

**Death of "Uncle Dick" Wootton.**

**Richens Lacy Wootton**, who came down here as guide and courier with Colonel Doniphan during the Mexican war, and carried the news of the battle of Sacramento and the capture of Chihuahua to Santa Fe; and who was well known to many El Pasoans, passed peacefully away at Trinidad, Colorado, last Tuesday. "Uncle Dick" was born at Mecklenburg, Virginia, May 6, 1816, and resided there until 17 years old when his father removed to Christian county, Kentucky. In 1836 he came to the Rocky mountain country with an overland freight train and became a part and parcel of the far western wilds. In his younger days he made numerous perilous trips over the pathless mountains and plains to the Pacific coast on the west and the Gulf of Mexico on the south. In 1858, one year before the great Pike's Peak excitement, he started the first store ever opened on the present site of Denver. He came to southern Colorado and settled twelve miles south of Trinidad, where he continued to live until a few years ago, when he removed to Trinidad, where he died.

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(Wootton also was owner of Raton Pass, N.M. He leased the rights through the pass to the Santa Fe Railroad, giving them access to the territory, thus blocking the Denver & Rio Grande. On May 15, 1903 Mayor C.R. Morehead appointed his son, R.L. Wootton, Jr. to the position of El Paso Chief of Police.)