

# A DREAM TOLD OF HIS DEATH

Henry M. Franklin Found Lifeless in  
Room at Morris.

## THE HOUSEKEEPER'S DREAM

Led Her to Send Servant to Franklin's  
Apartments.

## HE DIED FROM CONGESTION

He Had Been Traveling Salesman for  
Twenty-five Years—Resides in

Aberdeen, Miss., Where His

Remains Were Sent.

Henry M. Franklin was found dead on the floor of his bedroom in the Morris hotel shortly before 8 o'clock yesterday morning.

He was a traveler for the J. C. Hines Shoe Manufacturing company, of Gainesville, Ga., and his home was at Aberdeen, Miss.

A strange part of the story is that his death was discovered by a dream.

He had been sick for two or three days, and Wednesday night the housekeeper of the Morris, Mrs. Laynard, dreamed that he was dead. On awaking yesterday morning about 5:15 o'clock, she remembered her dream, and sent a servant to Mr. Franklin's room.

The servant knocked at the door. There was no answer. The door not being locked he opened it, and entered. Mr. Franklin was discovered on the floor dead.

### Lying on His Back

He lay flat on his back, his right hand on his heart, his left hand resting upon his stomach. He was fully dressed, except as to his coat, and his features were as calm and unmarked by pain as if he had been in a healthful sleep.

The servant immediately gave the alarm, and Dr. B. G. Copeland, who occupies apartments in the hotel, was at once summoned. But the man was beyond the power of medical aid.

Dr. Copeland made a thorough examination of the body, and to outward appearance it was perfectly sound. There was not so much as a bruise or scratch of the skin visible. The strong-looking stalwart figure looked as though it might have been asleep.

After a careful and painstaking examination, Dr. Copeland announced that Mr. Franklin had died of congestion, and he gave a death certificate to that effect.

Coroner Alex Dallas was summoned and the police notified, as was William H. Brooks, the well known commercial traveler who was a personal friend of the dead man. Mr. Brooks arrived in the city immediately after the death was discovered. He took charge of Franklin's affairs, and at once telegraphed the members of the unfortunate man's family, causing the news to be broken gently to Franklin's immediate household in Mississippi.

After a close investigation, Coroner Dallas decided to allow the body to be prepared for sending away, and it was sent by the noon train over the Kansas City road to Aberdeen. Subsequently the coroner took the testimony of the hotel housekeeper and others as a formal matter of record.

### On Road Twenty-five Years

Mr. Franklin was one of the best-known commercial travelers in the south. He had been twenty-five years "on the road." He was 45 years old, and a man of great popularity, won by his great goodness of heart and his companionable manners. He leaves behind him an exceedingly interesting family. In the right-side pocket of his overcoat was found a photograph of his daughter, a beautiful girl of 19, and there was a letter from his wife reminding him of the approaching seventeenth birthday of their son. Numerous traveling men in the lobbies bore tribute to his worth as a man.

All his books and accounts were found in perfect order, and his hotel bill was paid up to this morning, when he evidently expected to go away. His sale-book bore a large order received the day before, but not copied. His expense account was brought down to yesterday.

### Dressing to Leave

The theory as to his physical position in death that he got out of bed to dress himself for his departure, and had finished his toilet except as to putting on his coat, when he suddenly felt the pangs of death and simply sank to the floor and rested upon his back. It is impossible that he could have fallen.

His younger brother, Howard Franklin, of Selma, arrived in the city last night and proceeded to Mississippi to attend the funeral. He was the object of sympathetic attention from many friends of his late brother, and received such consolation as kind hearts could give. The venerable mother of Henry Franklin, now nearly 80 years old, resides at Nashville, Tenn., and he was her favorite son. His youngest brother, Isaac Franklin, also a traveler for a shoe house, lost his life in the famous wreck on the Kansas City line, near Easley, in 1891. Therefore, the youngest and oldest of the brothers Franklin have met death suddenly in Birmingham. Mr. Howard Franklin has just witnessed the funeral of his sister-in-law, the late wife of former President of the Senate Compton, of Selma.

### The Remarkable Dream

Sudden death is not remarkable. Men die suddenly every day, and such deaths have come to be so numerous as to call for no special notice; but it is doubtful if there is on record a more remarkable dream than that of the housekeeper of the Morris. She dreamed that Franklin was dead, and sent a servant to find him lifeless on the floor. She is a lady of great delicacy and refinement, and her dream has caused her no little annoyance.