

Lewis Carusi

(- 19 Oct 1872)

Carusi. On the 25th instant, Lewis Carusi aged 72 years. His funeral will take place from the residence of Samuel Carusi No. 116 1st street northeast at 8:30 p.m. Saturday. Friends of the family are invited to attend.

The Evening Star, Saturday, October 26, 1872

Death of Mr. Lewis Carusi

Mr. Lewis Carusi, an old and respected citizen of Washington, died yesterday afternoon at the residence of his brother Samuel on the 1st street, N.W., in the 73d year of his age. The deceased came here with his father and brothers in 1805, and resided here until his death; having been for a long series of years the leading teacher of dancing in this city. He was a native of Catanis, Sicily. During the Tripolitan war his father joined the American squadron when it was off Catania, bringing his sons with him, and they all remained with the fleet until it returned to this country, when the family settled in this city. The father for a number of years was a teacher of music, and the sons about the year 1820 purchased the building at the corner of 11th and C streets, known for many years as "Carusi's saloon," and now as the "Theater Comique," where for nearly half a century the deceased taught dancing. He also taught that accomplishment in several institutions of learning, among them that of Rev. Dr. Keiley, in the building at the corner of 1st and C streets, known as the Old Capitol, where many of our "oldest inhabitants" were prepared for college over forty years ago. Many of the foremost ladies and gentlemen in the land can recollect when the old master taught them the slow and stately movements of the dances of the olden time. In some instances he taught the grandchildren of his earlier pupils. He was never married, and leaves a large property.

The National Intelligencer, Sept. 20, 1845

Mr. L. Carusi

I am happy to learn, from Mr. L. Carusi's advertisement, that he purposes to resume his old profession in our city. Mr. Carusi has been among us for many years, and his skill and success in teaching the youth of our city the fine art which he professes have been seen and acknowledged by all who have witnessed their performance. With that enterprise which has always distinguished him, Mr. C. many years ago purchased the first theatre erected in Washington, after it had been partially destroyed by fire, and converted it into a beautiful saloon for the accommodation of the citizens and the instruction of his scholars in dancing. For some time it was the only building calculated for such a purpose in our city, and used whenever a ball, assembly, or public meeting of the citizens was got up. On those occasions it was found to be a great convenience, and the liberal proprietor has often granted its use for public and other meetings. As an old citizen, who has spent a large portion of his life here, and has never failed, I believe, to give satisfaction to all who have employed him as a teacher of the "poetry of motion," I trust that he will again be patronized by the citizens as he has heretofore been, and according to his great merit and success as a professor of the art of dancing. I regretted to find that he had come to the determination to dispose of his fine saloon and remove from our city. But I learn that he has not been able to effect a sale of it, and has concluded, at the request of his friends, to remain among us, and continue to instruct the youth of our city in the art which he has so long and so successfully taught.

An Old Citizen, Washington, Sept. 12, 1845.