

Name	Birth/Death	Age	Range/Site
Horton, Annie Isabel	d. 10 Nov 1940		R94/165-S
Horton, Annie Isabel. On Sunday, November 10, 1940 at Sibley Memorial Hospital, Annie Isabel Horton of Rockville, Md., beloved wife of R. Lee Horton and mother of Mrs. Mable A. Donovan. Services at the S.H. Hines Co., funeral home 2901 14th street northwest on Wednesday, November 13 at 2 p.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.			
Horton, David Denham	d. 29 Jun 1916	76 yrs.	R6/228
Horton. On Thursday, June 29, 1916 at 1314 D street southeast, David Denham Horton in his 77th year. He is survived by four sons, Malcolm, Harry, Augustus and Draper; one daughter, Mrs. W.N. Tracewell and a sister, Mrs. Jane E. Berry. Funeral from residence of his son Malcolm, 1314 D street southeast, Saturday, July 1 at 2 p.m. Interment at Congressional Cemetery.			
Horton, George W.	d. 8 Dec 1899	51 yrs. 2 mos. 24 days	R75/311
<i>The Evening Star, June 25, 1898</i>			
<i>Murder Most Foul</i>			
<i>George W. Horton, Former Policeman Kills Jane Nicholson</i>			
<i>Slashes Her Throat With a Knife</i>			
<i>Fiendish Cruelty Practiced in Commission of the Crime</i>			
<i>Horton in the Lock-up</i>			
George W. Horton, an ex-policeman, murdered Jane Nicholson with horrible brutality in Armory Square about 7:20 o'clock last evening. Horton plunged a knife in his victim's neck and then slashed her across the face. While the knife was in the wounds he twisted it, as if anxious to increase her physical suffering and at the same time make the murder complete. His knife almost severed her head from her body. When placed under arrest he coolly confessed the awful crime in a manner which indicated that he was glad he had accomplished it. Then he went to the sixth precinct with blood dropping from his fingers, and in this condition he extended one of his hands in greeting to Lieut. Kelly, whom he had known when he was on the force.			
Horton's victim was the widow of Frank Nicholson, who committed suicide several months ago by taking "Rough on Rats," the act being the result of liquor drinking and the alleged misconduct of his wife, who he charged with being intimate with Horton.			
Just after committing the crime last night Horton drank some harmless fluid from a bottle and announced he had taken cyanide of potassium, but the police, who knew him best were certain he could not muster up courage enough to take his own life. This pretended attempt at self-destruction satisfied them that it was Horton's first step in the direction of feigning insanity, and they were equally satisfied that he would not succeed. Although Horton is a married man and has children, he has, it is said, been keeping company with Mrs. Nicholson for several years. Lately he charged that another man had succeeded him in her affections, and jealously on this account caused last night's tragedy.			
<i>Former Charges</i>			
For several years prior to his suicide Frank Nicholson openly charged that his wife and Horton were on intimate terms, and on one occasion they managed to get into the Police Court. Nicholson had frequently threatened Horton's life, and the latter was afraid he would carry out his threats. A great many times Nicholson was sent to jail and the workhouse, and he always charged that he was the victim of a conspiracy formed in the interest of Horton. He became a hard drinker, and, as already stated, he finally ended his life by taking poison.			
Mrs. Nicholson has recently been employed in a hotel on Pennsylvania avenue as chambermaid. About 6:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon she met Horton pursuant to an agreement, and they strolled in the park together. One object of their meeting, it is understood, was for Horton to buy her a pair of shoes and some other articles of wearing apparel.			
<i>Gave No Sign</i>			
Horton and the woman who was so soon to be brutally murdered walked to the park laughing and talking. The woman was apparently in the best of humor, and Horton did not show by his conduct that he was about to commit a horrible crime. They soon reached one of the park benches, and there they sat, more like the average lovers who frequent the parks than like people who had been leading dual lives for a number of years. Then there came a time when the two quarreled. The man accused the woman of being unfaithful, and she in turn complained of his treatment.			
"I'm going to leave you," the woman was heard to say, "and I'll never meet you again--never as long as I live."			

"You are right," said Horton, who felt certain that his weapon would do its work. "You will never meet me again. This is the last time you will ever come and meet me."

He had hardly finished speaking when he drew his penknife from his pocket and opened it. Before his intended victim could realize what he was going to do he drew the blade of the weapon across her throat. This one cut was enough to end her life, for her windpipe and jugular vein had been severed. Mrs. Nicholson jumped from the bench as if she wanted to offer some resistance, but the wound was such a severe one that she fell to the ground, and there, resting on her knees, she lifted her hands in a pleading attitude, and tried to speak, but was unable to do so.

Continues His Deadly Work

Horton then continued the deadly work with his knife. He slashed her neck and face several times, and while she lay dying on the ground he pushed aside her head and sent the blade of the knife still farther into the mass of flesh and blood. When he finally stopped his ghastly work and walked away his victim's blood dripped from his hands.

Just before severing the last artery, and, while on his knees beside the form of the dying woman, he became profane, and inquired: "Are you not dead yet?" He added: "Then I'll finish you."

