

William Shelton Dulin

(1 Jul 1849 – 28 May 1900)

Dulin. Entered into rest Monday, May 28, 1900 at 11:30 o'clock p.m., William Shelton Dulin, beloved husband of Mary Gordon Dulin in the 50th year of his age. Funeral from the chapel of J. Wm. Lee, undertaker, 332 Pennsylvania avenue northwest on Thursday, May 31 at 2 o'clock. Relatives and friends are requested to attend. Interment private.

Dulin. On Thursday, June 28, 1900 at 4:30 p.m., the remains of William S. Dulin will be taken from the vault in Congressional cemetery and interred in the family lot. Relatives and friends invited to be present.

The Washington Post, September 10, 1882, p. 1

Dulin's Deception

A Scandal That Excites East Washington

Why a Prospective Marriage Did Not Come Off --

An ex-Policeman's Strange Conduct -- The Facts in the Case

The marriage of Mr. William Dulin, of the police force to Miss Mary Gordon, was solemnized at the residence of the bride's parents, corner of Tenth and M streets southeast, Wednesday evening. A large number of friends called and congratulated the happy pair, who have gone to New York on a bridal tour.

The above item appeared in last Friday's Republican. Three circumstances conspired to destroy its accuracy. In the first place William S. Dulin was discharged about the first of the present month from the police force on account of intoxication. Again, the court records reveal the fact that no marriage license has been issued in the names of the parties, and last but not least, the pastor, who is alleged to have performed the ceremony, states most positively that he did not and does not expect to. Armed with these facts a Post reporter started out last evening to hunt up the persons concerned, and gathered the true story, which is about as follows: William S. Dulin, the young man referred to, was as has been already stated, discharged from the police force about the first of September for drunkenness. He has a pleasant address, attires himself in the latest styles, and is quite good looking. Unfortunately, he has a besetting sin -- a love of the intoxicating beverage under whatever name and form it may lurk.

Miss Mary Gordon lives with her brother, her mother and her widowed sister, Mrs. Sherwood, at Tenth and M streets southeast. She is about twenty-four years old, light curly hair, deep blue eyes, and quiet, pleasant manners. For some months it had been rumored in the neighborhood her marriage to Mr. Dulin would soon be celebrated. Last Wednesday had, indeed, been set as the wedding day. All was bustle and preparation on the part of her family, and all the arrangements were carefully made for the ceremony which was to take place at her house. The appointed hour came, but with it came not Mr. Dulin. Subsequent events proved that at that particular time he was in a condition that effectually precluded any idea of matrimony.

The young bride waited in vain for her lover. Her friends, who had been invited to witness the ceremony, seemed surprised at the non-appearance of either the minister or the groom, and after they had been detained by apologies and excuses until it was impossible to detain them any longer, there were dismissed.

Nothing was heard of Dulin until Thursday morning, when he turned up drunk at the Hyson house, on Seventh street, near the boundary, whither he had gone. The proprietor of the house denies that he was accompanied by a woman, or that they took rooms as man and wife, but says the woman, whom he

describes as being rather good looking, came and took breakfast with Dulin Thursday morning, and then, after staying some time with him in his room, left.

A horse and buggy which he had gotten from Burgdorff's stables on Eighth street were held by the proprietor for Dulin's board and that of his companion, which amounted to \$6.80. Mr. Burgdorff, who had not been paid for the hire of the team, which Dulin told him, he says, he was going to use at his marriage, was forced to pay \$5 to recover it.

There appears but one name on the Hyson house register, that of William Dulin, written by the clerk. He says Dulin appeared to be tipsy while at the hotel and had no money. He left the house Friday evening and went to his father's house, where he is now stopping. He offers no explanation of his strange conduct.

The Gordons feel very deeply the insults offered to them, and denounce Dulin in no measured terms. There is no chance of a reconciliation and the wedding is declared permanently off.

An attempt was yesterday made to send Dulin to the insane asylum for a brief period, but the physicians who examined him refused to grant a permit.

Rev. Mr. Saunders pastor of the Virginia avenue Baptist church, who was alleged to have been selected by Dulin as the minister to perform the ceremony, said last evening that he had never been so notified, and was not at his house the night in question, a conclusive evidence that he knew nothing of the arrangements.

Much sympathy is felt for Miss Gordon, who it is understood gave up her position in the Government printing office to be married.