

DEATH OF MRS. JOS. W. MAGOFFIN IN NEW YORK SHOCKS EL PASO

Was a Pioneer El Pasoan
and Was Loved By a
Very Large Circle of
Friends In This City.

NOTED FOR HER CHARITABLENESS

Dies of Paralysis, After An
Illness of Several Months,
Leaving Husband and
Two Children.

After an illness of several months, Mrs. Octavia M. Magoffin, 60 years old, wife of judge Joseph Magoffin, and one of the oldest residents of El Paso, died yesterday at Governor's Island, N. Y., at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Josephine Glasgow, where she went accompanied by her husband over a month ago in the hope of regaining her health.

The news of the death of Mrs. Magoffin was received in El Paso in several messages which were sent by the bereaved husband late yesterday afternoon. Mrs. J. W. Magoffin, wife of James Magoffin, son of the deceased; Col. Charlie Richardson, brother-in-law of judge Magoffin, and C. R. Morehead received telegrams conveying the sad news.

Judge Magoffin, the bereaved husband, will leave Governor's Island tonight, accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. Glasgow, to bring the remains of the deceased back to this city for burial.

A Shock to El Paso.

The announcement of the death of Mrs. Magoffin was a distinct shock to the hundreds of friends of the family in this city. Since going to Governor's Island Mrs. Magoffin had been under the care of Dr. Weir Mitchell, a well known paralytic specialist, and the news received some days ago by intimate friends of the deceased stated that she was improving and hoped to return to El Paso well and strong again. Only to Col. Richardson and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Magoffin, who were advised daily of the state of Mrs. Magoffin's health, was the fact known that she was approaching the end. "The last letter gave us to believe that there was little hope," said Col. Richardson this morning.



Mrs. Octavia McGreal Magoffin, deceased wife of judge Joseph Magoffin. This picture of the deceased was made several years ago and is considered a good likeness.

Ill for Several Months.

The illness which led up to the death of the deceased began several months ago. After a period of exhaustion, she was stricken with paralysis which left her almost unable to walk.

Judge Magoffin took her to Santa Rosalia springs in the hope that the mineral waters would restore her and she returned to El Paso after a time, slightly improved, but judge Magoffin anxious for a speedy and full recovery of his wife, decided to take her to New York and place her under the care of Dr. Weir Mitchell, the specialist on paralysis.

Recovery Was Hoped For.

Dr. Mitchell pronounced the ailment as partial paralysis due to inflammation of the spinal chord and predicted a full recovery for the deceased. Notwithstanding, however, all that medical skill could do was invoked to restore the patient, she gradually became worse. When the end came she was surrounded at her bedside by judge Magoffin, the devoted husband; Mrs. Glasgow, her daughter, and Capt. Glasgow, her son-in-law, who is stationed at Governor's Island.

Was a Texan.

Mrs. Magoffin was born at Brazoria, Brazos county, Texas. As Octavia McGreal she grew up to be a charming, talented young woman, and in 1864 in Houston she was married to Joseph Magoffin. The couple went to St. Louis, where they spent some time at the home of Col. Charles Richardson, who married Miss Josephine Magoffin, a sister of judge Magoffin. In 1868 they came to El Paso, accompanied by judge Richardson, and have lived in this city continually since that time.

In 1868 El Paso was a village of 500 persons. In a few years a house which is a part of the present home of the family at 1120 Magoffin avenue, named for the Magoffin family, was built and the family has since occupied the house, which has been enlarged from time to time until it is one of the most picturesque homes in the city.

Loved By Many.

Mrs. Magoffin became known and loved by all the town and as the city grew her circle of friends and acquaintances became enlarged and she was at the time of her death perhaps the best known woman in the city.

She was well known for her charitable acts, which were performed without ostentation. Deceased was a member of the church of the Immaculate Conception and was a devout Catholic, although she was extremely liberal and her beneficent acts were not confined to persons of any single faith.

Mrs. Magoffin was a most charitable woman, quiet, capable, and self sacrificing. She was truly catholic in association and service, and her work for humanity knew no barriers of race or creed. Her impulses were true, and she allowed no formalism to interfere with just endeavor toward right ends.

She was loved and revered by all who knew her and the news of her death will sadden hundreds whom she has befriended and aided.

Leaves Two Children.

Deceased leaves two children, James W. Magoffin of this city and Mrs. Josephine Richardson Magoffin Glasgow of Governor's Island. She also leaves two sisters, Mrs. Hortensa Black and Mrs. Cornelia Lavin, both of whom are living in Chicago. They have been notified of her death and will come to attend the funeral in this city.

Mrs. Magoffin was one of the organizers of the Women's Charity association, which has been a most potent factor in the relieving of the distress of poor families of the city, and she held several offices in the association.

Son Not Aware of Death.

J. W. Magoffin, who is in Sinaloa, Mex., on business, is still unaware of the death of Mrs. Magoffin, being in the interior of the country far from the railroad or telegraph. Mrs. J. W. Magoffin is attempting to have the news sent to him by messenger in order that he may return to this city. So far no definite arrangements have been made for the funeral, but it will be held the last of this week. The body is expected to arrive in El Paso Thursday night.

HERALD

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