Walking away from the scene of the tragedy, Horton seemed proud of what he had done. A colored woman in the park shouted murder, and in a short time a large crowd surrounded the perpetrator of the fiendish work.

Placed Under Arrest

"Lynch him!" was the cry heard in the crowd, but no one made a move in that direction. A few seconds later Policeman Bateman arrived and took charge of Horton.

"Mister, he took poison," shouted a woman in the crowd. "I saw him drink something from a bottle."

To this Horton promptly pleaded guilty. Sergeant Falvey, with several officers from the sixth precinct, arrived about this time, and Horton was taken to the station to be locked up. As soon as he reached the office the prisoner reeled and fell, and then for the first time the officers believed he had taken poison. He was hurried to the Emergency Hospital instead of being placed in a cell, but the doctors made an examination and found that the prisoner was skimming. He was then returned to the station, and as he entered the door and heard somebody speak of the morgue he said:

"Oh, heaven, is she dead?"

Horton was then almost in a faint and several times he remarked: "That poor woman."

By this time several hundred people, had gathered about the station, and every man, woman and child in the crowd was anxious to get a look at the prisoner. The latter had seated himself on a chair and was emptying his pockets. He had given his name as George William Horton, his age as fifty years and his business as that of a coffee salesman. Presently he looked at the crowd and said: "Gentlemen, please step back; you are crowding on me too much."

Lock of His Mother's Hair

Among other things, the prisoner took from his pocket several clippings from newspapers and a letter and lock of hair he had received from his mother. These clippings, as well as something he had written about his prospective death last night, he handed over to Sergeant Falvey and wanted him to keep them for him.

"It is the last letter I received from my mother," he said, "and this is a lock of her hair. Won't you keep them for me?" The sergeant laid them over on the desk and then Horton, taking some money from his pocket, said: "Give this \$1.20 to my wife. I intended to buy that poor woman (Mrs. Nicholson) a pair of shoes with it, but you may give it to my wife now."

"All Over Now"

"It's all over now," was the prisoner's remark, as he reached the open door of his cell. He had refused to wash the blood from his hands, seeming to regard it as the only thing remaining to remind him of his victim.

Policemen and reporters were admitted to the cell corridor and the man behind the bars repeated the story of his crime at least fifty times. At each repetition he apparently endeavored to make the details more ghastly than they really were. Once behind the bars he was anxious to see his wife, and she was sent for. Her house is at 707 7th street southeast, where she keeps a small store. She responded to his request and when she reached the station she stood in front of the bars and talked with her husband, the father of her children, and he told her of Mrs. Nicholson's alleged unfaithfulness to him as if the wife were some stranger who had no

interest in him. It was not until a late hour last night that the crowd finally left the vicinity of the station, and when alone the prisoner was soon asleep. It was evident he had been drinking to some extent yesterday, and his statement was that he had spent 30 cents during the day for beer and whisky. On the trip from the station to the hospital Horton spoke bitterly of Judge Kimball. Commissioner Wight and Physician Wilson, the latter the officer who was detailed for service with the Humane Society for several years. Horton regretted very much, he said, that he had not dealt with them before he killed Mrs. Nicholson. Officer Wilson had taken Mrs. Nicholson's children from her house and Judge Kimball had turned them over to the board of children's guardians. Commissioner Wight, he thought, was anxious to get rid of him when he was on the police force.

Spent a Restless Night

The prisoner spent a restless night, and early this morning he was ready and willing to receive visitors.

"It's horrible," was his remark, when a Star reporter called on him "but it's all over now. Nobody can do me any good."

His nephew had been in to see him, and had talked with him about his mother.

"Don't let mother know I'm in this fix," he said, "for it will only worry her."

"I can't keep it from your mother," he was told, "because it's in all the papers now, and it will probably be the straw that will kill her."

"I guess not," coolly remarked Horton. "I don't see why she should bother so much as that."

Horton's Record

George W. Horton was twice a member of the police force, and neither time, it is said, had he any friends among the officers. Very few of them were even willing to associate with him while he was off duty. He was continually in trouble during his first term of service, and finally was dismissed. About a year ago he succeeded in getting reappointed, but he had not been on the force very long before his former troubles were renewed, and finally his intemperate habits and other misconduct resulted in his dismissal. Since then he has kept a small store in Southeast Washington, and has been engaged selling coffee to stores.

Coroner's Jury Summoned

Horton formerly lived in Prince George's county, Md., not far from Piscataway, where his mother is now living. Coroner Carr had a jury of inquest summoned, and the jury met at 3 o'clock this afternoon at the sixth precinct station. Horton, again speaking of the case today, said he was anxious to plead guilty and have the affair settled as early as possible. So far as he was concerned, he said, he did not care about the formality of an inquest. Three witnesses were summoned to appear, but it is likely that before their testimony is finished others will be called. The inquest will probably be finished by 4 o'clock.

