

**Col. John M'Kee Dead**

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**Wealthiest Colored Man in This Country Passes Away at 80 Years.**

Colonel John McKee, who was probably the wealthiest colored man in this city, died on Sunday evening, at his late residence, 1030 Lombard street, of paralysis, aged 80 years. The estate of Mr. McKee is said to be valued at \$4,500,000 and consists largely of real estate, he at one time being the owner 1,000,000 acres of land. Col. McKee was born in Alexandria, VA., and was indentured as a brick maker.

At 21, years of age, Colonel McKee came to this city and got employment in a livery stable. Later he entered the service of James Prosser, a well-know restaurateur in Market street, below eighth. Then he married his employer's daughter and, Mr. Prosser retiring from business, conducted the restaurant until about 1866. Colonel McKee had been buying property from time to time, and on his retirement from the restaurant entered actively into the real estate business, buying and selling property for himself. His office was at his house in Lombard street, which he built in 1858, and where he resided until his death.

In this city, Colonel McKee at the time of his death owned from 300 to 400 houses each of them unencumbered. He was the founder and owner of McKee city, on the West Jersey Railroad, N.J., a tract 4,500 acres, divided into twenty-one farms. He also owned about 300,000 acres of coal and oil land in Kentucky and in Logan County, West Virginia; a tract of twenty-one acres at Fifth street and Oregon avenue, in this city, over 23,000 acres of land in Bath and Steuben counties, New York; a farm of sixty-six acres at Croydon, on the Delaware River, beside many other properties in Pennsylvania and other states. In the management of these and other properties he had been assisted for the last thirty years by his secretary Raymond J. Burr.

Colonel McKee in 1870, organized and was the colonel of 13th Regiment, N. G. P., in the 5th brigade of which General Louis P. Wagner was brigadier-general, and continued in command for two years. Afterwards, he organized and was the colonel of the 8th New Jersey, another colored regiment.

There are surviving Colonel McKee a daughter, Mrs. A. A. P. Syphax, of this city, and six grandsons, who are Harry McKee Menton and Ernest F. and Theophilus M. McKee, of this city, and John Douglass [continuation of article missing]