

Elisha Harrison

(1762 – 24 Aug 1819)

The National Intelligencer, Wednesday, August 25, 1819

At his residence in this city between the hours of 3 and 4 a.m. of yesterday (Aug. 24) after a short but painful illness, Dr. Elisha Harrison, in the 57th year of his age. The funeral will take place this morning at 10 o'clock. His relatives and friends are requested to attend without further notice.

Old Records, A.G.O., show his name, with the rank of Surgeon's Mate, in certain records of accounts, disbursements, and receipts, which show he was in service in the Maryland Line during parts, at least of the years 1781 and 1782, but the exact period of his service is not stated. A certain Revolutionary War record shows the name Elisha Harrison on a list of officers and enlisted men of various states and the Continental Army. On that list his name appears under the sub-heading of Maryland, with the rank of Surgeon's Mate. Another Revolutionary War record shows an account of Elisha Harrison to the State of Maryland for goods, cash, etc.

*The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery
Newsletter, Summer 1983*

TOMB OF DR. ELISHA HARRISON REDEDICATED BY D.C.D.A.R.

The tomb of Dr. Elisha Harrison (1762-1819), a Revolutionary War surgeon, was rededicated on June 13, 1983, in a ceremony conducted under the auspices of the Dolley Madison Chapter of the D.A.R.

Dr. Harrison was a surgeon with the Fourth Regiment, Maryland Line, and served from his commissioning on October 15, 1781 until his retirement from the Army on January 1, 1783. He was subsequently an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati and a founder of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of the State of Maryland and of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia.

The Evening Star, June 13, 1937, p. D-5

D.A.R. Activities

Dolly Madison Chapter will dedicate a marker today at 3 o'clock at the grave of Dr. Elisha Harrison, surgeon's mate in the 4th Maryland regiment during the Revolutionary War.

Ely, Selden Marvin, "The District of Columbia In The American Revolution and Patriots of the Revolutionary Period Who Are Interred in the District or In Arlington," Columbia Historical Society, Vol 21, pp. 128-154

Doctor Elisha Harrison's remains also repose in Congressional Cemetery. His name is found in the Maryland archives and also in Heitman's, where he is recorded as enlisting in the Fourth Maryland, the 15th of October 1781, and retired 1st of January, 1783. The doctor entered into rest August 26, 1819, aged 59. The site of his original internment is not known, but he was transferred to Congressional Cemetery April, 1823. Part of the chiseling on his monument reads as follows: "A native of Maryland and surgeon in the Revolutionary War."

History of the Medical Society of D.C., 1811-1909

Born in 1762, Cecil Co., Md. Probably not M.D. Surgeon's Mate, Maryland line, War of the Revolution; member Society of Cincinnati; one of the founders of the Med. and Chirurg. Faculty,

Maryland. Incorporator of the Society under the first charter. Died Aug. 24, 1819. See Dordell's Med. Annals of Maryland, 1903, p. 430.

The Washington Post, June 13, 1937, p. S6

D.A.R. Chapters to Celebrate Flag Anniversary This Week

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Dolly Madison Chapter will dedicate a marker this afternoon at 3 o'clock at the grave of Dr. Elisha Harrison, surgeon's mate in the Fourth Maryland Regiment during the Revolutionary War. The ceremonies will include a short sketch of Dr. Harrison's life read by Mrs. Robert Bier, historian and the significance of historic markers by Mrs. Lee R. Pennington, State historian. Mrs. Rice W. Means will present the marker to Mrs. Charles Carroll Haig, State regent, who, in turn, will present it to the superintendent of the Congressional Cemetery. Members will meet at the office of the cemetery at 2:45 p.m.

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