

Erastus Wells Parker, El Pasoan, Is Dead

Erastus Wells Parker, a western pioneer, a citizen of El Paso for 20 years, died Monday morning at his home, 60 Stewart place. He was not only well known in El Paso, but was well known throughout the west as a Star route mail contractor who did business letting mail route contracts before railroads penetrated this section of the country.

Born September 28, 1843, at Ransville, N. Y., Mr. Parker entered Annapolis academy at an early age. Soon after his schooling at Annapolis, he was married to Miss Emeline Brown of Penn Yan, N. Y.

After engaging in letting mail routes through the west, he settled in White Oaks, N. M., district in the early 80s. He was general manager of the Home State Mining company, of White Oaks, and was active in mining and general development of that section.

In 1900 Mr. Parker moved to El Paso, where he made his home until his death. He was interested particularly in water works construction and was associated with Silvester Watts of Arizona in his water system enterprises. As a pioneer in developing he helped build the first part of the present water system of El Paso.

Mr. Parker was a member of the Masonic order. Funeral arrangements have not been made. Surviving Mr. Parker are his wife, and three sons, James H. Parker of El Paso, Frank W. Parker, of Boise, Idaho, and Morris B. Parker, of Hollywood, Calif.