

James Brown McLaughlin (- 4 Mar 1913)

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Rev. J.B. McLaughlin, "Marrying Parson," Dies

Passes Away at His Home on G Street and Funeral Will Be Held Tomorrow Morning

Rev. J.B. McLaughlin, for a number of years a member of the bar and who was also a minister of the gospel, died at his home 400 G street southeast, yesterday morning. His funeral will take place from Boeteler's chapel tomorrow morning at 10:30 o'clock. Interment will be in Congressional cemetery.

Mr. McLaughlin had been in ill health for more than two years, but his condition was not thought to be serious. He had slept well Tuesday night and was talking with his wife about ten minutes before he was stricken with heart disease and died. Mr. McLaughlin was seventy-seven years old and was a native of Pittsburgh.

His wife, to whom he was married fifty-five years ago, and two sons, George B. McLaughlin of this city and Frank McLaughlin now in California, survive him.

He came to this city from Little Rock, Ark., about fourteen years ago and soon after making Washington his home applied for admission to the bar, and was licensed to practice law in the District courts March 19, 1901. In October of the same year he was authorized to perform marriage ceremonies and until about three years ago, when ill health forced him to retire, he was prominent about the city hall, in his dual capacity of lawyer and minister, and was given the sobriquet of the "marrying parson" from the fact that he was called upon to perform the marriage ceremony several times each day for couples who after obtaining their licenses requested attaches of the courts to direct them to a minister.

Since Mr. McLaughlin's retirement from active work he was seen but seldom about the city hall, and for two years past he led a retired life.