

Death at Port Lavaca

Mrs. Alice Owen Rahtgens an old resident of Calhoun County, died on Holy Thursday at her home in Port Lavaca. This devoted Christian and pure good woman received the faith of St. Patrick in "Holy Ireland", preserved it untainted and took care that it bore, in her own heart, the fruit of a Christian life. Animated with the zeal of an apostle she sought to bring back the erring to the practice of religion. God blessed her labor of love with success in more than one instance. Her devotion to God, her charity toward all in spiritual and corporal needs, made her loved, respected and honored in her home, and it is no wonder that a gloom passed over the congregation at Port Lavaca on the announcement of her death. The little church there was only last month embellished by her generosity with life sized statues- gifts bestowed in memory of loved ones passed away.

The obsequies were conducted by Rev. W. E. Heffernan and took place at old Indianola where her husband is buried. Only one child survives, Mr. Harry Rahtgens, but many grandchildren grieve for the venerable Mother's loss. Had she lived till May 15 she would have been 80 years old. She landed on the Texas coast in 1854. May her soul rest in peace. S M W Cuero, Tex. April 11, 1909

copied from a clipping in the possession of Mrs. Rae Smith Elder by
Mrs. J. W. Boyd 1968