

## Samuel Cross

( - 25 Nov 1906)

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*The Evening Star, December 20, 1872*

Mr. Samuel Cross, has been elected vestryman of Christ church, Episcopal, on the navy yard, vice Mr. Charles F. Smith, appointed superintendent of Congressional burying ground.



*The Evening Star, November 30, 1895*

### **Mr. Cross Recovering**

Mr. Samuel Cross, secretary and treasurer of the Washington Safe Deposit Company, who was thrown from his buggy Wednesday afternoon while driving with Mrs. Cross at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and 1st street southeast, is recovering from his injuries, and his many friends will be pleased to know there is no likelihood that there will be any serious result from his mishap. Mr. Cross had not taken his horse from the stable for about a week and the spirited animal, becoming frightened a short distance from his home got one of its hind legs entangled with the dashboard and threw the occupants from the buggy. Mrs. Cross escaped without injuries other than very slight flesh bruises, but Mr. Cross was cut on the forehead and cheek by his fall and rendered unconscious. Although his injuries are not considered serious, they are quite painful. Last evening the wounds on his face were dressed, and it will be necessary for him to remain at home some

days in order to avoid the danger of catching cold in the injured parts of his face. His physician hopes, however, that he will be able to leave his home within a week or ten days.

**Cross.** On Sunday, November 25, 1906, at 9:20 p.m., at his residence, 1462 Harvard street, Samuel Cross, aged 73 years. Funeral Wednesday, November 28, at 2 p.m. Interment private.

### **Cross. Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States**

Commandery of the District of Columbia

City of Washington, November 27, 1906

The death of Companion Samuel Cross, First Lieutenant, U.S. Volunteers, in this City, on the 25th instant, is announced to the Commandery. Funeral services at which the attendance of Companions is requested, will be held at his late residence, 1462 Harvard Street, on Wednesday, 28th instant, at 2 o'clock p.m. The insignia of the Order will be worn.

By command of

Rear Admiral Thomas O. Selfridge, U.S. Navy, Commander

W.P. Huxford, Recorder.

*The Evening Star, November 26, 1906, p. 3*

**Mr. Sam Cross Dead**

**Quietly Passed Away at His Home Last Night**

**Long a Resident Here**

**Held Many Offices Under the Local Government**

**Known in Business Circles**

**Former Associates Speak of Him With Affection and Deep Regret at His Death**

Samuel Cross, one of the foremost business men of the capital city and a man whose friends could not be numbered, died last evening of dropsy at his home, 1462 Harvard street northwest, shortly after 9 o'clock, aged 73 years. Around the bedside when the end came was his wife and daughter, Miss Hattie Cross. Mr. Cross, who was secretary of both the Washington Safe Deposit Company and the National Metropolitan Fire Insurance Company, had suffered from dropsy since the latter part of August. Although feeling better latter part of August. Although feeling badly he kept going to his office each morning until about two weeks ago, when he was compelled to stay at home for several days on account of weakness. He seemed to regain his strength for a day or so shortly, but did not go again to his office, his gradually weakening condition causing him to keep to his room. Four days ago he seemed to grow much worse, and upon the advice of his physician he took to his bed. From that time he gradually became weaker until the end came, as stated, last evening.

*Words of Regret*

When the news of Mr. Cross' death spread over the city many were the words of regret heard on all sides. Those who had known and loved him in life were a unit in declaring that in his death Washington had lost one of its best residents as well as one whose life work stood as a monument for all that was straightforward and upright in the business life of the community.

Mr. Cross was married twice. His first wife was a Miss Miller, daughter of a prominent resident of Southeast Washington. The union was blessed with one child, Miss Hattie Cross, who resides in this city. Some years after the death of his first wife, Mr. Cross married Mrs. Ella Burbridge, a daughter of Mr. George Norbeck. All during his life Mr. Cross loved Washington. He loved to hear of the plans proposed for the beautification of the capital city. His residence on Harvard street in Columbia Heights shows the rare taste that always characterized his every effort. He was one of the simple men of the capital who loved the heights, and when the opportunity presented itself some years ago he occupied the home where he passed away. His father, Thomas Brooke Cross, was an employee of the navy yard in the early days of the history of the city, and inculcated in his son the love of the municipality. When the civil war broke out Mr. Cross was an ardent admirer of the union, and immediately raised a company for the defense of Washington, he acting as the captain. When the territorial form of government was in effect in the District of Columbia, Mr. Cross several times offered himself as a candidate for the assembly and each time was elected. He seemed always to appreciate the honor conferred upon him and did much to better the condition of the city.

*In the District Government*

Sometime afterward he became attached to the office of Tax Collector Dixon and during his service he made the acquaintance of many of the leading men of the city. The friendship here won continued until the day of his death. Mr. Cross was an active member of the Oldest Inhabitant Associations and of many other local organizations. Mr. Cross was known as one who possessed a fine bass voice and upon many occasions he gave pleasure to many with his renditions of musical selections. He also sang in several churches but during the last years of his life he had not been a member of any church choir. The funeral will take place on Wednesday afternoon at the residence, Rev. George F. Dudley, rector of St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal Church, will conduct the services. The interment, which will be private,

will be in Congressional cemetery. The honorary pallbearers will be Messrs. E.F. Droop, William A. Gordon, W.H. Hoeke, Thomas Brown, J. Holdsworth Gordon, George C. Henning, C.W. Howard and Richard Tyler. The active pallbearers as chosen are Messrs. James M. Greene, Edward H. Droop, Watson F. Clarke, William Hitz, C.B. Lower and Carl Droop.

