

Jack J. Spalding Dies at a Miami Hotel, Closing Long Career of Service to the South

*Death Comes to Outstanding
Catholic Layman at
Age of 82.*

By L. A. FARRELL.

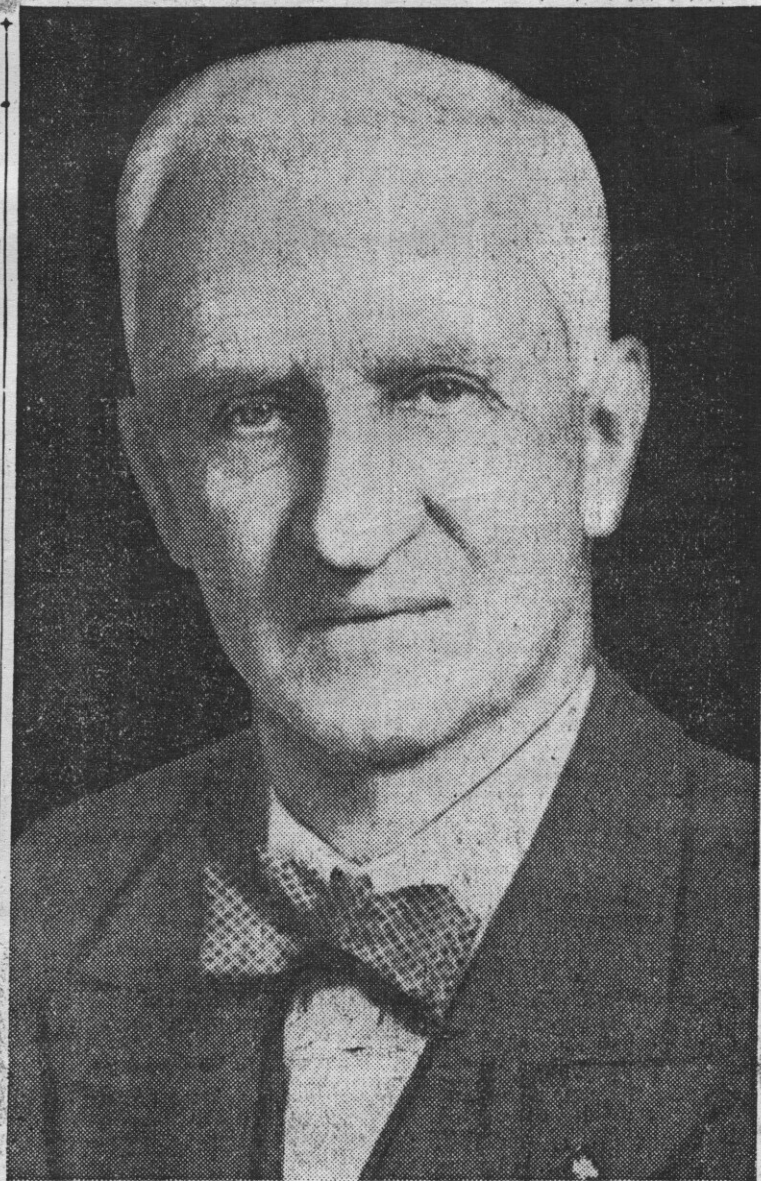
Death came at 82 yesterday to Captain Jack J. Spalding, who had to leave school because of frail health at 18, but who lived through three generations in a lifetime of achievements which have stamped his name indelibly in the history of Atlanta and Georgia.

He died in a Miami hotel where for the last 20 years he had sought refuge from the rigors of winter. The end came unexpectedly, although for several years he had not been in good health.

Mr. Spalding went from his hotel to a sanitarium yesterday for his daily treatment and luncheon. His health did not appear worse than usual. However, on his return to the hotel he was stricken suddenly. He personally called his physician, who arrived within a few minutes. The physician found Mr. Spalding at the point of death. The end came in another minute or two. The doctor said it was his heart.

As much as any man of his time, Captain Spalding helped build Atlanta. He came here from his native Morganfield, Ky., more than 60 years ago, when this city had a population of only 40,000. Here he built one of the greatest law practices in the south and helped build one of the greatest cities of the south.

