

William A. Thompson

(- 22 Jul 1901)

Thompson. On Monday, July 22, 1901, at his residence, 462 Maryland avenue southwest, William A., beloved husband of Susan K. Thompson. Funeral Thursday, July 25, at 4:30 o'clock p.m., from the Sixth Presbyterian Church, 6th and C streets southwest. Friends invited to attend.

The Evening Star, July 23, 1901, p. 11

Excitement and the Heat

Causes That Led to Death of William A. Thompson Heard That His Residence Was Burning and Ran to It-- Noted as an Engraver

William A. Thompson, one of the best-known citizens of South Washington, died suddenly about 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon at his home, No. 462 Maryland avenue. His death was due to heart disease resulting from excitement and the heat. He was chief engraver in the United States coast and geodetic survey. Yesterday afternoon a message was received at Mr. Thompson's office that "Mr. Thompson's house was burning." The sender of the message did not know if it was Mr. William A. Thompson's house or that of his son Harry, who lives in Brookland. The elder Thompson grew greatly excited, and although his son assured him that there was no occasion for him to become alarmed, he left the office and started toward home. He was in such a hurry that he virtually ran part of the way home, and upon reaching there he complained that he was overcome by the heat. Just as he was about to reach for a fan he fell to the floor. He died in less than two minutes. The fire referred to was at Brookland, near the home of Mr. Thompson's son.

An Active Career

The deceased was 63 years old, and was a native of this city, having been born near the corner of 5th and G streets northwest.

He was the second of seven sons of the late William Thompson. Two brothers, Dr. Millard F. Thompson and H.C. Thompson, and two sisters, Misses Mary E. and Amanda C. Thompson, survive him. He leaves a widow and two sons and three daughters. Forty-four years ago Mr. Thompson entered the employ of the government, and received a number of promotions until he was made chief engraver. He was an elder in the Sixth Presbyterian Church, and in connection with his church work he did a great amount of charity. The deceased was also a member of Dawson Lodge, F.A.A.M., and Columbia Commandery, K.T. His funeral will take place from the Sixth Presbyterian Church at 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon. The Rev. Daniel Skellenger, pastor of the church, will officiate. The body will be placed in the family vault at Congressional cemetery.

The Evening Star, July 26, 1901, p. 12

Wm. A. Thompson's Funeral

Large Gathering Attests Esteem in Which Deceased Was Held

The funeral of Mr. William A. Thompson, who died suddenly Monday, took place from the Sixth Presbyterian Church yesterday afternoon. In addition to the family the church was crowded to its capacity by his friends and representatives of the various organizations of which he was a member. Around the casket were banked floral tributes in great profusion.

The services at the church were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Skellenger and Columbia Commandery, K.T., and at the grave by Dawson Lodge, No. 16, F.A.A.M.

The coast survey, in which he had been employed since boyhood, was particularly well represented. In addition to the floral emblem sent by his associates in the office, the employees of the engraving division, of which he was chief engraver, met Wednesday and formulated a set of resolutions, showing the deep esteem in which he was held by those associated with him and recounting his qualities and virtues.

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

THOMPSON, WILLIAM A.

Engraver active in DC from 1865-1892. He was on the staff of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. REF: WCD (1865-1892).