

A BAD OCCURRENCE.
Mrs. John Egan Unconsciously Inhaled Too Much Chloroform and Dies Under Its Influence.
The citizens of Pensacola were painfully shocked yesterday afternoon as the news spread throughout the city that Mrs. Egan, wife of John Egan, Esq., the well known attorney, was dead. To those who had seen her but the day previous, known to health and filled with enthusiasm in her efforts to provide an asylum for homeless orphans, the announcement of her death appeared incredible, but alas! it was only too true.
On Tuesday the W. C. T. U., of which the deceased was a prominent and most active member, gave an excursion on the bay to aid the Union in entertaining the delegates to the state association of the W. C. T. U., which will meet in this city next month, and also to erect in building an Orphan's Home in this city. Mrs. Egan was the leading spirit on the excursion and was striving in her efforts to make it a success. Owing, probably, to her exertions on the boat she contracted a cold, and yesterday morning was suffering with a severe neuralgic pain in the head. Her suffering was so great that towards noon she retired to her room to lie down. She told a servant girl to bring her a small bottle of chloroform which was in the house, and when it was brought applied a small quantity to a handkerchief which she placed on her forehead and thus lay down. Some time afterward a member of the family entered the room and asked Mrs. Egan how she felt. She replied that she felt better and thereupon she was left alone to sleep.
She was not disturbed until Mr. Egan came home to dinner about 2 p. m. He asked for Mrs. Egan, and when told that she was in her room suffering with neuralgia, he went to her. When he entered the darkened room he saw his wife lying still on the bed. He called her, but received no answer. Raising the curtains of a window to let in light, he noticed that she was lying in an unnatural position, and also detected the fumes of chloroform in the room. Again he tried to arouse her, and failing, telephoned for Dr. W. H. Ross, the family physician. When Dr. Ross arrived he found her unconscious and immediately telephoned to Mr. Buchanan to come with a private battery. When Dr. Buchanan arrived with the battery it was applied without effect. From the rigidity of the limbs the physicians are satisfied that she had been dead for at least half an hour before her husband's arrival.
Later it was discovered that Mrs. Egan's death was the result of an unfortunate accident. After she had placed the handkerchief on her forehead, slightly saturated with chloroform, and had been left alone to rest, she lay down on the bed with the bottle grasped in one hand. After the chloroform had eased the pain and soothed her to sleep, by some means the cork in the bottle dropped out, and the entire contents were spilled on the pillow and bed clothing. This she inhaled in her sleep and unconsciously passed away.
The untimely death of Mrs. Egan will long be mourned in many households where her kindly influence and self-sacrificing spirit had been felt and acknowledged. Filled with love for humanity and an earnest desire to assist the weak, distressed and the fallen, she was foremost in every good work. She was a model Christian wife and mother, and her presence made a blessing in her home. Her earnest nature and sunny disposition were an inspiration to her friends and cheered them in every undertaking in which they were associated with her. Her last appearance among them was in the noble work of providing a home for orphan children—a work which strongly appealed to her sympathies, and which she has left as a legacy to her co-workers.
The deepest sympathy is felt in the community for the bereaved husband and the four children that have thus been suddenly bereft of a loving mother's care.
Mrs. Egan was a devoted member of the Presbyterian church, and the funeral services will be held at that church at 4 o'clock this afternoon.



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