Ellen Eliza McKee

(-5 Jan 1899)

McKee. On Thursday, January 5, 1899, after a short illness, Helen M. McKee, wife of Henry H. McKee and daughter of Mary Ellen and the late Marion Briggs, in the 31st year of her age. Funeral strictly private, from 127 4th street southeast, Friday, January 6 at 12 o'clock noon.

The Evening Star, January 3, 1899

Seriously Burned

Mrs. Ellen McKee and Miss May Spriggs of No. 127 4th street southeast, were seriously burned shortly before 9 o'clock this morning. In passing the latrobe heater, which was red hot, Mrs. McKee's dress accidentally came in contact with it, and was instantly in a blaze. Miss Spriggs went at once to her friend's assistance, but her clothing was also set on fire. An alarm was raised and Policeman Vansant and his wife hurried into the house and extinguished the flames. Mr. Vansant had one of his hands burned during his efforts to help the ladies. Professional aid was rendered by Drs. Wilson and Wiley.

The Evening Star, January 5, 1899

Death of Mrs. McKee

Result of Burns Received in Her Home Last Tuesday

Mrs. Ella McKee, wife of Mr. Harry H. McKee, cashier of the National Capital Bank, died about 9:30 o'clock this morning at her home on 4th street near B street southeast, from the effects of burns sustained Tuesday last, as told in The Star of that day. Mrs. McKee's dress took fire from contact with the latrobe in her home, and almost immediately she was enveloped in flames. Her sister, Miss Ida Briggs, who was with her, at once endeavored to smother the blaze with a rug, and in this attempt was herself badly burned on both arms, from hand to shoulder.

Mrs. McKee became frantic with pain and fright, and ran into the yard, where Policeman Vanzandt, a neighbor, caught her and rolled her form in the snow, putting out the fire, but not before her clothing had been almost totally consumed. She was horribly burned.

Besides her husband, their three little children, aged four, six and eight years, respectively, are left to mourn. Mrs. McKee was about 29 years of age.