

E. B. BRONSON DIES AT DINNER

**Realty Owner and Writer
Apoplexy Victim in New
York; El Paso Pioneer.**

"While making an address at a dinner party gathering, composed principally of leading New York physicians, at Delmonico's, last night, Edgar B. Bronson was stricken with apoplexy and died in a few hours without recovering consciousness."

This message was received by W. H. Austin Sunday evening from C. B. Eddy in New York.

Edgar Bucher Bronson, aged 61 years, was an El Paso banker and a dominant factor in El Paso public affairs from 1884 until 1893. While a young man he was a reporter on the New York Tribune and covered for his paper the famous Beecher-Tilton trial.

Built Bronson Block.

From New York he went to Midland, Texas, and engaged in the cattle business and in 1884 came to El Paso and at once became a leader in local business circles. He built the Bronson block, a two story brick building which occupied all of the ground upon which the First National bank now stands.

In 1886, associated with Clarence King, Mr. Bronson established the El Paso National bank, of which W. H. Austin was made the cashier. A branch of the bank was opened at Carlsbad (then Eddy), New Mexico. During the financial panic of 1893 both banks failed and Mr. Bronson surrendered all of his property to the creditors of his bank and went to New York, where he went into the promoting business and also wrote short stories for magazines.

Was Popular Here.

Possessed of an attractive and vigorous personality, Edgar Bronson was popular with all classes. The only property he owned when the bank failed was the Bronson block, then considered the handsomest business structure in El Paso, and half of the present home of W. H. Austin on San Antonio street. He and Mr. Austin built the house jointly and it was two buildings under the same roof.

On legal holidays, such as the 4th of July and Christmas, Mr. Bronson would get out with the young men of El Paso and be a regular boy in shooting fire crackers and playing practical jokes on whoever offered.

Picturesque Character of Southwest.

E. B. Bronson was one of the very picturesque characters that were developed in the early days of the southwest. Of late years he has made his home in Arizona, and achieved fame as a writer of books of western history and adventure, and magazine articles relating to the tough characters and picturesque incidents of pioneer days. He was so very outspoken in his writings, and used names of persons living and dead with such freedom, out of his wonderful store of memories, that he was threatened many times by survivors of those days and their relatives. On one occasion, stories published in Everybody's magazine subjected him and the publisher to suits for damages aggregating some \$350,000, which were finally settled out of court.

One of his literary efforts was a book on big game hunting in Africa, written from personal experiences and published about the time Roosevelt entered Africa on his famous hunting expedition.