

John Peter Boss

(2 Aug 1819 – 24 Jan 1901)

Boss. Fell asleep at 9:10 o'clock January 24, 1901, John P. Boss, beloved husband of Caroline Pettit Boss, in the 82nd year of his age. Funeral will take place from his late residence, 402 M street northwest, Saturday, January 26 at 2 o'clock p.m. Relatives and friends invited. Please omit flowers.

The Evening Star, January 24, 1901, p. 3

John P. Boss Dead

One of the Oldest Printers in Employ of the Government

Mr. John P. Boss of the fifth division of the government printing office, one of the oldest printers in the District of Columbia and a pioneer member of Columbia Typographical Union, No. 101, died this morning shortly after 9 o'clock at his home, 402 M street. Mr. Boss was in his eighty-second year, having been born in Alexandria August 2, 1819. He was in his sixty-first year as a member of his craft organization, having joined the Typographical Society in 1840. Arrangements for the funeral have not been completed.

Mr. Boss was a most estimable gentleman, well-liked by all his fellow workmen and beloved by all who knew him intimately. At the age of fourteen he began his career as a printer, serving for a long while in the office of Gales & Seaton, then proprietors of the National Intelligencer. He was the first person employed as a printer in the government printing office after its establishment in 1861, continuing in the service of the government from that time up to the beginning of his last illness some weeks ago. For many years he was exclusively employed on the Nautical Almanac, and acquired a knowledge of that work possessed by few. Mr. Boss was remarkably vigorous in his old age, having always been a man of moderate and regular habits.

The deceased had been a member of Columbia Lodge, No. 10, I.O.O.F., for over fifty years, his record for longevity of membership being unequaled in the District of Columbia, it is said. He was also a member of Columbian Encampment, I.O.O.F., and of McKendree M.E. Church.

He is survived by a large family.