

DEATH OF DR. J. A. MCKINNEY.

**El Paso Mourns the Loss of One of Her
Best Citizens—The Funeral Rites
to be Held To-day.**

Yesterday about noon the sad news was told of the death of Dr. J. A. McKinney. Dr. McKinney had been suffering for a long time with a throat trouble, which, during the last few days, grew much worse. Still he kept on his feet and about town, and attended to his professional duties as late as Tuesday afternoon. Tuesday evening he became rapidly worse, and several physicians spent the night at his bedside. Yesterday the operation of tracheotomy was performed upon him, but it did no good, and he soon afterwards expired.

Yesterday afternoon an autopsy was held, and it was discovered that death resulted from a growth on the trachea, which would have caused death even if tracheotomy had not been performed. The nature of the growth has not yet been determined. It will take a microscopic examination to decide the matter. The remains were embalmed by Undertaker Klattenhoff. The funeral services will be held this morning at 10:30 at the Trinity Methodist church, after which the remains will be sent to Kansas City for burial.

Deceased came here from Kansas City in 1881, and has been reckoned ever since he made El Paso his home as one of the leading citizens and a man always ready to aid in every good work. At the time of his death he was city physician and had long been a member of the school board. He was a prominent member of the Masonic and Odd Fellow lodges of the city, and the funeral services will be according to the rites of those societies. All friends of the deceased are invited to assemble at Trinity church at 10:30 o'clock this morning.

THE SCHOOL BOARD.

Special Meeting of the Board on Account
of the Death of Dr. McKinney.

A special meeting of the school board was held Monday evening. The following is a copy of the minutes of the meeting kept by Superintendent Esterly, secretary of the board:

Object, to elect treasurer of the board, vice Dr. J. A. McKinney, deceased, and to pass resolutions of respect to the memory of deceased.

Called to order at 7:20 p. m., present, Messrs. Merrick, Brack, Kemp and Freudenthal.

On motion Mr. H. S. Kaufman was unanimously elected treasurer of the board of education.

There being no further business to be transacted, on motion board adjourned.

On motion Messrs. Brack, Freudenthal and Professor Esterly were appointed a committee on resolutions.

The following resolutions were reported by the committee and adopted:

Resolved, That whereas it has pleased God in his infinite wisdom to remove by death Dr. J. A. McKinney from our number, we thus express our sympathy with the bereaved and bear witness to the character of the deceased.

We have known him long as a member of the school board and its treasurer, one of the best friends of the schools, their staunch and appreciative supporter, their most active helper and their most frequent visitor; as a man, courteous and affable, the friend of the deserving and charitable to the erring; as a citizen honored and respected for his frankness and decision on the questions of the day; as a physician, active, generous and successful in his profession; as a Christian gentleman, loyal to his church, broad as humanity, benevolent, faithful; as a husband and father, beloved in his family.

Recognizing as we did his worth, and esteeming him for his many good qualities, we feel deeply his loss and would fain mingle our tears with those of his family and other friends.

Resolved, that the above be offered for publication in the city papers and that a copy be sent to the family.

LAST SAD RITES.

Tributes of Respect and Sorrow at the Death of Dr. J. A. McKinney.

A spirit of sadness pervaded the city yesterday, at the death of one of our best known and most highly respected citizens, Dr. J. A. McKinney, who died Wednesday morning from cancerous growth on the trachea. Deceased was city physician and a member of the school board at the time of his death. He was also a prominent member of the Knights Templar and Odd Fellow lodges of the city, and was universally esteemed and beloved for his ability and kindness of heart. The public schools of the city were closed yesterday as a mark of respect. The funeral ceremonies were such as to indicate a general feeling of sorrow at the loss of a good and true man and a faithful and representative citizen.

At 10 o'clock a procession was formed on El Paso street as follows:

The Sixteenth Infantry band.

El Paso Lodge of Knights Templar.

El Paso Lodge of Odd Fellows.

The procession moved to the undertaking rooms of Klattenhoff, by whom the remains had been embalmed and who acted as funeral director. The casket was placed in the hearse by the following pall bearers, Knights Templar:

Mayor R. C. Lightbody, Judge T. A. Falvey, Judge Joseph Magoffin, Captain J. H. White, Major Chas. Davis, C. R. Morehead, Esq., O. T. Bassett, Esq., W. J. Fewel, Esq.

The cortege then proceeded to the late residence of the deceased, where the casket was opened and the widow and immediate friends viewed the remains. The procession was then formed, in the following order:

The Sixteenth Infantry band.

El Paso Lodge of Knights Templar.

The hearse.

The pall bearers.

Mourners and friends in carriages.

El Paso Lodge of Odd Fellows.

The pupils of the high school, preceded by Superintendent Esterly and the faculty.

Citizens on foot.

