

## Richard Smith

( - 23 Jun 1897)

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*The Evening Star, June 23, 1897*

**Prominent Attorney Dead**  
**Unexpected Demise of Richard Smith**  
**Member of Local Bar**  
**All of the Courts Adjourn Today as a**  
**Mark of Respect to His Memory**

Richard Smith, "Dick" Smith, as he was familiarly known, a member of the local bar, died of apoplexy at his residence, 1727 H street, at 8:30 o'clock this morning.

Mr. Smith had been in ill health for the past month, but no serious consequences were anticipated, and his death this morning was, therefore, quite unexpected.

The deceased attorney, who was the son of the late John A. Smith, for many years clerk of the District Court, and a cousin of Judge Walter S. Cox, was born in the city about fifty years ago. He was a man of some means, and while an honored member of the local bar, practiced his profession but little. He was unmarried and leaves three sisters surviving him. He was a genial, whole-souled man, of courtly manners, and one of the best-known and most popular members of the bar.

He was one of the original members of the Metropolitan Club, president of the Patuxent Club, and the originator of the Lawyers' Club. Notice of his funeral will be made this afternoon or tomorrow.

*Action of the Courts*

In Equity Court No. 1, Mr. R. Ross Perry announced the death of Mr. Smith, referring to him as a man who was beloved by every member of the bar, and stating that at another time he would refer at greater length to the great loss which the bar and community have sustained in the death of an honored associate.

*The Evening Star, June 25, 1897*

**A Tribute to His Memory**  
**Bar Association Takes Action Upon Death of Attorney Smith**  
**Addresses Made by Members and Resolutions Adopted--**  
**The Association Will Attend the Funeral**

A very largely attended meeting of the members of the local bar, called by President Henry E. Davis of the District Bar Association, was held at the city hall yesterday afternoon to take appropriate action on the death of Richard Smith, a well-known member of the bar. In the absence of Mr. Davis, Mr. Leigh Robinson presided.

A committee, of which Mr. Jere M. Wilson was chairman, was appointed to prepare suitable resolutions, and later reported.

*The Report*

The resolutions set forth that the members of the bar of the District of Columbia have heard with profound sorrow of the sudden and untimely death, on the 23d of June instant, of their beloved friend and brother lawyer, Richard Smith; that in the death of their dear friend and brother the bar of the District of Columbia has lost a faithful and honored associate, and the citizens a valuable and useful member of the community, who, by his rare personal and genial qualities as a man, his lovable

disposition, his frank and generous nature, which impelled him always to give his time, his services and his means in advancing the happiness of his friends, and in assisting the less fortunate of his fellow beings, has left behind him a memory that will live and be cherished during the lives of all who knew him.

It was also directed that the chairman of the meeting convey to the afflicted family of the deceased a copy of the resolutions with the expression of profound sympathy. Also, that the chairman of the meeting present the resolutions to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia and the Court of Appeals, with the request that they be entered upon the minutes of the court.

#### *Remarks by Members*

In presenting the resolutions and moving their adoption, Mr. Wilson referred to Mr. Smith as one of the most genial, big-hearted he ever knew, one who devoted his life to promote the happiness of others.

Col. Enoch Totten spoke of Mr. Smith as a most lovable man, as one who never uttered an unkind word about another being, and as one to whom little children, the keenest, best judges of human nature, gave unbounded love.

Mr. R. Ross Perry said that in the death of Mr. Smith, whom he had known from boyhood, not only the bar had lost a dear friend and lovable companion, but the community an honored and valued member. He was a man who will live not in "dull, cold marble," but in the hearts and affections of all who knew him, for his watchword throughout life was "Love thyself least."

The resolutions were unanimously adopted. It was generally agreed that the bar will attend Mr. Smith's funeral at 4:30 this afternoon, from his late residence, 1727 H street.

Among those present were Justices Bradley and McComas of the District Supreme Court, Messrs. Jere M. Wilson, R. Ross Perry, Enoch Totten, W.A. Gordon, Wm. Stone Abert, W.M. Lewin, J.H. Gordon, Wm. A. McKihney, Leigh Robinson, W.D. Davidge, Chapin Brown, W.L. Cole, T.H. Callan, T.C. Taylor, Job Barnard, Nathaniel Wilson, John Ridout, J.J. Darlington, Alexander Wolf, Assistant District Attorneys Laskey, Shillington and Mallowney and many others.

Mr. Perry moved that the court adjourn as a mark of respect to his memory.

Judge Cox replied in an appropriate manner, and granted the motion.

Mr. F.H. Mackey made the announcement in Equity Court No. 2, Judge Hagner granting a similar motion.

District Attorney Davis made a similar announcement and motion in Criminal Court No. 2, a like order being made by Judge Bradley. The same thing was done in Circuit Courts Nos. 1 and 2.

*The Evening Star, June 26, 1897*

#### **Richard Smith Buried**

##### **His Popularity Attested by the Attendance at His Funeral**

The funeral of the late Richard Smith, the lawyer, who during his long life in Washington had enjoyed the universal esteem and affection of the best people of the District, took place yesterday from his late residence, No. 1727 H street northwest, at 4 o'clock p.m. The large attendance of representative people and the profusion of exquisite floral tributes attested the popularity of the dead man. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Wood of St. John's Church. The interment at Congressional Cemetery was attended only by the immediate relatives of the deceased. The honorary pallbearers who were members of the Metropolitan Club, of which Mr. Smith was one of the founders and always a leading spirit, and of the Bar Association, were Judge Andrew C. Bradley, Charles C. Glover, Marcellus Bailey, Judge Joseph K. McCammon, R. Ross Perry, William A. Boarman, William A. Gordon, Dr. William May, John A. Baker, ex-Representative John J. Hemphill and Dr. T. Morris Murray.