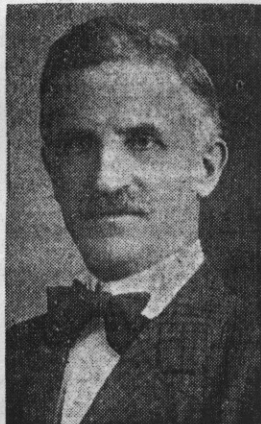
Captain Spalding, also was



JACK J. SPALDING.

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Young Lawyer Who Grew to Leadership in Life of City



The accompanying photos show Captain Jack J. Spalding as he appeared at various stages of his career. In the picture above he is shown as he looked at the time he came to Atlanta to start a legal practice.



In the top center Mr. Spalding is shown at the height of his career. Above he appears as a Knight of St. Gregory the Great, while in the lower center he is shown as he appeared on his 82d birthday last August.

JACK J. SPALDING DIES AT AGE OF 82

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known as "Judge" and "Colonel." He was the nestor of Georgia's Democracy, having attended more Democratic national conventions than any other party leader. He was dean of the city's bar. He was one of the nation's outstanding Catholic laymen, a Knight of St. Gregory the Great, a Knight of Malta and a winner of Notre Dame's coveted Laetare medal.

The Roman Catholic church—which found in him one of its strongest advocates ever to rise in the south—after conferring on him the highest honors it awards a layman in life, also signally honored him in death. From Savannah, the Rt. Rev. Gerald P. O'Hara, bishop of the Savannah-Atlanta diocese, announced a special dispensation to permit holding of the funeral in the new

Church of Christ the King on Peachtree road, an edifice which Captain Spalding helped build and which Catholic leaders said last night would stand as a memorial to him and J. J. Haverly, his lifelong friend and neighbor.

It will be the first service of any kind held in the new church, which will not be dedicated for several weeks. Bishop O'Hara himself will chant a pontifical requiem mass, assisted by the pastor, Father Joseph E. Moylan, and a large delegation of priests from the Savannah-Atlanta diocese.

The death of Mr. Spalding drew expressions of sadness from scores of political and church leaders. Governor Rivers paid high official and personal tribute, while Archbishop John Francis Rummell, of New Orleans, spoke for the Catholic church.

The funeral will be held at 10 o'clock Monday morning. The body is expected to arrive here tomorrow from Miami, accompanied by the attorney's son, Hughes Spalding, who left for the Florida city immediately upon learning of his father's death.

Members of Mr. Haverly's family said last night that he had not been informed of his friend's death.

"Mr. Haverly was slightly ill today and we deemed it best not to tell him of Mr. Spalding's death until tomorrow," a member of the Haverly family said. "We were

Yet to all who visited the household, even after the couple had reached their declining years, the outstanding fact was the never-ending romance of its master and mistress.

Journey Southward.

The Spaldings came to Atlanta on January 4, 1882, more than 56 years ago. The "Captain" used to delight in telling of his journey into the deep south. They made the trip by horse and buggy, by packet and several railroads, the last of which was the historic old Western & Atlantic.

Atlanta had been host to an exposition a year or two before the Spaldings' arrival, and a number of young lawyers who had come for the fair had stayed on in search of fame and fortune. With and against these the tall, young lawyer cast his lot. He and two other young men hired a single room in the old James building, dividing the janitorial duties which comprised most of their work.

In the mid-eighties Mr. Spalding had taken a business course and studied bookkeeping. Among the very few cases to reach his desk was one involving a business house which found itself in financial difficulties. Young Spalding was appointed what then was known as an assignee and which now would be called a receiver.

The young lawyer's knowledge acquired in business college stood him in good stead, and, to the amazement of all concerned, he was able to pay off all obligations and return something to the owners.

Grady Article.

The late Henry W. Grady heard of the achievement and wrote about it in The Constitution. It soon developed there were other firms in need of a lawyer with business acumen, and the Grady article promptly lifted young Spalding from the struggling lawyer class. In effect, he was "made."

Jack Spalding later formed a partnership with Alex King, who was later to become solicitor general of the United States. At his death he was a judge of the United States circuit court of appeals.

