

## Adam Gurowski

(10 Sep 1805 – 4 May 1866)

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*The Evening Star, May 5, 1866*

### Death of Count Gurowski

Count Adam Gurowski, who has been ill with typhoid fever for several days past died yesterday (May 4) afternoon at his residence on 14th street, near the Foundry Church. He was attended in his last



illness by Dr. Miller and was visited several times by the Spanish Minister, Don Garcia y Tascara. Count Gurowski was the descendant of a noble family in Poland where he was born in 1805. He studied in German universities and after returning to his country he was, between 1828 and 1830, persecuted for his liberal ideas by Grand Duke Constantine, the elder brother of Nicholas I and vice regent of Poland, who put Gurowski in political prisons at various times. In the conspiracy which in Nov. 1830, expelled the Russians from Poland, Gurowski was one of the leaders, and subsequently acted as an agent of the Polish Revolutionary Government in France and other countries, where he was on intimate terms with prominent revolutionists. In

1849 he came to this country and immediately commenced to advocate anti-slavery. In 1861 he came to this city where he resided ever since. He published in this country, besides several pamphlets, "Russia As It Is," "American and Europe," "Slavery In History," and "Diary I, II, III."

*The Evening Star, May 7, 1866*

### Funeral of Count Gurowski

The funeral of the late Count Gurowski took place yesterday afternoon from the residence of Charles Eames, Esq. O n 14th street and was attended by a large number of the friends of the deceased, among others Chief Justice Chase, Vice President Foster, Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War, Senators Sumner, Wilson, Wade and Trumbull, Representatives Conklin, Banks, Hooper, Alley and others, a number of heads of bureaus, foreign legations, etc. The corpse was placed in a handsome mahogany coffin which was covered with cloth and mounted with silver, a heavy plate on the breast bearing the simple inscription, Adam, Count Gurowski, aged 62 years.

The services were conducted by the Rev. Pierpoint, after which the remains were removed to Oak Hill Cemetery, where they were interred. The following gentlemen acted as pallbearers: Mr. Edward de Stoeckl, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Russia, Senor Don Gabriel Garcia y Tascara, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Spain, Hiram Barney, Esq. Of New York, Sen. Wade of Ohio, Hon. G.S. Boutwell of Mass., Hon. J. Hubley Ashton, Asst. Attorney General, ex Mayor Berrett and Mr. R. Rhyner of the Swiss Consulate.

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

**Gurowski**, a State Department employee, was said to be the only man President Lincoln feared would attack him. A Polish count with a checkered career leading through Russian prisons and a professorship at a Swiss university, Gurowski had come to the United States in 1849, taking a position with the State Department as a translator.

Gurowski was described as being short in stature, ugly in feature, and disfigured by a pair of green goggles. Known as a rude, rough, Polish bear, he kept a diary in which he ridiculed and abused almost every member of the government. He tried to publish his diary, but the district attorney of Washington had him indicted for libel. Senator Charles Sumner once threw Gurowski out of his house after listening to a torrent of abuse.