

## JUDGE THOMAS HUNTON IS DEAD

Passes Away at the Wheatland Hospital on Thursday---Old Time

Resident and Prominent Citizen is Generally

Mourned---Business Houses Closed

Judge Thomas Hunton, a resident of this territory since 1873, and one of the most widely known citizens of the section died at the Wheatland hospital yesterday morning, age 66 years. Although he had been failing for two years, Judge Hunton's condition had been alarming only the past two weeks. Hardening of the arteries, arresting the circulation was the immediate cause of death.

The funeral occurred from the Episcopal church at 4:00 o'clock Thursday afternoon and interment was made in the Wheatland cemetery. All the business houses of the community closed for the hour between four and five o'clock, as a mark of deep grief felt for the departure of this distinguished citizen.

The funeral was largely attended. Old friends of the deceased, who have been watching his condition for the past several days with increasing alarm and sorrow, turned out to pay their last respects, crowding the church, and following the remains to the grave.

In early young manhood, Judge Hunton was afflicted with heart trouble, but his free life on the plains in the early days apparently made him a sound man, and for years, or up to the beginning of his decline, he was in the best of health. At that time, though, the heart action became bad, and he was started on the down grade. Every effort made to improve his failing health proved fruitless.

Ten days ago, a gangrenous affectation appeared in one of his legs, and his suffering became intense. He was taken to the Wheatland hospital, where, after other methods failed to afford relief, the leg was amputated. Local anesthetic was used for the operation, the nerve blocking method being resorted to on account of the condition of the patient's heart.

While the operation quieted the pain and relieved the suffering of Judge Hunton, the succession of the malady could not be checked, although every thing known to science was done to relieve his condition. The hardening of the arteries continued until the circulation became affected in all parts of the body, and death resulted.

Judge Hunton was born in Madison, Va, on October 2, 1853, and received his education in the schools of that state. In April, 1873, he arrived at Bordeaux, a boy of less than twenty years of age. At that time, John Hunton, a brother, was located at Bordeaux, then a station on the old freight road to the Black Hills. He was one of the earliest business men of Wyoming. Thomas Hunton was taken in and assisted his brother John for a number of years, or until 1882, when he revisited his old home in Virginia, renewing his acquaintance with Miss Mora Evans, a childhood companion, and wedded her.

The call of the new west was strong in Thomas Hunton's blood, and bringing his bride, he returned to this section. Soon after this, John Hunton who had been a very large factor in the development of this territory, and who had widened his interests greatly, turned over the business at Bordeaux to Thomas Hunton, who conducted it for a number of years, or until Wheatland gave promise of being an important point, when he removed here, opening the livery and stock business which he retained until the time of his death.