The funeral cortege proceeded directly to Trinity Methodist church, which was filled to overflowing with sympathetic friends of the deceased and his family. The church had been heavily draped, under the supervision of Napoleon Roy, and the somber drapery lent increased solemnity to the impressive ceremonies. The services at the church were conducted by the Rev. Wm. P. McCorkle, pastor of Trinity church, assisted by the Rev. Buckner Harris, of San Antonio, presiding elder of the district to which Trinity church belongs, and the Rev. George W. Baines, pastor of the Baptist church in this city. The services at the church began at 11:15 o'clock, and lasted about three-quarters of an hour.

After the rendering of appropriate musical selections, prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Harris, followed by the reading of select portions of scripture by the same clergyman.

The Rev. Mr. McCorkle then delivered a brief extempore discourse, substantially as follows:

THE DISCOURSE.

The time allotted us this morning is too brief to permit the full tribute our hearts would offer to the memory of our honored brother. The words we speak must be few. We mourn the loss of one whose life, judged by false standards, might seem all a disappointment, all a failure. Cut down suddenly in his full, fresh, manly vigor, when he was upon the high tide of professional success, when life seemed to hold out abundant promises, when wealth and honor seemed at his command, his last years were years of darkness and pain, and his end was a disappointment to family, to friends, to professional associates, to this whole community.

In looking upon the life of our brother, in thinking of that sad and sudden stroke which has taken him from our midst, I have thought of one sad saying, uttered long ago. There was a man whom the rising sun one day shone upon as a man of wealth, surrounded by a happy and dutiful family, honored and loved by all who knew him, and the night fell upon that same man bereft, poverty-stricken, heart hungry, very poor. And then when bereavement and sudden-coming poverty had reached their worst, and he found himself desolate, the strong hand of disease was laid upon him, and quickly his body was full of sores. His nights were full of weariness, his days were full of pain, and in the bitterness of his soul he cried out, "My soul is weary of my life."

Dear friends, he who lies in the silence of death before us to-day, tasted sorrow's bitter cup to its lowest dregs, and he too had cried oftentimes in bitterness of spirit, "My soul is weary of my life." There were times when the pain that came upon him was so great and the sorrows that burdened him so many, that his strong, manly spirit, was tried till time and again it was the desire of his heart only

to lift the turf from off the green earth and say, "Lie down, poor heart, forget all thy pain." But he was sustained, and I bear no feeble testimony to the sustaining power of divine grace when I say the sublimity of his character was found in his willingness to live and suffer for the sake of those he loved. When we look back on his life and think how little was accomplished of all that his hand and brain and heart might have wrought, shall we say that God is unjust and cruel and that it is better not to have lived at all than to have lived a life full of pain and to have been suddenly laid down in the grave? Nay, nay. He who laid deep and strong the foundations of this firmament, also laid deep and strong the foundations of his moral government. And very often the morning of our immortality is a dark morning, a morning of tears.

So our brother suffered and died. But he did not live in vain. He lived in the faith of which I speak to-day, faith that he who guides the stars guides also the destiny of every man. Once when days and weeks had flown by and his every breath was an agony, I asked him how it was he could suffer so patiently. His answer was, "It must be so." He knew he had not deserved this pain, but he also knew there were mysteries he could not understand, and he was willing to bide his time. And now he has gone from us. A strong, manly heart was his, a sensitive heart for all,—for the sign of rank nature is capacity for pain. A devoted husband and father, a citizen true in every public trust and private duty, he has gone from us, and gone believing in the blood of Jesus Christ; and his very last expressed desire were for the welfare of the church he loved.

We may not speak longer. He has not lived in vain, and he who reigns will bind up the hearts that suffer to-day. O, beloved, cast your burden on the Lord and He will sustain you.

At the close of the eulogy, the Rev. Mr. Baines offered a prayer, after which the burial service, according to the rites of the Knight Templar order was read. The procession then formed again and escorted the remains to the Santa Fe depot, where they were placed on board the 10 o'clock train to be conveyed to Kansas City for burial. The widow and her two little daughters also left for Kansas City, accompanied by Dr. Race. Mrs. McKinney is to return to El Paso after some weeks.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

The following resolutions were passed by the physicians of the city:

With feelings of deepest sorrow and regret, we, the physicians of El Paso meet to deplore our loss in the sudden death of our oldest and esteemed resident physician, Dr. J. A. McKinney. In losing him we feel there has been lost an honest and sincere brother practitioner, a faithful friend, an upright citizen, a loving and devoted husband and father and a true and honest physician. In profound sorrow, we will long cherish his memory, and remember him with emulation as a man and physician, and as a mark of respect we have resolved to attend his funeral in a body. To his bereaved and stricken family and mourning friends, we would add our sincere and heartfelt sympathy, while bowing in humble submission to the inevitable.

McK. Johnston, M. D., W. N. Vilas, M. D., J. T. Harrington, M. D., J. W. Thayer, M. D., A. L. Justice, M. D., Chas. T. Race, M. D., G. Holland, M. D., C. M. Harrison, M. D.
El Paso, Texas, Dec. 8, 1887.