

John T. Keyworth

(8 Jan 1838 – 1 Apr 1897)

Keyworth. On Thursday, April 1, 1897 at 9:55 p.m. at his residence, 917 I street northwest, John, beloved husband of Mary A. Keyworth. Funeral service at the house on Sunday, April 4 at 2:30 p.m.

The Evening Star, April 2, 1897

Death of Mr. John Keyworth

John Keyworth, one of the oldest residents of this city, died at his residence, 917 I street, last night of a complication of diseases. Mr. Keyworth had been ill for eight weeks. He was born January 8, 1838, at 905 Pennsylvania avenue, where his father, Robert Keyworth, was in business as a jeweler. He had been in the grocery business himself at 9th and D streets since 1865. Mr. Keyworth received his education in private schools here.

He was a member of Washington Commandery, No. 1, K.T., and of Federal Lodge. He was also secretary of the Washington and Norfolk Steamboat Company. He leaves a wife and two sons, W.R. and W. Howard Keyworth, and a brother, Howard Keyworth.

The Evening Star, April 3, 1897

Funeral Services

The Late John Keyworth to Be Laid to Rest

The funeral of the late Mr. John Keyworth, who died Thursday night last at his home, No. 917 I street northwest, after an illness of ten weeks from a complication of diseases, will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The services will be conducted by Rev. Dr. John H. Elliott, rector of the Church of the Ascension, and members of Federal Masonic Lodge, of which the deceased was a member. The pallbearers will be Messrs. J.D. Barton, C.W. Howard, W.S. Jenks, Dorsey Claggett, George W. Pierson and John Knox, representing Washington Commandery, No. 1, K.T.; Federal Lodge and Eureka Chapter, respectively, and with all of which he was connected. The interment will be in Congressional cemetery. Mr. Keyworth left a widow and two sons; also a brother, Howard Q. Keyworth, and a sister, Mrs. Eva Todhunter, all residing in Washington. He was born at what is now 905 Pennsylvania avenue northwest, January 8, 1838, the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans, and his father was one of the leading jewelers of Washington at that time.

After being educated at Washington Seminary, the predecessor of Gonzaga College, Mr. Keyworth became bookkeeper for Mr. William B. Kibbey, a prominent merchant, then conducting business on Pennsylvania avenue near 4 1/2 street, remaining in his employ until October 1865, when he embarked in business for himself at the corner of 9th and D streets northwest, and continued there until his death, his entire business life being spent in the square in which he was born. At the time of the organization of the Norfolk and Washington Steamboat Company. Mr. Keyworth was elected secretary and held the position until his death. He was also for twenty years treasurer of Washington Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templar, retiring therefrom at the expiration of his last term on account of ill-health.

The Evening Star, April 5, 1897

Laid to Rest

Funeral Services Over the Late John Keyworth

There was a very large attendance yesterday afternoon at the funeral of the late John Keyworth at his late residence, 917 I street northwest. The rooms were filed with floral tokens from the friends of the deceased, fully 300 of whom were present. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. John H. Elliott, rector of the Church of the Ascension, and were in charge of the Federal Masonic Lodge. A quartet rendered two hymns. The pallbearers were Messrs. J.D. Barton, C.W. Howard, W.S. Jenks, Dorsey Claggett, George V. Pierson and John Know, representing Washington Commandery, No. 1, K.T.; Federal Lodge and Eureka Chapter, with all of which the deceased was connected. The interment was in Congressional cemetery.

The Washington Post, April 2, 1897, p. 10

John Keyworth Dead

Born on Pennsylvania Avenue and in Business Here Since 1865

John Keyworth, one of the best known business men of this city, died last night at his residence, 917 I street of a complication of diseases, resulting from liver trouble. Mr. Keyworth had been ill for eight weeks. He was born January 8, 1838, at 906 Pennsylvania avenue, where his father, Robert Keyworth, was in business as a jeweler. He had been in the grocery business himself at Ninth and D streets since 1865. Mr. Keyworth received his education in private schools here.

He was a member of Washington Commandery, No. 1, K.T., and of Federal Lodge. He was also Secretary of the Washington and Norfolk Steamboat Company. He leaves a wife and two sons, W.R. and W. Howard Keyworth, and a brother, Howard Keyworth. Arrangements for the funeral have not yet been made.