

Sarah Juliana Maria Gales

(8 Dec 1798 – 15 Oct 1879)

Gales. At "Eckington" on Wednesday, October 15, 1879 at 20 min. to 6 p.m. in the 81st year of her age, Mrs. S. Juliana M. Gales, widow of the late Joseph Gales, Esq. Funeral from her late residence on Saturday the 18th inst. Carriages will be waiting at St. Johns Church at 10 o'clock.



The Evening Star, October 16, 1879

Death of Mrs. Joseph Gales

Mrs. Gales, the widow of the late Joseph Gales, the editor of the National Intelligencer for many years, died yesterday at her residence, Eckington, just over the city limits, east of North Capitol street, in the 81st year of her age. Mrs. Gales was a Miss Lee, of Virginia, and was recognized for years one of the handsomest and most accomplished ladies of the District. She married Mr. Gales just after the War of 1812, when quite young. Mr. Gales at that time (having previous to the war been a short hand reporter for that paper, then published by Samuel Harrison Smith) assumed the management of the Intelligencer. Mrs. Gales had no children, and since her husband's death she has seldom left her home, and for the past few years has gradually failed, her death being from old age. Her funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon from her late residence.

The Evening Star, February 5, 1881

Sale of "Eckington" Ordered

A Historical Estate

A decree for the sale of "Eckington," the estate of the late Joseph Gales, was made yesterday by Judge Cox in the Equity Court on the petition of William B. Jackson against Juliana M. Gales, widow of Joseph Gales. James S. Edwards, Calderon Carlisle, and A.B. Duvall are appointed trustees to sell, on filing approved bonds of \$60,000 each. They are to advertise and sell for one-fifth cash and the balance in four equal installments, payable in six, twelve, eighteen and twenty-four months. The proceeds are to be paid into court, and after an account by the auditor, distributed to the creditors of Joseph and S.J.M. Gales, and the heir at law. This place is a very handsome country residence, just north of the city limits, at the head of 1st street east, and was the residence of Mr. Gales, the senior editor of the National Intelligencer for a long series of years and subsequently of his widow. During the early part of the war it was occupied by the late Cranston Laurie, of the Post Office department, and his son-in-law, Theophilus Youngs, who is now engaged in New York in the attempt to prove that he is still alive to prevent his estate being handed over to his wife, who claims to be his widow.

The Evening Star, January 7, 1880

Rare Books

Thomas Dowlin is now cataloging and arranging for sale the Gales Library in which are many rare and valuable books, also the National Intelligencer dating from 1811 to 1867. Due notice of time of sale will be published in this paper.

The Evening Star, November 20, 1879

The Gales Sale Tomorrow

The sale of the elegant goods of the late Mrs. Joseph Gales takes place tomorrow at Eckington and a grand opportunity is offered to secure rare and elegant old articles such as glass, oil paintings, fine old furniture and about 600 ounces of solid silver. M.B. Latimer will conduct the sale which commences at half past 10 o'clock.

Lee, Edward Jennings, MD, Lee of Virginia, 1642-1892, The Descendants of Col. Richard Lee, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1974, p 373.

Sarah Juliana Maria, "beautiful, intellectual, and accomplished, noted for deeds of charity she was for many years at the head of the most elegant society of the national capital " she was also noted for her great administrative ability. She married, in 1813, Joseph Gales, Jr., the editor of the National Intelligencer, of Washington, which was a journal of great influence in its day. Mr. Gales was for several terms the mayor of Washington, and had been acquainted, during his long residence at the capital, with all the Presidents from Madison to Buchanan he died, honored and beloved, in July 1860 was buried in the Congressional Cemetery, where a noble monument, erected by the leading journalists of the country, rises to mark his grave. Mr. and Mrs. Gales had no issue, but adopted their niece, Juliana Gales Walker, who now survives and resides at Washington, known by her adopted name, Gales.