

Dr. Charles Mason Ford (- 15 Feb 1884)

The Evening Star, April 22, 1881

Dr. C.M. Ford has returned from the South

The Evening Star, February 14, 1884

Serious Illness of Dr. C.M. Ford

Dr. Charles M. Ford who has been confined to his home on Capitol Hill by illness for some time was considerably worse this afternoon and there is little hope of his recovery.

Ford. At 6:40 p.m., February 15th, 1884, Dr. C.M. Ford, aged 43 years and 9 months. Funeral Tuesday, February 19, at 2 o'clock p.m., from the Church of the Reformation, Pennsylvania avenue, near Second street southeast.

The Evening Star, February 16, 1884

Death of Dr. C.M. Ford

Dr. Charles M. Ford, whose illness has been announced in The Star, died last evening at 6:40 o'clock, at his home, corner of Pennsylvania avenue and 2d street southeast, Dr. Ford was taken sick on the 23d of January with rheumatic fever, and was attended by Drs. Busey Hagner, Dunn and J. Ford Thompson. Dr. Ford was born at Troy, N.Y., in 1840, and graduated in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in 1861. He came at once to this city as assistant surgeon of a New Jersey regiment, and soon afterwards was made surgeon in charge of the Old Capitol prison, which position he held till the close of the war. He was for many years a member of the medical board of Providence hospital, and at the time of his death was the surgeon for the B. and P. railroad here. He built up a large practice, which was not by any means confined to his neighborhood. He stood high in the Masonic fraternity, and was an active friend and an honorary member of all the military organizations in the city. He leaves a widow and two children.

The Evening Star, February 18, 1884

The Late Dr. C.M. Ford

The Medical Society of the District Saturday evening adopted appropriate resolutions representing the death of Dr. C.M. Ford. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock, from the Church of the Reformation, Capitol Hill. Dr. Ford, after his graduation from the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, in 1861, was commissioned assistant surgeon, U.S.N., and appointed to the steamer Huntsville, at that time one of the blockading fleet, Gulf of Mexico. Remaining in the navy about one year he resigned, returned to Troy, N.Y., his native place, and married Miss Hattie A. Ives, daughter of a prominent gentleman living nearer that city. A few weeks later he came to Washington and was at once commissioned assistant surgeon, U.S.A., and assigned to duty at Clifftown hospital, whence, after a faithful service of nine months, he was transferred as surgeon in charge of the old capitol prison, where he remained until the prison was abolished after the close of the war. Resigning his commission in the army he located on Capitol Hill, and was engaged in practice there until the date of his last illness.

The Evening Star, February 20, 1884

Dr. Ford's Funeral

The funeral of the late C.M. Ford was under the auspices of the Masonic fraternity. The pall-bearers were as follows: Dr. A.E. Johnson and Messrs. A.T. Longley and Henry Reiter of Columbia commandery; Messrs. W.L. Vanderlip and F.L. Campbell, of Lafayette Royal Arch Chapter, No. 5; Messrs. Jesse W. Lee, jr., E. L. Corbin and A. McKensey, fo St. John's Lodge, No. 11. The religious ceremonies were conducted by Rev. Dr. Parson and Rev. W.M. Ingersoll. The Templar ceremonies which followed were conducted by Eminent Commander John Wilson, of Columbia commandery; Messrs. W.L. Vanderlip and F.L. Campbell, of Lafayette Royal Arch Chapter, No. 5; Messrs. Jesse W. Lee, jr., E.L. Corbin and A. McKensey, of St. John's Lodge, No. 11. The religious ceremonies were conducted by Rev. Dr. Parson and Rev. W.M. Ingersoll. The Templar ceremonies which followed were conducted by Eminent Commander John Wilson, of Columbia commandery, who was assisted by Prelate J.C. Allen.

Forman, Stephen M., A Guide to Civil War Washington, Washington, DC: Elliott & Clark Publishing, 1995.

Ford was an acting assistant surgeon, USA, and he was at Lincoln's deathbed. During the night a total of 16 doctors attended Lincoln. They would take his pulse, inspect his bulging eye, listen to his hoarse breathing, shake their heads, check their watches, take notes, and record vital signs.