

COL. JOHN A. JOYCE, SOLDIER, POET, DEAD

Picturesque Capital Character
Wrote "Laugh and the World
Laughs With You."

FUNERAL TOMORROW;
BURIAL AT OAK HILL

Tombstone, Bust and Epitaph Pre-
pared in Advance by Philosopher.
Two Children Survive.

"Laugh and the world laughs with you;
Weep and you weep alone."

Col. John A. Joyce, "poet of Wash-
ington" and author of the above lines
which have become famous the world
over, died yesterday at Providence
Hospital.

Funeral services are to be held at 2
o'clock Thursday afternoon in Hines'
chapel, 1715 14th street northwest, and
interment will be in Oak Hill ceme-
tery, where Col. Joyce had his tomb-
stone erected a number of years ago.
About six months ago he had a bust
of himself placed on the tombstone,
the pedestal of which bears the follow-
ing inscription, chiseled in the stone at
Col. Joyce's instruction:

JOHN A. JOYCE,
Poet, Soldier, Philosopher.
Born July 4, 1842. Died ———.

"Laugh and the world laughs with you;
Weep and you weep alone." —Joyce.

Col. Joyce recently exhibited at sev-
eral places in the city a photograph of
himself standing beside his tomb.
Alongside of it he hung the following
quatrain of his own composition:

"Spread golden flowers on my life,
And do so very often;
I'll need them in my daily strife,
But not upon my coffin."

A Picturesque Person.

Col. Joyce, who was seventy-two
years old, was one of the best known
personages in Washington. His long
white hair, broad-brim felt hat, dark
blue frock coat and red bow tie were
known to thousands of people. Every
one recognized in Col. Joyce a former
soldier, for he carried himself erect
despite his advanced years.

For half a century he had made
Washington his home, and during that
time published a dozen or more books,
mostly of poems and biographies. His
best known verses, called "Love and
Laughter," are introduced by the fol-
lowing lines, now known throughout
the English-speaking world:

"Laugh and the world laughs with you,
Weep and you weep alone."

The authorship of these lines was
at one time disputed by another writer.
When Col. Joyce learned of this he in-
vited litigation to decide the question
of priority, but the matter was not
carried that far.

Some of His Books.

Among the books he has published
are "Checked Life," "Jewels of Mem-
ory," "Peculiar Poems," "Zig Zag,"
"Complete Poems," "Brickbats and
Bouquets," "Oliver Goldsmith," "Edgar
Allan Poe," "Beautiful Washington,"
"Personal Recollections of Shakes-
peare," "Truth" and "Robert Burns."
He left many unpublished manuscripts,
from which it is believed collections
will be made for publication.

A poem entitled "Oak Hill," written
a few days ago in Providence Hospital,
is said to have been the last of Col.
Joyce's works. Oak Hill is the name
of the cemetery in which he had made
arrangements for his burial, and the
poem was written with prophetic vision
of his approaching death, for Col.
Joyce had been in poor health for many
months.

Published After Death.

On April 11 last Col. Joyce wrote
the following poem, which he called
"Rest," and upon its completion made
the request that it be published after
his death:

REST!

Be still, my sighing soul and throbbing heart:
You know full well that you have done your part
In all the battles of this checkered life,
Where truth and manhood led in every strife,
And there in darkest night or garish day
You never yet could lie, or once betray
A trusting friend or noble, daring foe,
But stood the shot in every form of woe.
Your sunset hour of life is drawing near,
And as you lived to love and laugh and cheer,
The true and faithful friends you leave behind
Will ever bear your image in their mind
And quote your verses when you pass away
And sing your songs to all the bright and gay,
And thus with hope to reign among the blest,
Approach thy glorious grave and go to rest!

—John A. Joyce.

Born in Ireland.

John Alexander Joyce was born at
Shraugh, Ireland, July 4, 1842, son of
Michael and Catherine Joyce. He came
to America at an early age and was
reared in Kentucky. He graduated
from the Highland Literary Institute
at Mount Sterling, Ky., in 1859, after
which he took up the study of law.

At the outbreak of the civil war he
was the only member of his family to
fight with the northern forces, all of
his male relatives joining the army of
the Confederacy. He joined the 24th
Kentucky Infantry, and rose during the
war to the rank of first lieutenant,
serving as adjutant.

He was discharged in 1864 on ac-
count of wounds received in battle.

After the war he came to Washing-
ton, where he was offered a commis-
sion in the regular army. This he de-
clined. Later he entered the internal
revenue service and was stationed at
St. Louis. After a number of years he
removed to Washington, where he had
since made his home.

During the last two years Col. Joyce
had been employed in the Treasury
Department, and was still on the rolls
at the time of his death.

Joyce Was a Mason.

Col. Joyce was a thirty-second degree
Mason. He was a member of Colum-
bia Lodge, No. 3, F. A. A. M., which will
have charge of the funeral services.

Col. Joyce was made a Master Mason
in Columbia Lodge, August 6, 1868; a
Royal Arch Mason, in Mount Vernon
Royal Arch Chapter, September 23,
1872, but he withdrew February 12,
1883, and he was knighted in Columbia
Commandery, No. 2, Knights Templar,
December 7, 1872. He was on both the
blue lodge and commandery rolls as a
member when he died.

Among the other organizations of
which he was a member were Kit Car-
son Post, G. A. R.; the Loyal Legion,
Society of the Army of the Ohio, Asso-
ciation of Oldest Inhabitants of the
District of Columbia, all of which will
be represented at the funeral.

Col. Joyce is survived by two daugh-
ters, Mrs. William Dunkerley of Cali-
fornia, and Miss Libby Joyce of this
city.

Controller Williams' Tribute.

The controller of the currency, John
Skelton Williams, expressed his regret
for the death of Col. Joyce. He said:

"The death of Col. John A. Joyce,
familiarily known as the poet of the
Treasury, takes from us a picturesque,
interesting and lovable character. The

WHILE ALIVE POET PROVIDES MONUMENT AT
GRAVE SITE.



COL. JOHN A. JOYCE.
(A recent photograph.)

colonel combined, in delightful pro-
portions, the soldier and the poet and
man of letters.

"He is the author of many books and
poems, but probably the best known
of all of his poems is that lyric familiar
to us all, 'Laugh and the World Laughs
With You.'"

"This was written by Col. Joyce in
January, 1863."

Col. Joyce presented Controller Wil-
liams with an autograph copy of these
verses. They have been preserved by
the controller of the currency.

Left Will in Verse.

Col. Joyce left a will written in verse,
according to an announcement made
today by James L. Lampton, executor
of his estate. The will is to be of-
fered for probate in a few days, Mr.
Lampton said.