

## Joseph T.K. Plant

( - 7 Mar 1881)

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**Plant.** On Monday, March 7, 1881 at 4 o'clock a.m., Joseph T.K. Plant, Past Supreme Chancellor, Knights of Pythias, in the 50th year of his age. Notice of funeral in the morning papers.

*The Evening Star, March 8, 1881*

The Funeral of Mr. J.T.K. Plant, a well-known citizen, who died yesterday morning, in the fiftieth year of his age, took place this afternoon from his late residence on E street, near 10th southwest, and was attended by the Grand Lodge and Franklin Lodge and delegations of other lodges of the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Plant was a native of this city, and for many years was a justice of the peace and notary public. In early life he was active in military matters connected with the American Rifles and President's Mounted Guard. After the war he commanded the Corcoran Zouaves for a time. He was connected at different times with a number of the beneficial orders in the District. Mr. Plant leaves a family of 11 children.

*The Evening Star, December 12, 1878*

Mr. J.T.K. Plant (PSC) at Franklin Lodge, Knights of Pythias last evening delivered a lecture on the origin of the order.

*Forman, Stephen M., A Guide to Civil War Washington, Washington, DC: Elliott & Clark Publishing, 1995.*

Plant testified in defense of Edwin Spangler, a stagehand at Ford's Theater. Plant was a dealer in furniture and a paperhanger, and had been engaged in cabinetwork at the time of the conspirators' trial. He lived at 350 D Street NW. Plant gave testimony about the condition of the locks on Boxes 7 and 8 in Ford's Theatre, which comprised the Presidential Box. He also testified about the hole in the door of Box 7. There was doubt concerning who made the hole--John Wilkes Booth or Edwin Spangler. If Booth had indeed made the hole, the question arose as to whether Spangler had any knowledge of it.