

DEATH OF CAPT. JAMES H. WHITE IN SAN DIEGO

**Pioneer El Pasoan Passes Away in California, Where He
Went for the Benefit of His Health—Pop-
ular Citizen and Fearless Officer.**

Telegrams announcing the death of Capt. James H. White, one of El Paso's best known and beloved citizens, were received here today from San Diego. They were from his son, James, who was with him at the time, and came to Mrs. White, the widow, and to D. D. Willis, chief claim agent of the El Paso & Southwestern railway, in whose department Capt. White was employed.

The news was sad to the friends of the captain in El Paso and everybody was his friend. He was one of the oldest citizens of the city in point of residence, and was popular with all classes. He was one of the most courteous men the city ever knew. He had been a peace officer in El Paso during the time when it meant to take his life in his hand to enforce the law, but he always did it cheerfully and faithfully.

He had been honored with many public offices within the gift of the voters of the city and was candidate for mayor against C. R. Morehead in the hottest campaign the city ever knew, with but one possible exception. He served as sheriff, county collector and chief of police in this city and had also had a useful career as a private citizen.

He was an Indian fighter and scout and stage driver in the early days, and came to El Paso before the railroads were completed, coming in ahead of the Santa Fe, after being with that company as a peace preserver along the front with the construction gangs bound westward.

He left here a few weeks ago for California in the hopes of recuperating his falling health and had been quite ill, but a few days ago took a turn for the better. Last night, however, he died suddenly, according to the information from his son. The son wired that he would leave at once with the remains.

Native of Virginia.

Capt. James H. White was born at Portsmouth, Va., in 1847 and received his school education at the Virginia collegiate institute.

He was but 15 years of age when the civil war broke out and entered the Confederate army as a member of major James Milligan's battalion. He was with general Lee at the time of the surrender at Appomattox.

At the close of the war captain White returned to Portsmouth, Va., but did not remain there long, moving to Huntsville, Mo. From there he went to Fort Dodge, Kas., where he was an Indian trader for some time. He saw service against the Indians and in 1868 he served as scout for general Phil Sheridan. He made an excellent record and it was due in a large measure to his work that Sheridan succeeded in putting down the redskins.

Wounded in War.

During his service in the civil war captain White was twice wounded sustaining both injuries at practically the same time. It was while he was stationed in the trenches at Peteraburg, before Richmond, when the Confederates were making their last desperate stand, that he suffered the wounds. They were caused by fragments of flying shells. One wound was in the head and the other in the left leg, but neither kept him out of active service long.

It was by service in the Mexican army

that captain White earned the title of captain.

Captain in Mexican Army.

After the defeat of Maximilian a reorganization of the Mexican republican army was effected and captain White was offered and accepted a place as captain of a company. He served for about two years. During that time he saw much hard service and was stationed at various times in the City of Mexico, Tampico and Veracruz.

On first coming to Texas captain White stopped at some of the towns in the east end of the state and then started on the long trip to Colifornia, but, being driven back by the Indians, who were then especially bad in the southwest, went to Fort Dodge and entered the service of general Sheridan as a scout, doing good service in that position.

He came to El Paso May 10, 1869, but two years later removed to East Texas, only to return to El Paso after a short absence. During the days of the building of the Santa Fe railroad to El Paso captain White kept order along the route of construction. Those were stirring times in New Mexico. For some years while Las Cruces was the terminus of the road captain White served as city marshal of that place.

Becomes Police Officer.

In 1881, captain White returned to El Paso permanently and entered the federal service under captain Tibbitts, then United States customs collector at this port. He served as an inspector for two years and then was chosen by the county commissioners as sheriff of El Paso county to fill the unexpired term of Benito Gonzales, who had resigned. Captain White at the expiration of this term was elected for a term of four years, acting as collector of taxes as well as sheriff.

When the offices were divided, captain White was elected tax collector and served in that capacity one term. He then moved to a fruit ranch near the city and remained there until a few years later, when he returned to the city and in 1898 was reelected to the office of tax collector.

As Police Chief.

He served as chief of police under the Hammett administration and at the expiration of mayor Hammett's term captain White made the race for the office to succeed mayor Hammett and was supported by Mr. Hammett for the place but was defeated in a hotly contested campaign by C. R. Morehead.

He then accepted the position of assistant claim agent of the El Paso and Southwestern and held that position up to the time of his death.

In 1882 captain White was married to Miss Barbara Dupper, of Las Cruces. His wife and son, James E. White, both reside in El Paso.