

James A. Dunnington

(2 Jul 1833 -28 Mar 1909)

Dunnington. On Sunday, March 28, 1909, James A., beloved husband of Mary St. John Dunnington. Funeral from his late residence, 622 North Carolina avenue southeast, Tuesday, March 30, at 2 p.m. Friends and relatives invited. Interment private.

The Evening Star, Monday, March 28, 1909, p. 14

Veteran Policeman is Dead

James Dunnington on Force Forty-Two Years Had Performed Duty in Almost Every Precinct in the City. Ill Only Five Days

James A. Dunnington, one of the oldest and most highly respected members of the police force, died yesterday at his home, 622 North Carolina avenue, after an illness of about five days, his death having resulted from an attack of pneumonia. The deceased, who was seventy-six years of age, had been a member of the force since January 31, 1867, and had performed duty in almost every precinct. His last employment was under Lieut. Sutton at the harbor precinct. Many years ago he performed duty in South Washington when almost every arrest meant a struggle.

He served as sergeant from 1878 to 1880, returning to the ranks at his own request. Always an active man, he found the duties of sergeant rather tame, and it was for that reason that he preferred active police duty. He filled a number of important details from time to time, including duty at the White House. Shortly after the completion of the Corcoran Art Gallery he was detailed in the vicinity of the building. Later he was sent to the harbor precinct for duty.

Last Tuesday morning Mr. Dunnington left his house to go on duty, but was taken ill and had to return. He had lost but little time from duty because of sickness, and it was impossible for members of his family to keep him at home unless he actually had to remain in bed. When he returned to his home last Tuesday he became delirious. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary St. John Dunnington; one son, Abner Dunnington, and five daughters. One daughter is the wife of Dr. Nelson Gapen, U.S.A., on duty in the Philippines, and the others are Mrs. Guy Neely, Mrs. Robert Otterback, Mrs. F.G. Nottingham and Miss Blanche Dunnington.

Arrangements have been made for the funeral to take place from the family home tomorrow afternoon. Rev. E. Hez Swenn, pastor of the Second Baptist Church, will officiate and delegations from the Odd Fellows and the police department will accompany the remains to Congressional cemetery.

The Washington Post, March 29, 1909, p. 2

Veteran Policeman Dead

Private J.A. Dunnington, at 76, Ends Service of 42 Years

Policeman J.A. Dunnington, one of the oldest members of the Metropolitan police department, died yesterday at his home, 522 North Carolina avenue southeast. He was 76 years old. He had been ill with pneumonia about a week.

Dunnington was appointed on the police force January 31, 1867, and September 28, 1878, was made a sergeant. He was returned to the ranks in 1880.

After many years of active duty on the street, he was detailed to a post at the Corcoran Art Gallery, when the new building was completed. About three years ago he was transferred to the Harbor

precinct. In point of service, he was one of the oldest men in the department. He was a member of the Police Relief Association.

The funeral will be held at the family residence at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. A detail of 24 uniformed policemen will act as pallbearers. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery. Inspector Gessford will name the police detail today.