

Evening Edition Globe Latest

6:30 O'CLOCK

SHOCK TO HIS MANY FRIENDS

Death of Robert D. Evans of Beverly.

Horse Stumbled on Stone of Pile Once Ordered Removed.

He Had Wished Road Clear for President's Use.

BEVERLY, July 7—The news of the death of Robert D. Evans, one of the best known society men on the North shore, and owner of the Stetson cottage at Burgess Point, Beverly Cove, occupied by President Taft and his family, came as a terrible shock to the many friends of Mr Evans in this city.

Only last Thursday, in the best of health, he mounted his favorite horse to enjoy a ride through the North shore woods, in the direction of Beverly Farms, and had gone but a short distance, when he was thrown from his horse to the ground, breaking one of his ribs. His horse stepped on a stone and stumbled, causing the accident to Mr Evans.

Mr Evans did not consider his injuries serious and mounted his horse again, starting for home. He rode only a short distance, when he stopped and got off the animal, asking a man to lead the horse to the stable for him.

Mr Evans walked along with the man and when they arrived at the entrance of the Evans estate, Mr Evans mounted his horse again and drove into the estate. He was helped from the horse by one of the stable men. His injuries grew more painful and his family physician was sent for.

Mr Evans' condition grew worse, and it was found necessary to remove him to the Massachusetts Homeopathic hospital at Boston, where he was operated upon Sunday afternoon, and passed away last evening at 10 o'clock.

It is said that Mr Evans drove through the wood drive to see if a pile of stones had been removed near the Pickman estate, as he had ordered. It was when he was returning that the animal stumbled over the very pile of stones that Mr Evans wanted removed.

He was anxious to have the stones removed before the arrival of the President so as to make the drive through that section of the woods as enjoyable as possible for the President and his family.

It is understood that Mr Evans was warned by his coachman to look out for the horse, as he was becoming unsafe to ride horseback. Mr Evans, thinking much of the animal, took little notice of the warning given by the coachman.

Mr Evans had been looking forward to the arrival of President Taft at Beverly for some little time, and it was his plan to accompany the President to Norwich, Conn. to attend the 250th anniversary of the town.

Just before the arrival of the President at the summer capital last Sunday Mr Evans was removed to the hospital in his automobile.

WORKED HIS WAY UP.

Robert D. Evans Began His Business Career as Clerk in Employ of a Rubber Company.

Robert D. Evans, millionaire, captain of industry, art connoisseur and owner of Stetson cottage at Beverly, which President Taft is now occupying, was born about 60 years ago in St John, N B. When very young, however, he came, with his family, to Boston, where he has lived ever since.

Entering business at the bottom rung of the ladder, a clerk of the Eagle rubber company, he learned that business when it was in its infancy, and in a few years started out for himself in the firm of Clapp, Evans & Co.

His first ventures meeting with great success he took a leading part in the organization of the American rubber company and became its largest stockholder. When that corporation in turn was absorbed by the United States rubber company he was made the latter company's president, and to him is due much of its great and constant success.

Meanwhile, as if the confines of one great industry were too limited for his powers, he had become interested in mining, and in 1899, having amassed a large fortune, he reorganized the United States smelting, refining and mining company, and became its president. Only a few months ago he made a spectacular retirement from his position in that company, after a long fight with its controlling management, selling 100,000 shares of its stock for the lump sum of \$5,000,000.

Shortly after entering into these mining ventures he turned his attention also to gold dredging, the great possibilities of which he saw, and became one of the principals in the Uba dredging company, the largest concern of its kind in the world.

Two years ago he was unanimously elected a trustee of the Boston museum of Fine Arts, a fitting tribute to his own great interest in art of every kind. In his beautiful home at the corner of Commonwealth av and Gloucester st, is one of the finest private art collections in Boston.

The house is filled with works of masters of various schools, with particular prominence given to Sir Joshua Reynolds, Romney, Natier, Sir Thomas Lawrence and other painters of beautiful women. A gem of his collection is the splendid painting made about 1637 by Van Dyck of Beatrice de Cussance, Princess de Cantel-Croix, duchess of Lorraine, a portrait made familiar by many reproductions.

The drawing room of the house contains many masterpieces of the more modern schools, notably the famous "Carthage" of Turner, in which it is said that artist wished to be buried, considering it his masterpiece. Another Turner, two Corots, three Mauves and others of the Barbizon school by Daubigny and Millet, hang alongside works of Alma Tadema, Constable, Diaz, Cazin, Innes and many other illustrious artists.

The halls, hung with rare tapestries contain still other pictures, among them a fine Perugino, secured recently from Italy, and a painting by Puvis de Chavannes made before he began mural decoration.

In addition to his Boston home Mr Evans owns large estates in Beverly and it was as his tenant that President Taft came to occupy the Stetson cottage for the summer.