

JOHN M. DEAN DIES IN CHICAGO

**Noted West Texas Lawyer
and El Paso Pioneer Dies
Suddenly in Illinois.**

HAD AN ACTIVE CAREER IN WEST

John M. Dean, a pioneer El Pasoan, who knew the southwest from end to end as well as he knew his law books, passed away last night at the Congress hotel in Chicago, where he had been stopping on his way home from Watkins Glen, New York, where he had been for two months past endeavoring to regain his lost health. The immediate cause of death is said to have been heart trouble. The news of his death was reached in El Paso this forenoon in a telegram to C. J. Dean, half brother of deceased.

Judge Dean first became known in the southwest as a stage driver, later became noted as a prosecuting attorney who saw some strenuous times in El Paso and of late years had devoted his time to the practice of law. He served as state senator and prosecuting attorney from this district and made a strong race for congress in 1900.

Judge Falvey, a life time friend of the deceased, said this morning: "I do not believe there is a minister or layman in the city that knew the Bible as well as judge Dean and he would quote from it at great length. The study of the Bible was one of his hobbies and the other to which he paid most attention was the life of Napoleon. He knew every incident in the life of the 'little corporal' from beginning to end; could tell the dates of every battle in which he engaged and how it was won and by whom. He purchased every book he could find treating on the life of Napoleon and read them all through many times.

"He was a man of remarkable memory, and never forgot a name or a face, even though years might lapse between his first and last meeting with a person.

"He was much loved by his friends, of whom he had scores, and was known as one of the ablest prosecutors in the history of El Paso county."

Body to Arrive Sunday.

No definite arrangements will be made for the funeral until after the arrival of Mrs. Dean, who will accompany the remains of her late husband to this city. She is expected to arrive Sunday evening on the Rock Island train and the funeral will probably be held Monday afternoon.

It was proposed that the members of the bar association march in a body to the union depot to meet the remains and escort them to his residence here, but Judge Falvey suggested that it would be better to go there informally and meet the train.

Immediately after word was received of Judge Dean's death, the flag on the court house and that on the city hall were lowered to half mast in respect to the memory of the late pioneer.

Sketch of Deceased.

John M. Dean, a pioneer lawyer of El Paso, one of the strongest lawyers connected with the bar of western Texas, was born in Forsythe county, Ga., May 13, 1852, a son of Dr. Y. S. and Martha (McCullough) Dean. The father was born in Gullford county, North Carolina, but for several years a resident in Forsythe county, Georgia. When his son, John, was in his seventh year, just prior to the civil war, the family returned to North Carolina, settling first in Iredell county, and afterward Salisbury in Rowan county. The father was a physician of note, very successful in his practice and during the civil war served as surgeon in Lee's army. He maintained his residence in the old north state until 1874, when he came to Texas, settling in Lee county, where he died. His wife, who was a native of Rowan county, North Carolina, was a daughter of John McCulloch, of that county, and came of a long line of distinguished Scotch ancestors. It is a well known fact that many of the citizens of Salisbury and vicinity were of Scotch lineage and that the locality was settled by emigrants from the land of the hills and heather. The McCullochs have been living in Rowan county since about the time of the reign of James II, and there is on file at Salisbury a deed from lord Carteret, earl of Grenville (who had received his grant from George II), to one of the McCullochs conveying the property in Rowan county on which John McCulloch lived and died.

Mrs. Dean also passed away in North Carolina. She had the distinction of attending a school taught by Marshal Ney, Napoleon's marshal, who, though, according to French history, shot in 1815, in reality escaped to America and, taking the name of Peter Stuart Ney, lived until his death in 1846 in the vicinity of Salisbury. He was a friend and associate of judge Dean's maternal grandfather and a frequent visitor at his house, and during the illness which terminated his life in 1846, he was attended by judge Dean's cousin, Dr. Matthew Locke, to whom the patient admitted just before his death that he was marshal Ney.

This fact has been somewhat in dispute, but judge Dean could relate many interesting events and incidents concerning Ney, and had a number of books and documentary evidences which prove conclusively that the man referred to was in reality the famous marshal who served under Napoleon. These things awakened great interest in judge Dean's mind, in the French

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emperor and the history of the French revolution and the Napoleonic wars. He had a very extensive library, containing nearly everything extant on these subjects from which he quoted freely from memory, and few indeed were those who are more thoroughly versed upon the history of the great Napoleon.

Judge Dean, after attending school in Statesville, North Carolina, took up the study of law when he was still quite young. Following his father's removal to this state he continued his law studies in Texas, and was admitted to the bar in Giddings, Lee county. On the committee that examined him for admission was Joseph D. Sayers, afterward governor of the state, Seth Shepherd, G. Washington Jones, N. A. Rector, and A. J. Rousseau.

all of whom were distinguished lawyers in Texas.

In 1878 judge Dean came to the western part of this state, which was then an open country infested with indians and the work of progress and development had scarcely been begun. It was his desire to enter upon the practice of law but he was without capital and in the months of February, March and April of that year judge Dean drove a stage coach for the Overland Stage company, his route being from Fort Davis, in what is now Jeff Davis county, to Van Horn, in El Paso county. This was the overland mail route and formed a link in the chain connecting the Mississippi river to California, and then the longest stage route in the world.

In May, 1878, however, judge Dean entered upon the active practice of his profession at Marfa. In 1880 he was elected county attorney of Presidio county in which capacity he served for two years, and in 1882 he was chosen to the office of district attorney of what was then the 20th judicial district and is now included in the 34th district. It comprised several counties including El Paso. At that time the district was much larger than it is at the present time and covered all of the county west of the Pecos river, together with a section of country east of it and including Tom Green county.

In 1884 judge Dean was re-elected

and again in 1886 and 1888. The years of 1891 and 1892 were devoted to the private practice of law and in the latter year he was elected to the state senate, where he served for four years, during which period he was closely connected with important constructive legislation and served on a number of the leading committees in the upper house. In 1896 he was re-elected district attorney, once more in 1898 and the third time in 1900, and since 1902 he had again engaged in private practice.

Judge Dean was united in marriage to Miss Louise Haggart and in social life in El Paso both have been popular.

Judge Dean was a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and also the Masonic fraternity.