Elizabeth A. Thompson

(1829 - 31 Mar 1898)

Thompson. On Thursday, March 31, 1898 at 7 o'clock p.m. at her residence, No. 606 G street southeast, Eliza A. Thompson, in the 69th year of her age, beloved wife of John W. Thompson. Funeral services at the First Methodist Protestant Church, 4th street between E and G streets southeast on Sunday afternoon, April 3 at 2:30 o'clock. Relatives and friends respectfully invited to attend.

The officers and members of Naomi Rebekah Lodge No. 1, I.O.O.F. are hereby notified to assemble at No. 522 6th street southeast on Sunday, April 3, 1898 at 1:30 p.m. to attend the funeral of Sister Eliza A. Thompson. Members of sister lodges are invited to attend.

Anna M. Roberts, Rec. Sec.

E. Brewer, N.G. pro tem

The Evening Star, April 4, 1898

Mrs. Thompson's Funeral

Impressive Services Both at Church and Congressional Cemetery

The death of Mrs. Eliza A. Thompson, whose funeral took place from the First Methodist Protestant Church, in Southeast Washington, yesterday afternoon, has caused deep regret in that section of the city, where she was well and favorably known for many acts of kindness and charity performed by her during the fifty years she has lived in that section, endearing her to a very large circle of neighbors, friends and acquaintances. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows has lost a warm, earnest and steadfast friend and supporter. Connecting herself with Odd Fellowship by taking the degree of Rebekah in Harmony Lodge, she was one of those who organized the Ladies' Odd Fellows' Relief Association, No. 1, November 15, 1864, whose object was to relieve the distress of the widows and orphans and indigent Odd Fellows, taking an active part and serving as its president and continuing an ardent supporter until it merged into the first Rebekah lodge established by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, September 7, 1875. At its institution Mrs. Thompson was elected the first vice grand, and subsequently the first lady noble grand of Naomi Rebekah Lodge, No. 1. On the declination of the treasurer, Mrs. Cannon, to continue longer in office, she was unanimously elected treasurer, and has since been continuously re-elected to the same office, serving her thirty-fifth term when stricken with the sickness that terminated fatally March 31. The religious services at the church, conducted by the Rev. J.W. Gray, D.D., were unusually impressive. The church was crowded to its utmost capacity. A solo, "Only Remember," was sung by Mr. James H. Cathell; also a solo, "Asleep in Jesus," was sung by Mr. Nichols. At Congressional cemetery the beautiful ceremony of the Daughters of Rebekah was conducted by Naomi Rebekah Lodge, No. 1, Mrs. Sarah M. Sanderson acting noble grand, Mrs. Georgie Mothersead acting vice grand, Mrs. Juliana Allan, chaplain, and Mrs. Alice V. Thomas, marshal.

Prominent members of the order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Mechanics and the Veteran Firemen, including Grand Master John I. Brown, Grand Representative Fred. A. Stier, Grand Secretary Wm. R. Hunt, Grand Representative Wm. P. Allan, Past Chancellor John Gulliher, Past Architect James H. Cathell, President of the Veteran Firemen James H. Richards, and representatives from every subordinate and Rebekah lodge in this city were present throughout the ceremonies.

The floral offerings were numerous and handsome, and probably the most beautiful and touching was the placing of a pink carnation with green by each member of the Rebekah degree in the casket as they passed around it. Handsome floral pieces were sent by Harmony Lodge, No. 9; Naomi Rebekah Lodge, No. 1; Calanthe Lodge, No. 11, Knights of Pythias; Washington Company, No. 1, Knights of Pythias, and from the employees of the ordnance department of the navy yard.

Mr. John W. Thompson has the sympathy of his friends in this sad affliction, coupled with the fact that one of his daughters, who was stricken with illness at the same time with her mother, continues very ill at the present time.