

# HENRY W. HOWGATE DEAD.

**His Eventful Career as Captain in the Army, Embezzler, and Fugitive from Justice for 13 Years.**

WASHINGTON, June 1.—Henry W. Howgate, at one time signal officer in the United States Army, died suddenly this afternoon of cerebral hemorrhage at his home in this city. He was sixty-seven years old.

Howgate had been living with his daughter, and his health up to a short time before his death was good. He was attacked with cerebral hemorrhage early to-day, and died shortly after noon. No definite funeral arrangements have been made, but it is expected the interment will be here.

Ex-Capt. Henry W. Howgate was one of the best known figures in Washington for several years prior to 1880. As chief disbursing officer of the Signal Service and a Captain in the army, he had the entry into military circles, and being a fine-looking and clever man was no small social factor.

The announcement came early in the eighties that he was a defaulter to the extent of more than \$100,000, and also that a woman on whom he had squandered most of the money was the cause of his downfall. Although Howgate had a wife, his attentions to this woman, whose reputation was not of the best, had already excited some adverse criticism.

Howgate was arrested in 1882, and was indicted for embezzlement, but before his trial he escaped from the officers who had him in charge. The escape caused a scandal, and it was charged by many newspapers that it was connived at by certain officials who dreaded to see the accused man placed on the witness stand. His daughter, however, who remained loyal to him to the last, accepted the responsibility of his escape, and after the first wave of indignation had subsided the story that she had attracted the attention of the officers at the Howgate home, where they had taken their prisoner, while her father fled was generally accepted.

Howgate was at large until 1895 when he was arrested in New York City, where he had run a book store in Tenth Street. He was tried and sentenced to eight years' imprisonment in the Albany Penitentiary. After serving his sentence, less two years taken off for good behavior, he returned to Washington and made his home with his daughter.

This was in December of last year. He was then nearly seventy years old, but did not seem to be broken in spirit, as he announced that he would begin life anew.

Howgate declared that all the stories about his wanderings in strange lands after his escape were pure fabrications. He said he had come to New York, and shortly afterward opened the book store in Tenth Street. He said, furthermore, that, if the Government had wanted him for trial there was no reason why he might not have been arrested many years before he was. He even declared that he had met Assistant Attorney General Colby, an old friend, many times. He was greatly surprised by his arrest, which was effected by Detective Drummond, formerly employed in the Secret Service.

Howgate died a very poor man, as the money stolen from the Government was squandered as rapidly as taken.

He was born in England. In 1862 he was appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Twenty-second Michigan Volunteers, and served to the end of the war with distinction, earning promotion for gallant and meritorious service in the battle of Chickamauga and in the Atlanta campaign. At the close of the war he entered the regular army and rose to the rank of Captain in the Signal Corps.

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