

GOV. HAHN'S DECEASE.

The Sudden Death of Another Member of Congress.

MICHAEL HAHN OF LOUISIANA.

His Death Ascribed to the Bursting of a Blood Vessel.

Ex Governor Hahn of Louisiana, a prominent member of the Congressional delegation of that State, died very suddenly in his apartments at Willard's Hotel this morning.

The fireman, to whom is entrusted the duty of attending to the fires in the guests' rooms in the early morning, was making his tour about 6:30 o'clock, and entered the private parlor occupied by Governor Hahn, on the east front of the first floor of the hotel. A horrible sight presented itself upon entering the apartment. Governor Hahn lay outstretched on the floor, arrayed in his night robe, covered with blood, and in a lifeless condition. Horrified and terrified by the sight, the fireman ran out of the room and down into the hotel lobby, announcing his discovery to the little group assembled there, and giving rise to the rumor, which soon proved to be cruelly unjust and entirely untrue, that the well known Louisianian had taken his own life.

The attaches of the hotel hastened to Governor Hahn's apartment. It did not require the experience of a physician to determine that death had been the result of natural causes. It was apparent to those who entered the room that Mr. Hahn had been seized with a violent coughing spell, had risen from bed and that an internal hemorrhage had ensued and resulted fatally.

All the indications pointed to an almost immediate death. Since the opening of the session Governor Hahn has occupied this apartment at Willard's, and during this time he has been in ill health, recently suffering from a slight attack of pneumonia. During the last few days he had complained only of a severe cough, and last evening reported himself to some callers as being in unusually good health and spirits.

Soon after the death of Governor Hahn had been discovered Dr. Bliss and Coroner Patterson authorized the removal of the remains to Spear's undertaking establishment, and the friends of the deceased Congressman were notified of the sad event. A number of members of Congress called at Willard's during the morning to express their grief, and on the lips of all were words of kind tribute to the many sterling qualities of the dead Congressman. Sergeant at Arms Loedon assumed charge of the remains.

DR. BLISS' STATEMENT.

Dr. Bliss, who boards at Willard's, said to a *Curtis* reporter this morning: "I have been treating Mr. Hahn for a bad case of catarrhal bronchitis for over a month, keeping him confined to his room a great deal of the time. During the last week he has shown decided improvement, and was intending to go out to day. He was feeling unusually bright yesterday, being troubled very little with his cough. He went down to tea last evening about 9 o'clock, and ate with a good relish. The first news I had of his death was when I came down stairs this morning. I went immediately to his room and found the body lying upon the floor, the head against the bureau, the arms outstretched and the face ghastly pale, but showing no sign of suffering. His neck and breast were covered with blood and a great pool of blood was beside the mantel piece, on the floor. From all appearances he had evidently been attacked with a coughing spell while in bed and ruptured a blood vessel, as the bedclothes were stained with blood. He then got up, and, walking to the fire-place, leaned against the mantel, heaving up great quantities of blood, until he became faint from the loss, and, staggering back, fell upon his back on the floor. I should judge that he did not live more than four minutes, and, probably, either did not realize his danger, or was too dazed to call for assistance. He was a man of very steady habits, though rather eccentric, and his total disregard of all the laws of health retarded his recovery. His room was small, and, when it became heated, he would throw up a window and sit in the draft."

Mr. Leedingham of the Willard Hotel back stand, who was one of the first on the scene, said: "I was standing at the hotel counter about 6:30 this morning, when the fireman of the hotel rushed down and exclaimed, 'There is a man in 16 with his throat cut!' I immediately went up to the room and found the body of Mr. Hahn covered with blood and lying in a pool of blood near the bureau. The door of the room was then locked and Coroner Patterson summoned. After the arrival of the Coroner we washed the dead man's face and found evidence of his having died of a ruptured blood vessel. The report of his having committed suicide arose from the fireman's report on seeing the body lying in a pool of blood and blood on the throat."

The deceased Congressman was a native of Bavaria, born November 24, 1830, and while an infant was brought to this country by his widow mother, who took up her residence in New Orleans. He received a public school education and adopted the law as a profession, early showing a fondness for political life. During the war he was a Union Democrat, active in the work of reconstruction, and was elected to Congress in 1862. In March, 1864, he was elected the first Governor of the free State of Louisiana; and in January, 1865, being elected United States Senator, he resigned, but did not press his claim for the Senate. He was at various times connected with the press and held a number of important offices, being Superintendent of the Mint in 1878 and afterward on the bench. He was elected to the Forty-ninth Congress as a Republican, over Houston, Democrat.

Dr. Lamb of the Medical Museum made an autopsy this afternoon and found that the immediate cause of the death was an aneurism.