

William B. Cooper

(1830 – 5 Oct 1904)

Cooper. On Wednesday, October 5, 1904 at 6 o'clock a.m., William B. Cooper in the 75th year of his age. Funeral will take place from Lee's undertaking establishment, 332 Pennsylvania avenue, Friday, October 7 at 2 p.m.

The Evening Star, October 6, 1904

Death of William B. Cooper

Was for Twenty-Five Years Employee of National Museum

Mr. William Bell Cooper, for twenty-five years an employee of the National Museum and one of the oldest inhabitants of the District of Columbia, died yesterday at 1 a.m. at Providence Hospital. Mr. Cooper had been suffering from an attack of paralysis for about two weeks, and his death was not unexpected. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock from Lee's undertaking establishment, on Pennsylvania avenue. Interment will be in Congressional cemetery.

Mr. Cooper was born in Washington in 1830 and had lived her continuously. He was apprenticed to the trade of metal and sheet iron worker, and in 1880 received an appointment in charge of an important branch of work at the National Museum. Of late years he has been giving particular attention in the construction of Prof. Langley's flying machines, and much of the metal construction of these airships was his handiwork.

The funeral services will be conducted by the Rev. C.C. Meador pastor of the Fifth Baptist Church. The deceased lived for several years at 719 M street southwest, moving there after the death of his wife. Three sons--John William, James Edwin and Charles Andrew Cooper -- survive him.