

HER CHIEF CITIZEN

Hon. Joseph W. Suprenant Dies
Very Suddenly.

ASTORIA SHOCKED TO CENTER

Mayor, and Mayor Elect, Found Dead
in His Bed Yesterday Morning—His-
tory of His Career—Funeral Arrange-
ments—Action of Council.

Early yesterday morning the people of this city were astounded by the intelligence that Hon. Joseph W. Suprenant, Mayor of Astoria, was dead.

At first the news was scarcely believable, but confirmation "strong as

ing and status, that of real and sincere regret, the sum of all which, constitutes the highest and best expression of public interest.

Mr. Suprenant had presided at the adjourned session of the Common Council at the city hall, on the evening of Thursday, with his accustomed dignity and perspicuity, and after a short while spent with friends down town, had retired to his handsome Exchange street home apparently in his usual good health, nor did those at his home note anything of undue nature in the few moments devoted to them before his retiring for the night.

Yesterday morning, when his nephew, Mr. Brooks went to his room to summon him to breakfast, he found his uncle lying in what he took for a peaceful, if prolonged slumber, but upon further effort to arouse his sleeping kinsman, found to his great grief, that the mayor was past all human bidding, and quietly informed his mother, Mrs. Minnie Brooks, (the sister of Mayor Suprenant, and for years the matron of his home), who soon verified her son's gravest fears. Dr. J. A. Fulton

sable. As soon as was practicable, the officers of the city were informed of the death of the chief executive and due steps were taken by each and all to mark the grave crisis in municipal affairs, and the city hall was closed at once, and its flag placed at half-mast.

Mayor Suprenant's health had not been of the ruggedest for some time past and it was but a few weeks ago he was stricken with a fainting spell and taken to his home from his office in the city hall, but from which he soon rallied and, to all appearances, entirely recovered. The attack from which he sank on Thursday night was apopleptic in its nature and was due largely to poor arterial circulation in the brain; though its ravages did not, judging from the posture of the body and the condition of his bed equipment, subject the victim to any undue agony, a conclusion of wonderful comfort to all who were so near him, yet unconscious of his extremity.

It is needless for the Astorian to rehearse the multifarious notes of his long career in this city; there is no one unfamiliar with his whole history, almost from day to day, so simple and straight-forward has his life been here, and yet for the sake of those who may not be in touch with his long and useful career, we append the following recorded items of his long and honorable life and service in his midst.

A son of the late Anthony Suprenant, he was born August 15, 1849, at Glens Falls, N. Y. On the maternal side, he is of French origin, his grandfather, Frederick Suprenant, and his great-grandfather, Coburt Suprenant, having been born in France. A political refugee, Frederick Suprenant came to America in 1818 locating first in Montreal, Canada, but subsequently removing to Saint Edwards, where he bought a farm, and was also engaged in the mercantile business. He married a Miss La Point, who was of English ancestry.

Brought up in Glens Falls, N. Y., Joseph W. Suprenant was educated in the public schools. After the death of his father he had to leave school, being one of the older children, and immediately began work, serving as an apprentice for five years at the cabinet-maker's trade. Subsequently taking up the carpenter's trade, he worked as an apprentice three years, and was then in

an architect's office in Albany, N. Y., for a year. He afterwards worked at his trade in Glens Falls until 1876, when he came to Oregon, locating in Astoria in December of that year. Since that time Mr. Suprenant has been actively engaged as a contractor, builder and architect, for thirteen years being in partnership with J. E. Ferguson, but since then has been alone. He has met with success, being employed in government, railway and wharf building. He superintended the building of the Ilwaco Railroad, erected the barracks and other buildings at Fort Stevens, Canby and Columbia, and has built sixteen sawmills in this and adjoining counties. He has erected the finest residences in Astoria, and also built many of the largest business houses of the city, including the Northern Pacific brewery. In 1903 he erected the Tongue Point Lumber Company's mill at a cost of \$300,000, it being the finest mill in the United States.

In 1897 Mr. Suprenant made a trip to the newly discovered gold region, going to Alaska, thence across Chilcot Pass, and down the lakes and the Yukon river to Dawson, where he met with fairly good success in mining. In the spring of 1898 he went up the Stewart river for about seven hundred miles in a small boat, and found the mining remunerative, but experienced great difficulty in getting provisions. Returning to Dawson, he spent the following winter prospecting, meeting with success. In January, 1899, in company with two others, he walked up the Yukon for about seven hundred miles, as far as Skagway, the provisions being carried by dogteams. He was twenty-one days making the trip, sometimes covering forty miles a day, in spite of the intense cold, the mercury having stood at fifty-seven degrees below zero when he started. Returning from there to Astoria, Mr. Suprenant made a remarkably quick trip to New York to attend the funeral of his mother, and on coming back to Astoria, built his present fine residence and a new office.

For a number of years Mr. Suprenant was a member and foreman of the Rescue Engine Company No. 2. In 1901, at the solicitation of prominent citizens, he accepted the Republican nomination for mayor, and was elected by a handsome majority. Taking the oath of office January 1, 1902, he served most efficiently for two years, reducing the city debt, improving the street system, and placing the municipality on a more substantial financial basis. In 1903 he was re-elected to the office without opposition. Politically Mr. Suprenant is a steadfast Republican. Socially he is a member of the Chamber of Commerce; of the Commercial Club; and of the Irving Club.

The local lodge of the Fraternal Order of Eagles will have full charge of the funeral obsequies of the late mayor, and these will take place on

Sunday morning next from St. Mary's Catholic church, of which communion the deceased mayor was a member and where a requiem mass will be sung for repose of his soul. The entire arrangements were not perfected at a late hour last night, and will be given complete and conspicuous report in these columns tomorrow morning.

The death of Mayor Suprenant leaves the executive functions of the city under the charter, in the hands of Councilman Geo. W. Morton, of the second ward and now president of the council. Upon the formation of the new council in January it will be the duty of that body to appoint a mayor to serve until the next city election in December, 1906, when the elected successor will serve out the second year of the dead mayor's term.

The appointee of the council for next year has not been named as yet with anything like finality, but rumor is busy with the names of Herman Wise, Dr. Henderson and other notables of the Democratic faith, which party is now in complete control of city affairs. There is any amount of excellent timber from that standpoint and it is not probable the city will be long without an executive head, to replace the capable and useful servant of this public, whose record is here enlarged upon.

Furious Fighting.

"For seven years," writes Geo. W. Hoffman, of Harper, Wash., "I had a bitter battle, with chronic stomach and liver trouble, but at last I won, and cured my diseases, by the use of Electric Bitters. I unhesitatingly recommend them to all, and don't intend in the future to be without them in the house. They are certainly a wonderful medicine, to have cured such a bad case as mine." Sold under guarantee to do the same for you, by Charles Rogers, druggist, at 50c a bottle. Try them today.

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MAYOR J. W. SUPRENANT.

Holy Writ" was soon supplied and the last citizen of the City-by-the-Sea was convinced beyond the slightest doubt, when astonishment gave way to genuine and broadcast sorrow over the loss to his family and the city. But one expression was heard from all directions, and from all citizens of whatsoever call-

ing was instantly summoned and after due examination reported to the family that Mr. Suprenant had been dead for some hours.

The grief of the family is very great and has the distinction of being shared by the whole community, in so far as such sacred invasions are permis-

Pain may go by the name of rheumatism, neuralgia, lumbago, pleurisy. No matter what name the pains are called, Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea will drive them away. 35 cents Tea or Tablets. Sold by Frank Hart.

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