

Edwin Cecil Morgan

(- 29 Jul 1867)

Morgan. On the 29th of July, Edwin C. Morgan.

The Evening Star, July 29, 1867

Very Ill -- Mr. E.C. Morgan of the Washington bar is very ill at his residence, corner of 3d and D streets, of typhoid fever. His attending physicians, Drs. J.E. Morgan, Johnson, Elliott and J.C. Hall have but little hopes of his recovery. Mr. Morgan was first taken with congestion of the bowels but the disease has now turned to typhoid and he is very low.

The Evening Star, July 30, 1867

Death of E.C. Morgan, Esq.

Edwin C. Morgan, Esq., for the past twenty years a much esteemed member of the Washington bar, died at his residence, corner of 3d and D streets, yesterday afternoon, after a short illness of typhoid fever, in the 41st year of his age. Mr. Morgan was admitted to the bar on the 19th of December, 1846, and has always enjoyed the confidence and esteem of his brother members. He leaves a widow, and two sons aged 8 and 12 years. The funeral took place this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, and was attended by a large number of relatives and friends and members of the bar. The remains were conveyed to the Congressional Cemetery, the following named gentlemen acting as pall-bearers: Joseph H. Bradley, Sr., James W. Carlisle, Dr. John B. Blake, John J. Johnson, James R. Roach, John E. Norris, John VanRiswick and E.J. Middleton. A few months since Mr. Morgan had his life insured for \$5,000.

The members of the bar in this City meet at the City Hall tomorrow afternoon to take appropriate action in reference to the death of Mr. Morgan.

The Evening Star, July 31, 1867

The Death of the Late E.C. Morgan

At 2 o'clock this afternoon, after proceedings in the Surratt case (John Surratt) had been suspended, a meeting of the legal fraternity was held in the courtroom, to take action in reference to the death of the late Edwin C. Morgan, which was generally attended.

The meeting was called to order by District Attorney Carrington, on whose motion Mr. Joseph H. Bradley was called to the chair, and Mr. W.F. Mattingly appointed secretary.

Mr. Bradley briefly stated the object of the meeting to be to take action in reference to the death of one who over twenty years ago had been admitted to the bar -- a man of high character, honest, upright and faithful -- and who, during that time, was highly esteemed by all with whom he associated.

Mr. Norris moved that a committee of seven be appointed to draft suitable resolutions in respect to the memory of the deceased, which was agreed to, and the following were appointed: Mr. Norris, Judge Andrew Wylie, Judge G.P. Fisher, Messrs. R.R. Eindall, James M. Carlisle, W.D. Davidge, and E.C. Carrington.

On the return of the committee, Mr. Carlisle addressed the meeting, referring to the fact that it was more than four years since his voice was heard here, and it seemed to him the more fitting that it should be heard on this occasion. It happened during this period, because of neighborhood, that he had been in almost daily intercourse with two members of the bar -- Stone and Morgan. He felt like a man who had lost a friend on the right, and one on the left. These two men were in some things entirely alike,

and in others, totally dissimilar -- one, a close reader of the law as laid down in the books, and the other impatient of the law. They were both honorable men. It seemed that with Mr. Morgan nature had fitted him for distinction at the bar, and he believed that no man ever, in the dust of the forum, failed to be impressed with his ennobling qualities. Mr. Norris read the following preamble and resolutions:

On the afternoon of Monday, the 27th inst., Edwin Cecil Morgan died at his residence, in this city, in the bosom of his own immediate family, surrounded by a large connection, to whom he was endeared not only by the ties of blood and affinity, but by all the qualities that strengthen and intensify the common bonds of nature. Beyond that immediate circle, the hearts of many friends, and especially of his brethren now here assembled, were filled with sorrow as the intelligence spread among them that they should see his face no more. He had completed his 40th year and in the pride of ripened manhood, when as yet no blight of autumn had fallen upon him, the grave untimely opened and received him. But though his feet shall tread in the accustomed path no more, and though his voice shall never more be heard on earth, we, his brethren, will cherish his memory with affectionate respect, and keep alive the recollection of his clear and vigorous mind, his manly, natural eloquence, his quick intuitive sense of right, his abhorrence of all things mean and low, his unsullied honor, his frank and generous temper.

Resolved therefore, That this expression of our affection for our deceased brother, and of our sincere sorrow for his untimely death be by the chairman of this meeting laid before the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia at its next general term, with a request that these proceedings be entered upon the minutes of the court.

Resolved further, That a copy of these proceedings be communicated by the chairman to the family of the deceased, with the respectful assurance of heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement.

Resolved further, That the newspapers of the city be requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

Mr. Norris, Gen. Carrington and Mr. J.S. Williams spoke feelingly of the life and character of the deceased, the resolutions were adopted, and the meeting adjourned.

Zevely, Douglass, Columbia Historical Society, April 14, 1902

On the northeast corner of Third and D Streets, with entrance on Third, there is a house which has not changed, excepting as to the entrance, since it was built by the late D. Wesley Middleton in 1831. It was his home prior to 1851 or 1852 and my father was the next occupant until 1855, when Mr. Edwin Cecil Morgan rented the house and continued his residence there until his death in July, 1867.

Mr. Morgan, whose nephew, Dr. James Dudley Morgan, is so well known to this Society and in the medical profession, was born in this city, February 9, 1827, and at the time of his death, had been a prominent member of the District bar for several years. His office was in one of two small buildings which adjoined the old Fendall home and the site is now a part of the Fendall building. After Mr. Morgan's widow vacated this house in August, 1867, Mrs. Dr. Skillman, a daughter of Mr. Middleton's became the occupant.

(Married Eveline Proser Lee, granddaughter of Richard Bland Lee.)