

## Susan Frances Steele

(4 Aug 1834 – 9 Jul 1900)

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**Steele.** On Monday, July 9, 1900 at midnight, Mrs. Susan Frances, widow of the late Rev. A. Floridus Steele, rector of St. Mark's P.E. Church. Funeral from the above church Thursday, July 12 at 11 a.m.

*The Evening Star, July 12, 1900, p. 7*

### **Funeral of Mrs. Steele**

#### **Widow of the Former Rector of St. Mark's Church**

The funeral of the late Mrs. Susan Alexander Steele, widow of the late Rev. A. Floridus Steele, who was rector of St. Mark's parish at the time of his death, took place this morning at 11 o'clock from the Pro-Cathedral, formerly St. Mark's, 3rd and A streets southeast. There was a large attendance of those who had known and loved Mrs. Steele in life.

She was a native of Massachusetts, but met her husband at Lancaster, Pa., where he was assistant minister. Mr. Steele was thence transferred to Waterbury, Conn. where he and his wife endeared themselves to the people of the community, he by his earnest, simple, self-sacrificing life, she by her wifely support of him and her brilliant accomplishments as a musician and an artist, and her interest in school and church work.

Mr. Steele was called from there to Albany and from there to Washington, where he became rector of St. Mark's, then a small, struggling parish, whose affairs he administered with such ability that they were soon able to build a new church, and when Washington was made a diocese, Bishop Satterlee selected St. Mark's as his church. In all his church work Mrs. Steele was a most efficient helper.

Since his death, about seven years since, she has supported herself largely by her artistic work, and had won for herself a high reputation as a painter of miniatures on ivory of a very artistic type. She leaves two sons, both born in Waterbury, and both living in Washington.

McMahan, Virgil E. *The Artists of Washington, DC, 1796-1996*. The Artists of Washington, Washington, DC, 1995.

### **STEELE, SUSAN F.**

Artist born in Massachusetts in 1835 and active in 1899-1900. In the former year she exhibited a miniature portrait with the Society of Washington Artists. REFS: CENSUS (1900); SWA (1899).