

## John A. Ruff

### ( - 4 Jan 1891)

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**Ruff.** At his residence, No. 2033, P street northwest on Sunday morning, January 4, John A. Ruff in the 69th year of his age. The funeral service will be held at the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal Church, 4 1/2 and C street streets northwest on Tuesday, January 6, at 2 o'clock p.m.

*The Evening Star, January 5, 1891, p. 3*

#### **Death of Mr. John A. Ruff**

##### **Brief Sketch of the Career of a Well Known Citizen**

Crape at the main entrance of the Central National Bank announced today to the depositors and the public generally the sad news of the death of Mr. John A. Ruff, the cashier of the bank. Mr. Ruff has been for so many years connected with this bank and prior to that with his own bank that he is widely known in financial circles. His death was a surprise to all except those who knew him intimately.

Two weeks ago he was at the bank and, as far as a casual glance showed, he was in the enjoyment of good health. He had, however, been in poor health for the past six months, but was able to be about and to attend to his duties until some ten days ago, when he was confined to the house. His attending physicians found that the action of the heart was impaired, one of the effects of dyspepsia, from which he had been a great sufferer. In spite of all that skill could do to help him he gradually grew worse and finally passed away at 5 o'clock yesterday at his residence, 2033 P street.

Mr. Norment, the president of the bank, called a special meeting of the board this morning and in appropriate terms announced the death of Mr. Ruff and paid a tribute to his sterling qualities of heart and mind. Resolutions were adopted expressive of the loss which the bank had sustained by this death.

Mr. Ruff was in his sixty-ninth year. He was born in Harford county, Md., and came to this city early in life and became interested in the banking business. He was the president of the Washington City Savings Bank, which failed in 1873, and in connection with the failure of that institution he lost his private fortune. The run on the bank was occasioned by some needless excitement, but it was met firmly by the bank officials and dollar for dollar was paid on all deposits. After the failure of the bank Mr. Ruff organized the Central National Bank, of which he was made cashier. In this responsible position he performed the duties which devolved upon him with great ability.

In his personal relations Mr. Ruff had that courtesy of manner, that consideration which endeared him to a large circle of friends. Mr. Ruff was one of the founders of the Metropolitan M.E. Church at the corner of 4 1/2 and C streets, and was a member of the board of trustees. He leaves two sons, Mr. A.B. Ruff, assistant cashier of the Central National Bank, and W.H. Ruff, a lawyer, and one daughter. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Metropolitan Church. Rev. Dr. Corey will officiate. The interment will be at the Congressional Cemetery. The pall-bearers will be the directors of the Central National Bank as follows: Samuel Norment, James L. Barbour, William B. Webb, H. Browning, B. Charlton, William E. Clark, O.T. Thompson, J.L. Edwards, Levi Woodbury, W.K. Mendenhall and Andrew Gleason, also Mr. Samuel Fowler, the representative of the trustees of the Metropolitan Church.

*The Evening Star, January 6, 1891, p. 5*

#### **Mr. John A. Ruff's Funeral**

##### **Impressive Services at the Metropolitan M.E.**

### **Church This Afternoon**

The funeral of the late John A. Ruff, for many years the cashier of the Central National Bank, took place at the Metropolitan M.E. Church, 4 1/2 and C streets, this afternoon, and the occasion drew together a large congregation, embracing many leading citizens of all nationalities and denominations. The remains were incased in a cloth-covered silver-mounted casket, which was covered with floral ornaments, and, preceded by his pastor, Rev. Dr. G.H. Corey, and Undertaker Barker, it was borne from the residence, No. 2033 P street, about 1:30 o'clock. The immediate family and interested friends followed and the church was reached at 2 o'clock. While the corpse was borne up the aisle by six young men as the active pall-bearers, preceded by the honorary pall-bearers, the organist, Prof. James Caulfield, played a low dirge on the organ. The honorary pall-bearers were the directors of the Central National Bank; Samuel Norment, James L. Barbour, William B. Webb, H. Browning, B. Carlton, W.E. Clark, O.T. Thompson, J.L. Edwards, Levi Woodbury, W.K. Mendenhall and Andrew Gleeson, also Mr. Samuel Fowler, the representative of the trustees of the Metropolitan Church.

They, as were the immediate family, seated in front and in and about the pulpit were a number of floral tokens. As the coffin was laid in the front of the altar the choir--Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Zeh, Messrs. Atkinson and Lapham--sang "Come Unto Me," by Darks. Prayer followed; and then the hymn "Asleep in Jesus," by Bradbury, was sung. Rev. Dr. Corey, after reading appropriate selections of Scripture, made a short address, in which he spoke of the beautiful character of the deceased. The hymn "Nearer, My God, to Thee," was sung and the body was removed to the hearse and the cortege formed, many private carriages being in the line, and proceeded to the Congressional cemetery, where the interment was made.