

Thomas Robinson Riley

(10 Jul 1783 – 27 Jan 1846)

Riley. On Tuesday the 27th instant, Mr. Thomas Robinson Riley, a native of the county of Accomac, State of Virginia, but for the last 20 years a resident of this city. His funeral will take place on Thursday next at 2 o'clock. The friends of the family are invited.

Personal Sketches--District of Columbia, p. 265

Thomas Robinson Riley, father of W.R.S. Riley, was a native of Accomac county, Va., having been born July 10, 1783. He was a man of much influence in the county and was a member of the old county court and high sheriff. In 1816 he married Elizabeth Cropper Blackstone, of his own county, and to their marriage were born ten children, viz: Wm. R.S., Ann Robinson Smith, Thomas Wise, of Sinnickson, Accomac county, Va., and Elizabeth Wise, who died in 1879, the wife of Benjamin T. Hodges of Prince George's county, Md.; Ellen Robinson, who died May 20, 1872, the wife of Charles Frederick Stansbury of Washington; Laura Custis; John Blackstone, who died in 1851, aged twenty-three, unmarried; Philander Chase, died in 1884; he married Virginia Smith, daughter of Benjamin Price Smith, of Washington; Melinda Hack, wife of Eldridge J. Smith; Catharine Custis, wife of John J. Smolinski of Washington. The father of this family died in January 1846, having been a widower since December 6, 1834. John Riley, father of T.R. Riley and grandfather of W.R.S. Riley was born in Accomac county, Va., where he was engaged in planting until his death in 1790. He was married to Elizabeth Smith, and of his two children--a son and a daughter--Thomas R. lived to maturity, and the daughter died in infancy. William Robinson Smith Riley dropped the "Smith" from his name when he entered into business.

Will of Thomas R. Riley, of City of Washington, D.C. (dtd. Jan. 14, 1846, probated Feb. 3, 1846, Will Book 6)

To oldest child, William R. Riley, all property.

Wits.: Nathaniel Pope Causin; Harvey Lindsly; Joseph H. Bradley