

Samuel L. Phillips

(17 May 1838 – 3 Dec 1920)

Phillips. Friday, December 3, 1920 at his residence, 1350 Massachusetts avenue southeast, Samuel L. Phillips. Funeral from the Chapel of the Nativity, Massachusetts avenue and A street southeast, Monday at 1 p.m.

The Evening Star, Saturday, December 4, 1920, p. 2

Samuel Phillips, D.C. Pioneer Dies

Practiced Law and Was Active in Early Street Railway Building

Samuel L. Phillips, eighty-four years old, a resident of Washington most of his life, died last night at his home, 1351 Massachusetts avenue southeast. He had been ailing for some time.

Mr. Phillips was born here in 1838. He attended Princeton University and after being graduated in law was admitted to the bar of the old Circuit Court of the District practicing law here until 1874. He then became president of the Washington and Georgetown Railroad Company for a short period, later becoming connected with the Third Avenue Railroad Company of New York city, in the capacity of president of the company. During his management of that railroad it was not only rebuilt, but 30 percent dividends were declared every years on its capital stock.

Retired to His Farm

After a number of years Mr. Phillips resigned and retired to his farm near Rockville, Md., until 1894, when he was elected president of the Metropolitan Railroad Company of Washington and charged with devising and building the underground electric system which Congress ordered installed within one year on 9th street and within two years on F street northwest, under forfeiture, of its charter. This work was successfully completed within the time limits, and at his instance the stockholders sold the system to the present owners, the Washington Railway and Electric Company, at a net profit of \$4,200,000.

Mr. Phillips at the time of his death was a director of the Washington Loan and Trust Company, the Arlington Fire Insurance Company, the Farmers' Banking and Trust Company of Rockville and the John Dickson Home.

He is survived by a brother and a niece, both of this city.

Mr. Phillips, realizing that he had not long to live, selected a list of pallbearers for his own funeral. This list included John Joy Edson, John B. Larner, Andrew Parker, William E. Edmonston and William King.

Funeral services will be held Monday afternoon at 1 o'clock at the Church of the Nativity.

The Evening Star, December 6, 1920, p. 7

Funeral Services Held

Funeral services for Samuel L. Phillips, pioneer Washington resident, who died Friday night at his home, 1350 Massachusetts avenue southeast, where held this afternoon at 1 o'clock, at the Chapel of the Nativity. Rev. Enoch M. Thompson, pastor of the church, officiated.

Honorary pallbearers included John Joy Edson, John B. Larner, Andrew Parker, William E. Edmonston and William King.

Mr. Phillips was born in Washington in 1838. He was president of the old Metropolitan Railroad Company of Washington at the time of the institution of the underground electric system on F and 9th streets.

Zevely, Doug, Columbia Historical Society, April 14, 1902

Before Mr. Taylor built his home there were two one-story frame buildings, on the lot adjoining, which were owned by Mr. Robert Beale,

...,The other of these buildings was occupied by Mr. Samuel L. Phillips in 1860, when he commenced the practice of law. The home of the McCalla family adjoined these buildings, but in recent years a different style of house with a bay-window front, has replaced the original dwelling.