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WILLIAM HARKNESS.

Professor William Harkness, U.S.N.,
whose name has been identified with the
work of the United States Naval Observa-
try for nearly forty years, died in Jersey
City, N. J., February 28, 1903.

On his retirement for age from active
service in December, 1899, he went to his
home with the intention of returning to
Washington, after a short rest, for the pur-
purpose of devoting his well-earned leisure
to scientific work which the press of official
duties had prevented him from completing.
An attack of nervous prostration obliged
him to defer returning to Washington un-
til he should recover sufficient strength.
Month by month he expressed his expecta-
tion soon to be strong enough to return,
but he never recuperated sufficiently to
carry out his cherished plans. Weakness
of body confined him quite closely to the
house, so much so that he dared to venture
on the street not more than half a dozen

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