

Jesse B. Payne, El Paso Pioneer, Dies During Sleep

Jesse B. Payne, pioneer El Pasoan, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. W. Pettus, 819 Arizona street, at 1:15 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Mr. Payne was born in Petersburg, Va., June 24, 1850. Following reverses caused by the civil war the Payne family emigrated across the plains to Colorado and Jesse Payne, as a boy, took his part in the rough life of the early days in Crede, Denver and Leadville.

Married In 1878.

In 1878 Mr. Payne went back to St. Louis and in the same year married Miss Elizabeth Kahn, a daughter of one of the oldest and most prominent families in that city.

Entering the hardware business, Mr. Payne remained in St. Louis until 1887, when he came to El Paso to join his brothers, D. M. and W. F. Payne, who had arrived the year before.

Active In City's Growth.

No sooner had J. B. Payne decided to make El Paso his home and located here than he at once took his place as one of the town's most active and progressive citizens, becoming prominent in both the commercial and political life of the community.

For quite a number of years after his arrival, Mr. Payne was in the contracting business and when street sprinkling was conducted as a private enterprise, it was his water carts which kept down the dust in the business part of the city.

His Business Interests.

Later he went into the wholesale produce business with his brother, D. M. Payne and still later, when the Shelton-Payne Arms Co. was organized, he associated himself with that firm and remained with it until failing health made it necessary for him to retire from active business.

A Pioneer El Pasoan.

Widely read and of a scholarly disposition, Mr. Payne was a source of inspiration to younger men and women with whom he loved to associate.

For several years Mr. Payne has been an invalid.

After a long period of suffering, his death came to him peacefully, while he was asleep, and his spirit went out to join that of his wife, whose death, preceding his by only a short time, occurred just a few days before Christmas.

Arrange Services.

Mr. Payne is survived by his brother, W. F. Payne, two sisters, Mrs. W. S. McCutcheon, of Mineral Wells, and Mrs. J. N. Hughes, of Los Angeles, two children, Mrs. J. W. Pettus and Jesse Payne, jr., of El Paso and two grandchildren, Nancy Pettus and Marilyn Elizabeth Payne.

Funeral services will be conducted from the home, 819 Arizona street, at 4 p. m. Thursday afternoon.