Peregrine Warfield Browning

(1811 - 4 Apr 1900)

Browning. On Wednesday, April 4, 1900 at 5:15 a.m. at his residence No. 331 Missouri avenue northwest. P.W. Browning in the 89th year of his age. Funeral from his late residence on Friday, April 6 at 10 o'clock a.m. Interment private.

The Evening Star, April 5, 1900

Aged Citizen Dead

P.W. Browning, Long a Resident of Washington, Passes Away

Mr. P.W. Browning died yesterday at his residence, 331 Missouri avenue, after an illness of only two weeks. He caught cold which developed into grip, and subsequently erysipelas developed. Owing to his extreme age, being in his eighty-ninth year, he was unable to recuperate.



Mr. Browning spent practically his entire life in this city, and was, therefore, one of the oldest residents. He was born in Clarksburg, Md., in 1811 and came to this city when thirteen years of age. He served an apprenticeship in the tailoring business with Abner H. Young, then located at Pennsylvania avenue and 12th street, and on reaching his majority he entered business on his own account at what is now 827 Pennsylvania avenue, then a small frame building. He subsequently bought the property and

erected thereon in 1840 the first four-storied brick building to be constructed on the avenue between the Capitol and the White House, and continued the business till 1861, when he purchased a farm one and one-half miles from Hyattsville, to which he retired. He enjoyed the patronage of a large number of leading men of the olden time, numbering among his friends Henry Clay, Theodore Frelinghuysen, Jefferson Davis, Alex. H. Stephens, Andrew Johnson and a host of other prominent characters of antebellum days.

In early life Mr. Browning married Miss Margaret Ann Wood, the daughter of a leading jeweler of that period, whose establishment was, about where Galt's is now. There were twelve children born of this union, nine of whom grew to majority and six survive him. Col. William A., the eldest of his sons, was the private secretary of President Johnson from a period before the war till his death occurred in 1866. Those living are Henry Clay and Theodore F. of Prince George's county, George P., who has been living with his father; Livingston, Arthur B. and Frank T., are well-known members of the local bar. Mr. Browning is also survived by twenty one grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren. His first wife died in 1887, and about eight years ago he married a Mrs. Bishop of Pennsylvania, who survives him.

The funeral will take place from his late residence at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, when Rev. R.P. Williams of Trinity Episcopal Church will officiate, and the six sons of the deceased will be the pallbearers. The interment will be in the family lot at Congressional cemetery.