

Martha Parham

(1826 - 10 Jan 1908)

Parham. On Friday, January 10, 1908 at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Helge G. Forsberg, Martha Rowan Parham, widow of the late William J. Parham, Lieut. U.S.A. Funeral from residence of her daughter, 626 F street southwest, Monday, January 13 at 2 o'clock p.m. Relatives and friends invited to attend. Interment private.



Mrs. Martha Parham,
From a photograph taken forty years ago.

The Evening Star, January 11, 1908, p. 9

Aged Resident Dead

Mrs. Martha Rowan Parham. Born in 1826

Mrs. Martha Rowan Parham, widow of Lieut. William J. Parham, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. H.G. Forsberg, 626 F street southwest, at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Parham was one of Washington's oldest inhabitants. She had been in good health until about ten days ago, when she contracted a cold, which later developed into grip, the cause of her death.

The deceased was born in this city on the site of the patent office, in 1826. Her father was a marine artist, who came here from Newcastle, Del. She was educated in the public schools of this city. In 1844 she married Mr. Parham, who was at that time employed as a sculptor in Philadelphia. The marriage ceremony was performed in the old Fourth Presbyterian Church, near the corner of 9th and G streets northwest, which was demolished about ten years ago. Rev. John C. Smith, who was pastor of the church at that time, performed the ceremony.

Mrs. Parham was a member of the church from early girlhood until it was torn down. Her husband was also a member of the Auxiliary Guards of this city which was succeeded by the metropolitan police department.

Mrs. Parham was the mother of fourteen children, grandmother of fourteen and the great-grandmother of two. Only five of her children -- N.B. Parham of Pasadena, Cal.; Mrs. H.G. Forsberg of 626 F street southwest, widow of Capt. H.G. Forsberg of the District Militia; Alpha W. Parham of the detective bureau of this city; his twin brother, Omega Parham of Washington, and Mrs. Julia T. Garrett of 214 12th street -- survive her.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon at the residence of her daughter. Interment will be in Congressional cemetery. As yet the pallbearers have not been selected.

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Funeral of Mrs. Martha Parham

The funeral of Mrs. Martha Parham, mother of Detective A.W. Parham, who died last Friday afternoon, took place at 2 o'clock this afternoon from the home of her daughter, Mrs. H.G. Forsberg, 626 F street southwest. The interment was in Congressional cemetery.