

## Samuel C. Mills

(8 Oct 1833 – 7 Oct 1911)

---

**Mills.** On Saturday, October 7, 1911 at noon, Judge S.C. Mills, beloved husband of Mary A. Mills at his home in the Wellington. Funeral Tuesday morning, October 10 at 10 o'clock from Lee's establishment, 332 Pennsylvania avenue. Interment in Congressional Cemetery.



**Notice to Sons of Jonadab.** All members active or passive are urgently requested to attend the funeral of Judge Samuel C. Mills, one of the founders of the order, which will take place from the undertaking establishment of J. William Lee, 332 Pennsylvania ave. n.w., 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, October 10.

*The Evening Star, October 7, 1911, p 2*

### **Judge Mills Dead**

**Succumbs to Long Illness of Catarrhal Pneumonia**

**District Bench Veteran**

**For Nearly Forty Years Served in Various Municipal Courts**

**Soldier and Active Mason**

**Founder of the Order of the Sons of Jonadab and Active in Civic Affairs**

Judge Samuel C. Mills died shortly after 12 o'clock noon today at his residence, the Wellington, following an illness of more than a year and a half with catarrhal pneumonia, during all of which time he was confined to his bed.

In the death of Judge Mills the District loses one of its best known residents, whose public career of almost forty years was prominently identified with the growth of the city and the development of its municipal affairs.

As a judge he was a veteran, and many of his decisions in the Police and Municipal courts were far-reaching in their effect upon the permanent statutes of the District government.

Since his retirement two years ago from the Municipal Court, Judge Mills lived quietly at his home, and until eighteen months ago, when he was stricken ill, took a keen interest in District affairs, as well as retaining his identity as a member of the various organizations to which he belonged.

### *Native of Washington*

Judge Mills was born in Washington, October 10, 1833, and his whole life was spent in the District. He was a son of Capt. John Mills, one of the original officers of the Washington Light Infantry, commissioned by President Lincoln as a captain. His maternal grandfather was Samuel Hiffelin Cooper, one of the defenders of Baltimore when attacked by the British in 1814.

Judge Mills received his early education at Donald MacLeod's Columbia Academy, from which he was graduated, and he later served in the topographical service in Utah with Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston under Capt. J.H. Simson, until 1859.

At the outbreak of the civil war he was made a member of the Old Guard of the District, which won fame for its defense of Washington. He served continuously throughout the war. He had married Miss Mary Knott, October 31, 1860, and when the war ended he made Washington his permanent home.

After the war he studied law and in 1872 he was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of the District.

He was appointed a justice of the peace in the early seventies and about 1876 was appointed United States commissioner, a position which he held until nine years ago. He was reappointed justice of the peace in 1878 and served until 1886.

#### *On Police Bench Many Years*

Judge Mills was placed temporarily upon the Police Court bench for a great part of eighteen years and served numerous times in late years and when the Municipal Court was organized six years ago, he was appointed to that court. He served in the Municipal Court until two years ago, until his health failed him, and when the court was reduced in size, he resigned.

Judge Mills was prominently connected with civil and military organizations of the District, and was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Union Veteran Legion. He was judge advocate general of the Department of the Potomac, G.A.R., at one time.

He was one of the best know Masons in the District, being connected with Harmony Lodge, was a member of the Mystic Shine, and a member of Columbia Commandery No. 2, Knights of Pythias.

#### *Founder of Jonadab Order*

It was September 13, 1867, that Judge Mills founded the Order of the Sons of Jonadab, with which he was actively connected since its organization.

Judge Mills is survived by his widow and one daughter, Mrs. George A. Traylor of this city. He also is survived by seven grandchildren: A.T. Traylor, Mrs. A.C. Hopkins, Miss Ethel Lee Traylor, Archie Mills Traylor, Miss Marjory Traylor, Mrs. G. Leroy Livingston, and Mrs. William Bernard Traylor. A brother, John H. Mills, died only a short time ago. Arrangements for the funeral have not been made.

*The Evening Star, October 9, 1911, p. 2*

#### **Death of Judge Mills Noted in Police Court**

##### **Adjournment Is Taken Out of Respect to Memory of Justice**

The District branch of the Police Court adjourned today in respect to the memory of former Municipal Court Judge Samuel C. Mills, whose death occurred Saturday. At the conclusion of the day's business, Assistant Corporation Counsel Gus A. Schuldt called the attention of the court to Judge Mills' death.

"It is but proper that this court adjourn as a mark of respect to the memory of Judge Mills because of his long association both personal and official, with the members of the Police Court staff." Mr. Schuldt said, "He was known and beloved by all of us. His personal traits were such as to win the regard of those who came in contact with him, either on or off the bench."

#### *Death a Personal Loss*

"It was always a pleasure to appear before him here when he occupied the bench, or his own branch in the Municipal Court. I, and I am sure the judges of the court, feel a keen personal loss in his death. I ask that the court adjourn to his memory."

Judge Mallowny said he had known Judge Mills for many years, and had found him a staunch friend, an able and capable public official and a representative resident of the District. Because of personal attachments, he said he felt the death of Judge Mills keenly.

"He was my friend as a young lawyer, then an assistant prosecuting attorney, and finally as judge in this court. My regard for him was that veneration a young man owes an older man who has always proven himself a staunch and true friend," added Judge Mullowny.

In ordering the adjournment, Judge Mullowny instructed Clerk N.C. Harper to note the fact on the court minutes.

It is probable the Police Court judges and the clerk's staff will attend the funeral tomorrow in a body.

*The Evening Star, October 10, 1911, p. 2*

### **Judge Mills Buried**

#### **Funeral Services at Chapel and in Congressional Cemetery**

The body of Samuel C. Mills, who died at his apartments in the Wellington shortly after noon Saturday, was laid at rest in Congressional cemetery this morning following funeral services in Lee's chapel at 10 o'clock.

Prominent members of the District bench and bar, officials of Masonic organizations with which he was prominently identified, and members of the Sons of Jonadab, of which he was one of the founders, were among those to pay last tributes to Judge Mills at the chapel and to witness the impressive Masonic services as the body was lowered into the grave.

Judge Mullowny adjourned the District branch of the Police Court for an hour, from 10 to 11 o'clock this morning to permit himself and the court attaches to attend the funeral of Judge Mills.