

## John C. Fitzpatrick

(10 Aug 1876 – 10 Feb 1940)

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**Fitzpatrick, John C.** On Saturday, February 10, 1940 at his residence, 110 Maryland Ave. n.e., John C. Fitzpatrick, husband of the late Elizabeth Kelly Fitzpatrick and father of Elizabeth L. Fitzpatrick, brother of Mrs. Katherine P. Rogers and James N. Fitzpatrick, jr. Remains resting at the Lee Funeral Home, 4th and Massachusetts avenue northeast until Tuesday, February 13 at 9 a.m. thence to St. Joseph's Church, 2nd and C streets northeast where requiem mass will be offered at 10 a.m. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

*The Evening Star, February 11, 1940, p. B3*

### **Dr. J.C. Fitzpatrick, Historical Writer, Is Dead at 63 Once Assistant Chief Of Manuscripts Division At Library of Congress**

Dr. John Clement Fitzpatrick, 63, former assistant chief of the manuscript division of the Library of Congress and noted historical writer, died yesterday at his home, 110 Maryland Avenue N.E. He had been ill several months, suffering from a heart ailment.

Dr. Fitzpatrick served in the manuscript division of the Congressional Library from 1902 to 1928 when he resigned to engage in historical work. During his first year at the library he assisted in the move from the Capitol to the present library building.

Besides his routine work at the library, he produced numerous monographic studies in the form of articles in the publications of learned societies, edited the "Autobiography of Martin Van Buren" and several volumes of the library's edition of the Journals of the Continental Congress. Dr. Fitzpatrick also published "Spirit of the Revolution" and "George Washington: Colonial traveler."

### *Edited Washington's Diaries*

His life-long interest in George Washington furnished the inspiration for the most important contributions to historical scholarship. He compiled calendars of many of the Washington papers, and in 1925 edited "The Diaries of George Washington, 1748-1799," for the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union.

Since resigning from the Library of Congress, he had been doing editorial work for the George Washington Bicentennial Commission. Part of his duties in this capacity involved the preparation of a monumental edition of "The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources, 1745-1790." He had almost completed 40 volumes when he died.

Dr. Fitzpatrick was a native and lifelong resident of Washington. He attended public and private schools here and later Mount St. Mary's College in Pennsylvania. He was awarded the honorary degrees of L.H.D. by George Washington University in 1928 and Litt. D. by Washington and Lee University in 1932.

### *On Archives Commission*

He was a member of the Public Archives Commission (1916-17), the American Historical Association and the American Catholic Historical Association, having served as vice president in 1927 and as president in the year following. He also was a member of the American Antiquarian Society and the New York Historical Society.

His hobbies were drawing and painting and he was active in the Washington Water Color Club. He also belonged to the Cosmos Club and the Washington Society of Alexandria.

Surviving are a daughter, Miss Elizabeth Lavery Fitzpatrick, a student at Immaculata Seminary; a brother, James N. Fitzpatrick, jr., and a sister, Mrs. Katherine F. Rogers, both of this city.

Funeral services will be held Monday with requiem mass at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.

*The Washington Post, February 11, 1940, p. 13*

**Dr. Fitzpatrick, Historian, Dies Here at 64**

**Lifelong Resident Of District; Authority On Gen. Washington**

Dr. John Clement Fitzpatrick, 64, historian and author, died yesterday at his home, 110 Maryland avenue northeast.

A lifelong resident of the District, Dr. Fitzpatrick joined the Congressional Library in 1897. He was appointed assistant chief of the manuscripts division in 1902. In 1928 he resigned to engage in historical research, independently and with the George Washington Bicentennial Commission.

Dr. Fitzpatrick published several historical works including "The Spirit of the Revolution" and "George Washington, Colonial Traveler." Specializing in the life of Washington he edited many monographs for societies, including "The Diaries of George Washington, 1748-1799."

As editor of the Bicentennial Commission publications, he prepared an exhaustive study entitled "The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources." He was engaged at this work, which now has reached 40 volumes, at the time of his death.

Dr. Fitzpatrick is survived by a daughter, Miss Elizabeth Lavery Fitzpatrick, a student at Immaculata Seminary; a brother, James N. Fitzpatrick, and a sister, Mrs. Katherine F. Rogers, all of Washington.

Funeral rites will be at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday at Lee funeral home. Requiem mass will be at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph's Church. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.