

## Walter L. Nicholson

( - 13 Apr 1895)

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**Nicholson.** On Saturday, April 13, 1895 at 4 a.m., Walter Lamb Nicholson, aged 70 years, a native of Edinburgh, Scotland. Funeral service at the residence of his son-in-law, Dr. Davis, 1013 16th street, Monday, April 15 at 3 p.m. Friends of the family respectfully invited to attend.

*The Evening Star, April 13, 1895, p. 3*

### **Walter L. Nicholson's Death**

#### **For Twenty-Two Years the Post Office Topographer**

Mr. Walter L. Nicholson, the first topographer of the Post Office Department, holding that responsible position for twenty-two years, died this morning, aged seventy years, at the residence of his son-in-law. Dr. Davis, after a long period of declining health. Mr. Nicholson was a man of scholarly attainments and wide reading, and was well known in Washington scientific circles. He was a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, and was the son of William Nicholson, the Scottish artist, one of the founders of the Royal Scottish Academy. Mr. Nicholson came to Washington in 1856 at the request of Prof. Bache, then superintendent of the coast survey, and filled a responsible position there until 1863, when he was selected to establish the topographical department of the Post Office Department, a position which during the war was of peculiar importance to the government. He held the position for over a score of years, and since his retirement was engaged in occasional scientific work, notwithstanding his failing health. Mr. Nicholson was a devoted public servant, sedulously caring for the establishment and growth of his department, working for years day and night, giving to it his best energies.

The funeral services will be held on Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock at 1013 16th street.

Mr. Nicholson leaves a widow, two daughters and a son, Dr. William Nicholson, engaged in practice in New England.