested, offered to call a truck or taxi and help deliver the cabinet, or to help him carry it, but "Harry" with a smile said no, he had only a couple of blocks to go with it, and could carry it himself, it was not so heavy, only awkward to lift.

The friend helped him shoulder the load, and off he trudged in the twilight. It was his work, and he purposed to see it safely delivered at its destination.

No man ever heard "Harry" Brokenbrow say an unkind word about anyone. He bore himself with the dignity of independence, with justice refined by charity and with the kind of bravery sometimes described as "smiling through." He belonged to another day, and was a beautiful and loveable type of the kind of men that helped make the west a romantic land of adventure, of sentiment and of softened memories.

Funeral services were held Friday from the Hartford chapel. Pallbearers were, O. A. Aultman, P. F. Merrill, Herbert Ward, Charles Auer, L. E. Behr and A. D. Hudson.

Burial was in Evergreen cemetery with the Rev. C. H. Horner officiating. Funeral services were under the direction of Hartford company.