The Evening Star, June 27, 1898

Horton Confesses

Admits Before Coroner That He Killed Jane Nicholson

Particulars of the Ghastly Crime

Jury Returns Verdict Holding the Prisoner Responsible

The Evidence Submitted

"I was no conscious of what I had done till I saw the woman with her throat cut," was what ex-Policeman George William Horton told the coroner's jury Saturday afternoon at the inquest over the remains of his victim. Mrs. Jane Nicholson, whom he so brutally murdered Friday evening in Armory Square. "I did the work," he said. "I don't ask any mercy; I deserve my fate."

The verdict of the jury was:

"We, the jury, do find from the evidence that Jane Nicholson came to her death June 24, 1898, about 7 o'clock p.m., in the reservation near 4 1/2 street and Missouri avenue northwest, and that she died from hemorrhage following wounds of the throat inflicted by George W. Horton with a pocket knife. We find that the said George W. Horton did willfully kill and murder the said Jane Nicholson, and direct that he be held for the action of the grand jury."

The inquest was held at 3 o'clock. When the prisoner was brought in the room he took a seat near the door, from where he had to face the jury. He had recovered some little from the feeling that he had done a noble deed, and showed more interest than he had earlier in the day, although he seemed to realize that nothing could save him. During the giving of his testimony his voice showed that the strain was very severe. At times he had to stop talking in order to keep back the tears. Early in the morning visitors had been permitted

to see him, but later the heavy iron doors leading to the cell room were locked so that the prisoner had time to reflect upon the happenings of the previous twenty-four hours.

Deputy Coroner a Witness

Deputy Coroner Glazebrook was the first witness called and he told the jury of how the woman's head had been almost severed from her body. With the exception of about an inch the wound extended entirely around her neck. Witness counted fourteen wounds in all, some of them being on her shoulder and hands. The knife he thought must have been sharp, as it has cut a corset steel in addition to the flesh and bone.

Two Eyewitnesses

Archie Jacobs of No. 11 Humboldt street, Brooklyn, N.Y., and Nathaniel J. Davis of 112 McKibbin street, the same city, were also called and examined.

"We were walking near the park," the first-named witness said, "and I saw a woman with her hands up and a man hacking at her throat."

"Did you hear anything said?" he was asked.

"I heard the man say 'If you ain't dead yet, I'll finish you,'" was the answer.

Witness said the groans of the woman had attracted his attention.

"What did you do?"

"I walked on to Pennsylvania avenue."

"Would you know the man if you were to see him?"

"I think I would," he answered.

"Look about the room," said Coroner Carr, "and see if he is here."

"There he is," said witness, pointing to Horton.

The prisoner merely nodded to indicate to the witness that he had made no mistake.

Mr. Davis gave similar testimony. He heard the man mutter something just before he saw him using his knife. What he said witness could not understand.

"I was frightened," said witness, "and we hurried away."

Witness heard cries of "Hang him" and "Lynch him"

"Do you see the man here?"

"There he is," answered witness. "And," he added, "he had blood on his hands."

Horton's Admission

"Horton," said the coroner, "do you want to say anything to the jury?"

"Nothing to say except that I committed the deed," he answered in a slow tone. "What actuated me I can't say. Under what circumstances it was done, I can't say. We had no quarrel, nor did we have any misunderstanding. We had agreed to meet at 6:30 o'clock, and that's all."

He then related the circumstances of the meeting, and told of their walk to the park, where they sat on one of the benches.

"I handed her a paper," he resumed, after some hesitation, "so she could read about the Brooks murder. She scanned the paper and handed it back."

The prisoner told of a brief conversation they had in the park, and then related a conversation with the woman two nights before the killing. She then told him she would not meet him again until she got a pair of new shoes.

"When you meet me again," he told her, "I'll give you money for the shoes."

The prisoner told of the parting Wednesday night, and then came down to the meeting Friday night--their last meeting.

"We sat on the bench," he said, "and I told her I didn't have quite enough money to get the shoes. I told her to take what I had and wait till I could see her again, and then I would put a little more to it. Jane said she would not wait, and that was all of the conversation."

Then, resuming, he said that the woman told him she was sick and would have to go to the hotel where she worked.

"And," said Horton, "I told her she'd better go. I asked her when she was coming out again, and she answered 'I'm never coming out any more.' Those are the last words I heard her utter."

Overcome by Emotion

Here Horton almost broke down, and he said he could answer questions better than he could tell the remainder of the story.

"Did you kill this woman?" asked Juror Garner.

"I did," was Horton's answer.

"I had no motive whatever."

"Did she provoke you in any way?"

Not recently. We were the best of friends. I can't tell which hand I struck her with, and I have no recollection of what happened before I saw her lying on the ground with the gashes in her bleeding throat. When I saw what I had done, I said, 'Janie, good-bye.'"

"Had you been drinking?" asked a juror.

I had taken three whiskies--three five-cent jiggers of whisky--and three beers during the day," was the prisoner's response, but I was not drunk. Gentlemen, I was not drunk," he repeated.

Horton declared he was not conscious of what he had done before he saw the blood, and concluded by saying:

"I did the work gentlemen. I don't ask any mercy. I deserve my fate."

The Prisoner Photographed

This concluded the testimony and the prisoner was led back to his cell. Before the verdict had been written, