

DR. WAHL DEAD.

The Accidental Discharge of a Pistol Last Night Was Fatal.

Dr. G. W. Wahl, the river guard at the Stanton street bridge, was fatally shot last night about 12 o'clock, in the guard room at this end of the bridge. The only person present at the time the accident happened was the Mexican bridge tollman, who is on duty at night, and who has generally passed the night with the doctor. Just as soon as the accident occurred the Mexican ran over to the Santa Fe street bridge and notified Inspector Will Watson, who was on duty there. Mr. Watson immediately sent for a doctor, and Dr. White responded and the wounded man was removed to the Sister's hospital, where at first it was thought the wound was only slight, but on a thorough examination this morning Dr. White was convinced that the wound was fatal.

The accident occurred by Dr. Wahl opening a cupboard that had been fixed to the wall of the guard room and attempting to take out a pistol. The pistol fell to the floor and hitting on the hammer, went off and the ball struck the doctor on the right side just under the first rib, ranged upward and lodged just beneath the skin under the shoulder blade and just to the right of the spine, passing through the lungs, and the doctor thinks touched the liver. After being shot the doctor's vitality was so strong that those who saw him did not think he was seriously hurt, but after daylight this morning he became stupid and then unconscious in which condition he lies at this writing.

Dr. G. W. Wahl, is an old settler, having resided in the valley for fully thirty years. He is married and has a large family living at Ysleta, who were notified this morning of the sad accident. Many years ago the doctor was post surgeon at old Fort Quitman and has seen all kinds of life on this frontier. He was a G. A. R. much respected by his comrades. Dr. Wahl entered the service as a river inspector on December 12, 1895, and when Joe Dwyer was promoted after Mr. Bendy's death Dr. Wahl was made bridge guard which position he had filled up to last night, and was well thought of by all the guards both mounted and stationery along the river.

LATER—Dr. Wahl died at 11:55 this morning, before the arrival of his family from Ysleta.