

Francis Prosperi

(- 20 Dec 1872)

The Evening Star, October 13, 1853

Prosperi's Cornet Band

It is not generally known that this Band is a portion of the celebrated Marine Band, which is the case, Prof. Prospei being at the head of the same. They give particular attention to engagements for playing at military parades, meetings, serenades, etc., when not on duty at the Barracks, and have ample supplies of new and old pieces, which they render with fine and satisfactory execution. All their instruments are of brass, and they are fast becoming a striking musical feature of the city.

The Evening Star, November 5, 1853

Serenades last night

Prof. Prosperi's fine band were out again last evening on a series of serenades, their first being a musical compliment to a lady at Gadsby's Hotel, who received them with the encouraging smiles of woman, and her friends and "mine host" gave them a cordial welcome. Thence they proceeded to the residence of Capt. L. Towers, of the National Greys, where he and his family were waked up with sweet sounds, and the gallant Captain extended his hospitalities with a noble band. Returning, the band stopped in front of the house of Mr. B. Schad, and having played a few airs, were suddenly invited in to a splendid oyster supper, served up in alcoves, German form, where each party could enjoy themselves in their own way. It was a happy venue, and indeed the whole thee serenades were of gleeful interest. Mr. W. Harris sang Washington's Grave and Napoleon's Grave with fine effect, as he always does, and the various parties enjoyed the evening in a rich, musical and pleasant way.

Prosperi. December 20th, Francis Prosperi, aged 84 years. The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from his late residence, No. 712 G street southeast, on Sunday, the 22d instant, at 2 o'clock p.m.

The Evening Star, December 21, 1872

Another Old Citizen Gone

Mr. Francis Prosperi died at his residence, No. 712 G street southeast, this morning, aged 84 years. He was born in Pisa, in the grand duchy of Tuscany, and came to this country on board the frigate Constellation in 1817, and had been in the service of the United States ever since as a musician, having been for a long time connected with the West Point band, and for the last 35 years a member of the marine band of this city.

The Evening Star, December 23, 1872

The Funeral of the Late Francis Prosperi, for many years attached to the marine band, took place from his late residence 712 G street southeast, yesterday afternoon, and was very largely attended. His remains were interred in the Congressional cemetery, followed by the full marine band and a company of marines, who fired the usual volley over the grave.

The Evening Star, December 26, 1872

The will of the late Francis Prosperi has been filed in the probate court. He bequeathes:

"To my sons James, Frederick, Charles, John, Francis, and Augustus, and to my daughters Aspacia Edwards, Julia Ann Terry, Ann Maria Cross, and Mary Elizabeth Walton, one dollar each, and the remainder of my estate to my beloved wife for her use forever."