

Eliza Peyton

(1794 – 15 Feb 1884)

Peyton. Suddenly, on Friday, February 15, 1884, at 10:40 p.m., Mrs. Eliza Peyton, in the 90th year of her age. Funeral at 10 o'clock, Monday, 18th inst., from her late residence, 334 Indiana avenue. Friends of the family are invited to attend.

The Evening Star, February 18, 1884

Death of Mrs. Eliza Peyton

The funeral of Mrs. Eliza Peyton, who died suddenly Friday night at her home on Indiana avenue, in the 90th year of her age, took place today. She was a native of Calvert county, Md., and the relict of Craven Thompson Peyton, whom she married in Alexandria, Va., in 1813, and a cousin of the late Dr. John B. Blake. Her husband died while consul at Matanzas in 1821, leaving her a widow with four children and inadequate means of support. She opened a boarding house at the corner of 4 1/2 street and Pennsylvania avenue, which was for many years one of the most prominent boarding houses in the city. Among those who made her house their home were Robert Y. Hayne, Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Hugh Lawson White, Benton, McDuffie, Gov. Miller, and Charles Sumner, who was then a member of the lower House. Mrs. Peyton accumulated a competency, and retired about thirty years ago to live privately in the house which she purchased on Indiana avenue. She was remarkable for her energy and self-reliance, and was much esteemed by a large circle of friends.

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

Next door to Mr. Wallach was where Mrs. Eliza Peyton lived from 1855 until her death in February 1884. Prior to 1855 Mrs. Peyton conducted a very select boarding house on the corner (northwest) of Fourth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue (then 4 1/2 Street), where Reuter's Hotel now stands. Among those who lived with her were Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, Henry A. Wise; also R.Y. Hayne, of South Carolina. Mrs. Peyton always had a very nice class of boarders with her, also, in Indiana Avenue. Among others was Dr. John B. Blake and his son, Dr. Tucker Blake. The son was what (or similar to) we call in these days very dudish-like in his dress, which, in very respect -- suit, hat, shoes and linen -- was chosen with great taste and fitted with unusual exactness.

Mrs. Peyton was born in Caldwell County, Maryland, in 1794. Her husband, Craven Thompson Peyton was U.S. Consul at Matanzas, Cuba, in 1821, where he died during that year. About ten years later Mrs. Peyton became a resident of this city and continued to have her home here until her death as above stated. Her grandson, John B. Peyton, and great-grandson, John B. Peyton, Jr., also a widowed granddaughter, Mrs. Worth, are at present residents of this city.