

George C. Gibson (1783 – 30 Sep 1861)

The Evening Star, October 2, 1861

The Funeral of General Gibson

The noticeable features of a military funeral drew many spectators additional to the large number of sorrowing friends gathered this morning to witness the funeral ceremonies of the late Major General George C. Gibson.



The corpse had been placed in a handsome silver mounted coffin covered with blue cloth, decorated with tasteful wreaths of white flowers, roses and camellias, and draped in the wide folds of the American flag. It occupied the center of the modestly furnished office room upstairs, used by the General in life.

Amongst those present at the funeral were President Lincoln, Secretaries Seward and Smith, Gen. Scott, (who stood uncovered in the open air for some time, the cynosure of all eyes, while the procession was forming,) Gen. McClellan, and many other personages of civic and military note.

The escort was formed in front of the late residence of the deceased, 217 F street at 11 o'clock this morning, and from thence the procession moved down F street to Twelfth street, down Twelfth street to Pennsylvania avenue, and thence to the Congressional Burying

Ground, in the following order:

Funeral Escort in Column of March

Regiment of Infantry

Squadron of Cavalry

Battery of Light Artillery

Brigadier General Andrew Porter, Command of the Escort and Staff

The Clergy of the District and Surgeon General of the Army

Officiating Clergy, and Medical Attendants of the Deceased

Pall Bearers

The Hearse

Pall Bearers

Brig. Gen. Casey

Brig. Gen. McCall

Brig. Gen. Sherman

Brig. Gen. Heintzelman

Brig. Gen. Thomas

Brig. Gen. Mansfield

Commodore Smith

Commodore Shubrick

The relatives and friends of the Deceased

The General-in-Chief of the Army and Staff

The General Staff of the Army

Officers of the Army

Officers of the Navy and Marine Corps

Survivors of the War of 1812

Clerks of the Office of the Commissary General of Subsistence

The President of the United States and Members of the Cabinet

The Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court and District Judges of the United States

The President and Secretary of the Senate, Senators, and Officers of the Senate

Foreign Ministers and Suites
Members and Officers of the House of Representatives
Justices and Officers of the Court of Claims
Members of the Sanitary Commission
Societies and Fraternities
Citizens and Strangers

At the Congressional burying ground the services were to be conducted by Rev. Dr. Hall, and the usual salute was to be fired.

The Evening Star, October 5, 1861

A Tribute to the Memory of a Brave Officer

On the occasion of the funeral obsequies of Major General George Gibson, on Wednesday morning last, while Griffin's Battery and several companies of cavalry were drawn up in front of the cemetery gate presenting arms, as the corpse was borne in front of the 3d United States Infantry. Lining the carriage way leading to the tomb, Colonel Fellows' Third Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers quietly formed in its encampment, close by, and marching to the rear of the battery and the cavalry, extended its line and remained at respectful attention until the closing of the ceremonies.

Heitman's: Born and appointed PA. Captain 5th Infantry, May 3, 1808 Major 7th Infantry, Nov. 9, 1811 Lt. Col. 5th Infantry, Aug. 15, 1813 honorably discharged June 15, 1815 Col. Qtr. Master General, April 19, 1816 Col. Commissary General of Subsistence, April 18, 1818 Bvt. Brig. Genl., April 29, 1826 for ten years faithful service in one grade and Maj. Gen., May 30, 1848 for meritorious conduct particularly in performance of his duties in the prosecution of the war with Mexico. Died Sept. 29, 1861.

Dictionary of American Biography

Gibson, John

...He married the sister of Logan, an Indian chief, and became familiar with the Indian manners, language, and customs.

His son, George, soldier, b. in Pennsylvania in 1783 d. in Washington, D.C., 29 Sept., 1861, entered the army from civil life and was appointed captain of infantry, 3 May 1808 was promoted major in 1811, and served throughout the war of 1812, as lieutenant-colonel of the 5th infantry. In 1816 he was appointed quartermaster-general, served with Gen. Andrew Jackson during the Florida campaign, was promoted commissary-general in 1818, and in 1826 brevetted brigadier-general for faithful service. He served throughout the Mexican war, and was brevetted major-general, 10 May, 1848, for meritorious conduct. Gen. Gibson was at the head of the commissary department more than fifty years.