

PIONEER WOMAN TAKEN BY DEATH

MRS. G. B. Stevenson, 90, pioneer El Pasoan, died early this morning at the home of her son, Dr. H. E. Stevenson, 620 North Oregon street. Until two weeks ago and in spite of her increasing age and weakness, Mrs. Stevenson had clung to the habits of an active life.

Mrs. Stevenson was a pioneer, not only of El Paso, where she had resided for 47 years, but for 30 before her coming to this city, of California, to which she came in 1850 in the first great gold rush.

She was born Miss Annie Maupin at Columbia, Boone county, Missouri, on October 23, 1837. She was the daughter of Thomas C. Maupin, one of the pioneers of Missouri, who was linked with the early history of California and later of this section.

In 1850 Mrs. Stevenson, then a girl of 13, with her family left for California and the golden west. It was long before the first transcontinental railroad. The journey was made in a covered wagon across the plains of the midwest. The peril from hostile Indians at that time was a real one, but the little party came through safely.

Then came the difficult journey through the passes of the Rockies and over the mountains of the Pacific coast. The family finally stopped at San Francisco bay, near where the city of Oakland now stands.

Mr. Maupin had done much for education in his native state of Missouri. He had contributed a large part of the land upon which the University of Missouri now stands at Columbia. He was a state senator and otherwise prominent in the development of the state.

On the far off Pacific coast he determined his daughter should have the best education available. He sent her to Mills college, near the present Oakland, at that time one of the outstanding educational institutions in that section.

George B. Stevenson, of Versailles, Ky., had felt the lure of the golden west even before the family of the little girl who was to be his bride. He had gone to California by the overland route the preceding year, being one of the real "49ers." In 1856 they were married.

The Stevensons lived in California mostly in the vicinity of Vacaville for 30 years. Mr. Stevenson was a Mason and Mrs. Stevenson was active in the Eastern Star, being elected grand matron for the state of California.

Mr. Stevenson was a ranchman and mining expert. Lured by the opportunities of this section of the country he came to El Paso in 1880 with Mrs. Stevenson. They looked the city over and decided to locate here permanently. The following year Mrs. Stevenson returned to California for her children, brought them back to El Paso and had since lived here.

About the same time her father came here and settled on a ranch near Ysleta. There he died in 1885 at the age of 90, having played a part in the development of three sections of the country. He is buried in the Masonic cemetery at El Paso.

In 1897 George B. Stevenson died in El Paso, 48 years after he had left his home in Kentucky for the long western trek. Both in El Paso and California he was greatly interested in the improvement of breeding horses.

Six times he made the long overland trip from California to Kentucky, bringing back blooded stock. He was the first to take pure bred Kentucky horses to California and on removing to El Paso brought many of them with him. He, too, was buried in Masonic cemetery.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Stevenson, then 60 years of age,

spent many peaceful years in El Paso with her sons. She was a lifelong member of the Presbyterian church. All her life she had been in excellent health until about two weeks ago.

Mrs. Stevenson is survived by five sons: William T. Stevenson, of Los Angeles; Andrew M. Stevenson, of Oakland, Calif.; George M. Stevenson, of Ennis, Texas, and Dr. Herbert E. Stevenson and Fred E. Stevenson, both of El Paso. A sixth son, Charles A., died recently in Vacaville, Calif. She is also survived by many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be under the direction of the Hartford company. She will be buried in Masonic cemetery, beside those other pioneers, her husband and her father. The body is at the Hartford mortuary.

Funeral services will be held at the Hartford mortuary chapel at 10 a. m. Monday, Rev. Floyd Poe officiating. Burial will be in Masonic-Concordia cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Charles I. Auer, A. L. Eton, William A. Julian, Charles M. Newman, Alfred Cohn and Glen Lewis.