After Mr. King left him to become a nation-wide authority on business law, Mr. Spalding had for his partner E. Marvin Underwood, who became an assistant attorney general of the United States during the Wilson administration, and is now federal district judge for north Georgia.

Captain Spalding was established as one of the south's foremost lawyers. Corporations sought his services and he instilled both in clients and associates an unbounded faith in the future of Atlanta and the south. Many of his fees he quickly turned into stock in companies in which he had faith and within a few years he was almost as famous a business developer as a lawyer. Today his holdings are considered quite large, although his benefactions to his church, to the members of his large family and to friends have held them down.

Retires From Firm.

After Judge Underwood went to Washington, Mr. Spalding headed the firm of Spalding, MacDougald & Sibley, into which the late Haines H. Hargett later went as a partner. Mr. Hargett died in 1932. Several years later the elder Mr. Spalding retired, although remaining as adviser for the firm. Mr. Sibley moved to Wilmington as chief counsel for the Coca-Cola company. Pope F. Brock came from Macon and the firm took its present form of Spalding, MacDougald, Troutman & Brock.

action."
No history of Atlanta could be written without being colored with the activities of Mr. Spalding in the last 50 years. No story of his life could be written without entwining the history of the city. Through the years he builded himself, his church and his city.

Born in Kentucky.

Mr. Spalding was born at Morganfield, Ky., in August, 1856, the scion of a distinguished Kentucky family. He received his education in a log cabin community school in Union county on the banks of the Ohio river and in a Catholic school at Morganfield. Later he attended St. Louis University and Seton Hall College at South Orange, N. J. He was forced to abandon his studies at Seton Hall because of his health.

He contracted typhoid fever during an epidemic at South Orange and began to read a book on Blackstone while convalescing at his father's farm. He became so enamored of the law that, when he had recovered, he went into his father's office and took it up in earnest.

The Spalding home was on a farm several miles from Morganfield. In those days there was great rivalry among country and city boys, a rivalry which often led to open combat. Jack Spalding was the chosen leader of the country boys, and for his exploits in maneuvering his followers against their city rivals they gave him the title of "captain," a title which he held throughout the years. Asked where he got the title of "captain," he always replied "from the country boys."

Married Methodist.

On December 18, 1877, even before he was admitted to the bar. Mr. Spalding was married to Miss Elizabeth Hughes. Miss Hughes was a Methodist, and the wedding took place only after strenuous objections of both families had been overridden.

For years, Mr. Spalding accompanied his wife to her church and she accompanied him to his. Later, she began taking instructions and joined the Catholic church, and, at the time of her death, ten years ago, held high place herself in Catholic lay councils.

The romance of the Spaldings, which continued through their more than 50 married years, was a love known to all Atlantans. The Spalding home, "Deerland," on Peachtree road, was a house of entrancing serenity. During Mrs. Spalding's lifetime there was almost continuous open house and but few Atlantans of prominence had not been entertained there.

ta; Mr. Spalding was one of the originators of the Cotton States Exposition, held here in 1895. He was chief counsel for the exposition, and carried it to a conclusion without a judgment being rendered against it. During the period he was elected without opposition to the Fulton county commission in order that he might carry on the work of the

fair. This post, together with one year as county attorney of Union county, Kentucky, was the only public office he ever held.

It was while advocating the exposition that Mr. Spalding first brought the late Booker T. Washington into prominence and arranged the first speech the negro leader made before a white audience.

Mr. Spalding's law firm not only aided in the development of a number of textile mills and other industries in the state but it took a prominent part in the development of Atlanta as a railroad center.

In addition to Hughes Spalding, he is survived by another son, Jack J. Spalding Jr., of New York, and a daughter, Mrs. William H. Schroder, of Atlanta; 11 grandchildren, Mrs. Jack Kalkhurst, Jack J. Spalding III, a member of The Constitution staff; Miss Eleanor Spalding, Hughes Spalding Jr., Bolling Spalding, Robert E. Spalding, Billups Phinzy Spalding, Spalding Schroder, John Schroder, Hughes Schroder and William H. Schroder Jr., and two great grandchildren, Betty and Mary Anne Kalkhurst.