

MISS MARY LEE, DAUGHTER OF GENERAL, DIES

When Passing Through El Paso
in 1862 Given Public Reception
at Old Central Hotel.

An Associated Press dispatch sent out from Richmond, Va., yesterday, announces the death of Miss Mary Curtis Lee, daughter of General Robert E. Lee. Miss Lee died at Virginia Hot Springs after a brief illness and the body will probably be placed beside that of her father in the vault at Washington and Lee university, at Lexington. She was the only surviving child of the great confederate general.

The death of Miss Lee recalls among the pioneers of El Paso her visit here in the winter of 1862-3, when, after her arrival over the Texas & Pacific railroad on her way to California, she was induced to remain one day to rest before continuing her long journey to the coast, which in those days was a long and tedious one, requiring nearly twice as long as it does now.

Reception Is Organized.

She registered at the old Central hotel, the only hotel in El Paso, an adobe building on the present site of the White House store and the McCoy hotel. Soon the news of the arrival of so distinguished a person, the only daughter of the great Confederate general, spread and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Conklin, and other prominent citizens called on her and arranged a reception in her honor.

They selected a number of young men to act as a committee of reception, among whom were Judge J. A. Buckley, John Bailey, Judge W. M. Caldwell, A. G. Foster, William Crosby, J. Fisher Satterthwaite, W. A. Austin, Lew. H. Davis and others.

Met Leading People.

The reception took place about 7 o'clock in the evening in the lobby of the old hotel, and for two hours a stream of leading people of the then little city filed in and, one by one, were introduced and shook hands with the "most distinguished daughter of the south," as they called her.

Only a few of the pioneers of that day remain, but those who had the privilege of meeting her on that occasion will never forget with what gratifying grace and cordiality Miss Lee received them, and modestly thanked them for making her brief stay so pleasant. She was a charming lady, a brunette, with very dark eyes. The reception ended, many of the young men and ladies accompanied their guests to the old Southern Pacific depot on North Stanton street, where she took on a midnight train for California.