

Benjamin F. Wilkins

(- 9 May 1873)

Wilkins. On the morning of the 9th instant, his residence, at Uniontown, D.C., Benjamin Wilkins, after a long and painful illness. His friends are invited to attend his funeral at the above place, on Sunday, the 11th inst., at 2 o'clock.

The Evening Star, May 12, 1873

The Death of Benjamin F. Wilkins

Among the recent deaths none will cause deeper pain to the friends of the deceased than that of Benjamin F. Wilkins. After years of acute suffering, borne with manly fortitude and cheerfulness, he passed away on Friday last. Mr. Wilkins was a native of Portsmouth, Va., but had resided in this city some twenty-five years. By profession he was a printer, but abandoned the "case" for government service. He filled responsible positions in the Post Office department, and the organization of the money-order system was, to a large extent, his work. An unjust charge against him in connection with his official position, instigated, it was understood, by the notorious L.C. Baker, of "detective" memory, caused Mr. Wilkins much distress for a time, but in the end his character was fully vindicated, and he never for a moment lost the confidence of his friends. Mr. Wilkins was a writer of decided ability, and his style was distinguished by a playful humor that would have done no discredit to our professional humorous writers. He warmly appreciated by "Artemus Ward" (Browne), and the latter lectured in Washington under his auspices. Mr. Wilkins was for a time one of the proprietors of the Sunday Herald, but his health did not permit him to follow up journalism, a pursuit for which he was so admirably fitted. Some five years ago a paralytic stroke prostrated him, and before he had recovered a second and a third attack rendered him incapable of active physical exertion. A year ago, in this crippled condition, the hand of death deprived him of his almost sole support, his devoted wife. A week since a fourth stroke rendered him incapable of motion, and also affected his brain. In this condition he remained until the end.

The Evening Star, March 18, 1868

Struck With Paralysis

Benjamin F. Wilkins, Esq., a clerk in the Post Office Department, and well known to many of our citizens, we regret to announce has been visited by a stroke of paralysis. It first manifested itself on Saturday, and gradually increased in intensity until the right side is almost completely paralyzed.