Moy Wah

(- 3 Apr 1897)

The Washington Post, April 15, 1897

Funeral of a Celestial

Moy Wah's Grave Filled with Incense and Choice Viands

The remains of Moy Wah, the Chinaman who died two days ago, were deposited in a grave scented with punk and half filled with choice Chinese edibles in Congressional Cemetery yesterday afternoon. Several hundred people gathered in the cemetery to witness the peculiar rites.

On the way from the undertaker's to the grave a brother of the deceased sat on the hearse and scattered perforated bits of paper along the street. At the cemetery a little group of celestials from Chinatown had assembled to meet the funeral party and assist in lowering the body into the grave.

Two roast chickens, cups of tea and wine, and two bowls, each containing rice and a hard boiled egg, were placed near the head of the grave. Bunches of punk and license were burned, and a large box, filled with articles which had belonged to the dead man, was burned over the grave.