

Anthony Smith Preston, Sr.

(12 Apr 1792 – 3 May 1843)

Preston. At Baltimore on the 3rd instant, Mr. Anthony Preston of this city. His friends and acquaintances are invited to attend his funeral this afternoon at 3 o'clock from his late residence on 9th street opposite the Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Kelly, Rev. Joseph Thomas, *"Rev. John C. Smith, D.D., and Other Pioneer Presbyterian Ministers of Washington"*, Columbia Historical Society, Vol. 24, p. 123-124

This brings us to the Fourth Church, so named because of the much-to-be-deplored method of numerically naming our churches. It was the fourth organized in the City of Washington, the corporation of Georgetown being a separate municipality. He was organized by a little company of 23 people from the Second Church, which had just lost its pastor, Dr. Daniel Baker, and had failed to call Dr. Danforth, whom some desired. The meeting for organization was held in the home of Jacob Gideon and his wife Mary, on 7th Street. They were the outstanding figures, not only of that early time, but for many years afterwards. He and Anthony Preston, another of the men of that early time were not members of the church when it was organized, but from the beginning they were strong friends of the church, both financially and by the influence of their personal standing in the community.

P. 129 -- Jacob Gideon and Anthony Preston, neither of them at the time of the organization of the church, members of it, but both of them soon in its membership, and then elected to the Eldership and serving the church with singular fidelity and loving zeal. They gave each \$1,000 for the new building ...