

Mary Cornelia Stewart

(- 23 Jan 1917)

Stewart. On Tuesday, January 23, 1917, at her home, 204 4th street southeast, Mary Cornelia, widow of Col. Gordon Alonzo Stewart. Funeral from her late residence on Thursday, January 25, at 3 p.m. Relatives and friends invited to attend. Interment (private) at Congressional cemetery.

The Evening Star, January 25, 1917, p. 7

Mrs. M.C. Stewart Dies; Funeral This Afternoon Was the First Newspaper Woman to Obtain Admission to the Press Gallery of the Capitol

Mrs. Mary Cornelia Stewart, the first woman to obtain admission to the press gallery of the Capitol, died at her residence, 204 4th street southeast, Tuesday night, following an attack of pneumonia. She was seventy-six years old. Funeral services were held this afternoon and interment was in Congressional cemetery. Rev. Ulysses G.B. Pierce, pastor of All Souls Unitarian church, officiated.

Mrs. Stewart was the widow of Col. Gordon A. Stewart, who died in 1882, and was librarian of the coast and geodetic survey during the administration of President Grant. She was associate editor of the Des Moines (Iowa) Bulletin, of which her husband was editor. Col. And Mrs. Stewart came to Washington in 1872, and their home, up to the time of Col. Stewart's death was the mecca for visitors from Iowa.

Personal Friend of Presidents

Mrs. Stewart was a pupil of Ralph Waldo Emerson and often enjoyed the companionship of the essayist. Her life, according to her daughter, was modeled after the ideals of Mr. Emerson. Mrs. Stewart was a personal friend of Presidents Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Harrison and McKinley. She was the subject for Mead Larkin's famous statue of "The Green Mountain Girl."

She is survived by two children, Alonzo H. Stewart, an attorney of this city, and Daisy Gordon Stewart. Her brother, William A. Hopkins, who is now working the war sufferers in Brittany, France founded Le Matin, one of the leading dailies of Paris.