

GAY E. PORTER DEAD.

Died at the Hospital Yesterday — Brief Sketch of His Career.

Gay E. Porter died of pneumonia at the Sisters' hospital in this city, yesterday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock, and he will be buried with Masonic honors this afternoon at 1:30 o'clock.

Gay E. Porter came to El Paso from Las Vegas in 1885 and was placed in charge of the Lone Star newspaper owned by S. H. Newman, who brought Mr Porter here. When Judge Magoffin was appointed collector of customs at this port under Cleveland's first administration, he gave Mr. Porter a position as customs inspector; after he had worked six months on the Lone Star. After leaving the government service he was employed as collector and assistant bookkeeper at the State National bank, where he worked four years, and left there to take a position as reporter on the TIMES. He was with this paper only a few weeks and then went on a visit to his relatives residing at Fresno, California.

Up to this time Mr. Porter and his charming wife had taken an active part in the social affairs and gave a number of theatricals for charity purposes. But when Mr. Porter returned from California and accepted a position with W. G. Walz he eschewed society and devoted himself to business. He went to Mexico City to manage Mr. Walz's business and had been there only a short time when he accepted the position of night editor on the Mexican Herald. Night work caused him to fall into dissipations which lost him his place on the Herald and he went to work as reporter on the Two Republics. Later he established the News, a weekly paper, in Mexico City, which he published several months and then sold out. From Mexico Mr. Porter in 1897 worked on one of the papers there as an advertising solicitor. When the volunteers were called for in May of this year, to fight Spain, Mr. Porter went to Dallas and Galveston to enlist, but failed to pass the physical examination, so he returned to El Paso last June and went into the real estate business with his brother-in-law, Mr. Durrell. This business arrangement did not prove satisfactory to either of the gentlemen and copartnership was dissolved.

Mr. Porter had not been taking the best kind of care of himself and the day before Thanksgiving day he was stricken down with a violent attack of pneumonia and was taken to the Sisters' hospital. Dr. Race, for years Mr. Porter's family physician, gave him every attention and the Sisters nursed him tenderly, but medical skill and nursing could not check the dread disease. Mrs. S. H. Newman was at the sufferer's bedside when he breathed his last. Mr. Morehead and many other kind friends were unremitting in their kind attentions to the sick man.

Gay E. Porter was about 40 years of age. He was born in California and his parents now live at Fresno. He was engaged in the newspaper business at Silver City for a short time. He was educated at the Birkley institute and possessed a naturally bright mind and was of a kind, impulsive nature. He wanted all men to be his friends and he was, probably, his only enemy. Mrs. Porter is in Cincinnati visiting her sister Mrs. Durrell. She was telegraphed last night of her husband's death.

MASONIC FUNERAL NOTICE.

Members are requested and visiting brethren cordially invited to attend a special meeting at 1 p. m. this day, called for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late brother Gay E. Porter. Services at St. Clements Church at 1:30 p. m.

By order of

J. B. WATSON, W. M.,
A. KAPLAN, Sec'y.

GAY E. PORTER DEAD.

A Young Man Whose Life Was Once Full Of Promise.

Yesterday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock Gay E. Porter died at the Sister's hospital after a brief illness. His death was the result of pneumonia, contracted November 23 as a result of exposure and neglect.

No one was notified of his illness until the disease obtained such a hold that it was impossible to shake it off. Dr. Race was then called in. He found that one of the Porter's lungs had solidified and expressed grave doubts of the patient's recovery. Porter was removed to Hotel Dieu immediately and given the best of medical attention and the most careful nursing, but in spite of this he continued to sink rapidly.

Gay E. Porter was a prominent resident of this city more than ten years ago. In earlier times he was recognized as one of the most active and enterprising young men in this locality. El Paso has known him as a newspaper man, bank clerk, customs house employee and real estate agent.

He commenced his career here as S. H. Newman's assistant in publishing the "Lone Star," a semi-weekly paper. Newman afterwards withdrew from the business and left Porter in full control. Porter next became storekeeper at the custom house, and subsequently was a clerk in the State National bank. He was again overcome four years later by his infatuation for newspaper work, he accepted a position as local editor of the Times.

Porter left here several years ago and went to the City of Mexico, to manage W. G. Walz's business there. Subsequently he was connected with the Mexican Herald and other publications. He quit there and after drifting around for a time returned to El Paso last summer.

His friends in this city assisted him to go into the real estate business and he opened an office here in partnership with M. S. Durrell, his brother-in-law. This business venture, however, soon proved a failure and the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent. Porter's last illness was brought about chiefly by his own acts. He was stopping at a cheap lodging house on El Paso street and was utterly regardless of his personal comfort.

Porter was a Mason and during the past few days the Masons of this city have been doing all in their power to alleviate his sufferings. He was a married man and his wife is now in Cincinnati. He was about 40 years old and was born in California. His parents reside at Fresno.

The funeral took place from St. Clement's Episcopal church at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon and the remains were buried with Masonic rites.