#### *A Tribute From a Friend*

An incident that thoroughly shows the high regard that Mr. Cross was held in by his friends was the reading of a poem on his life at a celebration of his seventieth birthday anniversary, held several years ago, by Mr. C.B. Lower. It was entitled "Our Good Old Friend Sam Cross," two verses of which were as follows:

#### *Our Good Old Friend Sam Cross*

"Three-score and ten years old today,  
Hale and hearty as at twenty-one;  
Good for a hundred, may he live it we pray,  
With a lifework nobly done.  
Grand among men in his bearing and mien;  
No common or turbulent boss,  
He rules by the love he compels all to give,  
Our good old friend Sam Cross.

"He was made of a metal as pure and true  
As ever was wrought by artisan skill  
Into the blade of the finest sword--  
Even the sword of Bunker Hill.  
He was cast in the mold made for princes and kings  
He came forth without blemish or dross  
And e'enrins a bell the time manhood rings  
Of our good old friend Sam Cross."

Mr. Carl Droop, speaking today of the death of Mr. Cross, said:

"He was a lifelong friend to me and closer than any man except my father. In all my acquaintance with him I never knew him to harbor an unkind thought toward any one. The sweetness and gentleness of his nature were remarkable. He was held in the highest esteem by all of his business associates and beloved by his friends."

Mr. Brook Cross, his nephew, who was associated with him in the Washington Safe Deposit Company, of which he was the secretary, could not say too much about Mr. Cross' high character and kindly nature. He was looked upon with the greatest regard by the employers of the deposit company, as well as those of the National Metropolitan Fire Insurance Company, of which he was also the secretary.

*The Evening Star, November 27, 1906, p. 12*

#### **Funeral of Samuel Cross**

#### **Services at Family Residence Tomorrow Afternoon**

Arrangements have been completed for funeral services over the remains of Mr. Samuel Cross tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock at the family residence, 1462 Harvard street. Rev. George F. Dudley, rector of St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal Church, will officiate. The interment, which will be private, will be in Congressional cemetery.

The honorary pallbearers will be Messrs. E.F. Droop, William A. Gordon, W.H. Hoeke, Thomas Brown, J. Holdsworth Gordon, George C. Henning, C.W. Howard and Richard Tyler, and the active pallbearers Messrs. James M. Greene, Edard H. Droop, Watson F. Clark, William Hitz, C.B. Lower and Carl Droop.

*The Evening Star, November 28, 1906*

### **Sam Cross' Funeral**

#### **Large Attendance at His Late Residence This Afternoon**

In the presence of a large number of sorrowing relatives and friends the funeral services over the remains of Mr. Samuel Cross were held at the family residence, 1462 Harvard street northwest, at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

The services were conducted by Rev. George F. Dudley, rector of St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal Church. Prominent among those in attendance were many members of the Oldest Inhabitants' Association of the District of Columbia, Loyal Legion and Board of Fire Underwriters of the District, of all of which organizations the deceased was a member.

At a meeting of the board of fire underwriters, held yesterday, resolutions of sympathy for the bereaved family were adopted, and Messrs. R.G. Rutherford, H.K. Simpson, Fred Platt, Ralph W. Lee, W.P. Young, H.H. Bergman, Walter A. Brown, Lem Towers, jr., C.S. Nesbit, P.S. Larnier, Simon Wolf and Gen. G.W. Balloch appointed members of a committee to attend the funeral. This afternoon all were present at the services with the exception of Mr. Wolf and Gen. Balloch, who were unable to be in attendance on account of illness. The honorary pallbearers were Messrs. E.F. Droop, William A. Gordon, George C. Henning, Thomas Brown, W.H. Hoeke, J. Holdsworth Gordon, C.W. Howard and Richard Tyler. The list of the active pallbearers included Messrs. Edward H. Droop, James M. Greene, Watson F. Clark, C.B. Lower, Carl Droop and William Hitz.

The interment, which was private, was in Congressional cemetery.

A meeting of the board of underwriters was held yesterday to take action relative to the death of Mr. Samuel Cross. A committee consisting of Messrs. Simpson, Bermann and West was appointed to draft suitable resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, stating that the Board of Fire Underwriters of the District of Columbia, having heard, with deep regret and sorrow, of the death of our beloved associate, Samuel Cross, who for more than 35 years has been the efficient secretary of the National Metropolitan Fire Insurance Company and an honored member of this Board of Fire Underwriters since its organization. It was resolved that in the death of Samuel Cross the profession of fire underwriting has lost one who was ever true to the best principles of the profession, and an earnest exponent of those practices that made him beloved and respected by all with whom he had business relations, and this board is called to mourn for one whose cheery voice and affable manner ever came as welcome sunshine, at all our gatherings, whether it was in our hours of joy and relaxation, or in the more somber moments of business perplexities.

They united with all the citizens of this District in paying tribute to one, who, in his earlier years, bore a large part in its civic affairs, and when the life of our common country was in danger loyally enlisted in her defense, and one who in every position he was called upon to fill performed the duties with credit to himself and honor to the city of his birth; and it was further resolved that the president of the Board of Fire Underwriters appoint a committee to attend his funeral, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased.

A committee consisting of Messrs. Simon Wolf, F.W. Pratt, Ralph W. Lee, W.P. Young, H.H. Bergmann, Walter A. Brown, R.G. Rutherford, Philip F. Larnier, Lem Towers, jr.; George W. Balloch, Charles F. Nesbit and Henry K. Simpson represented the board at the funeral of Mr. Cross.