

## James Ciscle

( - 8 Aug 1907)

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**Ciscle.** Entered into rest on Thursday, August 8, 1907, James the beloved husband of Annie L. Ciscle. Funeral on Sunday, August 11 at 3 o'clock p.m. from Second Baptist Church, corner 4th street and Virginia avenue southeast. Relatives and friends invited.

### **Washington Naval Chapter, No. 6, R.A.M.**

Companions: You are requested to meet in the chapter room, Naval Lodge building, Sunday, August 11, 1907, at 2 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late companion, James Ciscle, who died Thursday morning, August 8. Funeral services will be held at the Second Baptist Church, 4th street and Virginia avenue southeast, at 8 p.m. By order the H.P.

John Schultz, Secretary

*The Evening Star, August 8, 1907, p. 2*

### **Death of James Ciscle**

#### **Doorkeeper of Long Service at White House Passes Away**

James Ciscle, for thirty years a doorkeeper at the White House, died shortly before noon today at his home, 504 B street southeast. Death was due to a complication of diseases. Mr. Ciscle had been ill for nearly three months. He retired from his post at the White House on account of ill health January 31. His wife, Mrs. Annie L. Ciscle, and one daughter, Miss Mabel, survive him. Arrangements for the funeral have not yet been completed.

Mr. Ciscle was prominently identified with a number of secret societies, among the organizations in which he held membership being Naval Lodge, No. 4, F.A.A.M.; Washington Naval Chapter, No. 6, R.A.M.; Orient Commandery, No. 5, K.T., and Almas Temple, Mystic Shrine. He was also past state councilor J.O.U.A.M., and past commander of Graham Camp, Sons of Veterans.

*The Evening Star, August 10, 1907, p. 6*

### **Funeral of James Ciscle Tomorrow Afternoon**

#### **Services at the Grave to Be Under Auspices of the Masonic Fraternity**

Impressive ceremonies over the remains of James Ciscle will be held tomorrow afternoon. Services will be held at the Second Baptist Church, 4th street and Virginia avenue southeast, at 3 o'clock p.m., and also at the grave. The ceremonies in the cemetery will be under the auspices of the Masonic fraternity, and will be of the most solemn character. Interment will be in Congressional cemetery.

The death of James Ciscle occurred Thursday at his home, 504 B street southeast. For thirteen years he was a doorkeeper at the White House, and after his retirement he was appointed chief of the secret service at the Jamestown exposition, but was forced by ill health to give up that position, being succeeded by C.B. Peyton of Washington, who has since resigned. He was a great favorite with the Roosevelt children.

Archie, it is said, being particularly fond of him. A telegram was sent to President Roosevelt at Oyster Bay, notifying him of Mr. Ciscle's death.

James Ciscle was born in the District of Columbia, and was the son of Thomas Ciscle, a veteran of the civil war. He was educated in the public schools, and learned the heating and tinning trade. A

fter serving in the United States Navy he engaged in the heating and tinning business, conducting an establishment a number of years in East Washington. Later he accepted an appointment on the police force. As an officer of the law he rendered efficient service, and he received merited praise from his superior officers for his faithful and conscientious performance of duty.

#### *Loyal to Duty*

His reputation for fearless and loyal attention to duty resulted in his being detailed for service at the White House, where he served during the administrations of four Presidents -- Cleveland, Harrison, McKinley and Roosevelt. While on duty there he became noted because of his knowledge of cranks who sought by various subterfuges and schemes to interview the several Presidents who occupied the White House during his guardianship at its portals.

One of Mr. Ciscle's noted experiences with desperate cranks occurred October 5, 1903, while he was conveying Philip Elliott, a demented Swede, to the station house in the wagon of the house of detention. Elliott drew a big pistol from its place of concealment on his person and attempted to shoot Ciscle. The latter sprang upon the Swede as he was trying to escape through the window of the vehicle. A jagged piece of glass cut through Ciscle's clothing and made a long and deep wound in his arm. After a desperate struggle Elliott was overpowered and conveyed to the lock-up. He was afterward sent to the insane asylum. Mr. Ciscle was detained at his home some time by the wound he had received in protecting the President from a maniac.

#### *Fraternal Relations*

James Ciscle was an honored member of the following organizations: Naval Lodge, No. 4, F.A.A.M.; Naval Chapter, No. 6, R.A.M.; Orient Commandery, No. 5, Knights Templar; Almas Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine; past state counsellor, Jr. O.U.A.M.; Old Glory Council, No. 24, Jr. O.U.A.M.; past commander Graham Camp, Sons of Veterans.

He retired from his position as one of the guardians of the White House January 31, 1906, and soon thereafter accepted the position of chief of detectives of the Jamestown exposition.

*The Evening Star, August 12, 1907, p. 8*

#### **Funeral Services Held**

##### **Interment of James Ciscle Under Masonic Auspices**

Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon over the remains of James Ciscle, for thirteen years doorkeeper at the White House and recently chief of detectives at the Jamestown exposition, who died last Thursday, as stated in The Star. Interment was in Congressional cemetery. Services were held at his late residence, 504 B street southeast, and later at the Second Baptist Church, where Rev. Benjamin Clayton officiated. These services were particularly impressive. Many floral tributes were sent by Mr. Ciscle's friends and by various organizations, to which he belonged. There was a handsome wreath from Secretary Loeb and one from the office force at the White House.

The services at the grave were conducted by Orient Commandery, No. 5, Knights Templar, and were in accordance with the Masonic ritual, Mr. Ciscle having been a prominent member of that fraternity. The pallbearers were W.S. Parker, F.L. Carson, J.H. Hoover, E.J. Hollis, W.H. Andrews, H.I. Meador, Samuel Schrivener and W.E. Owens.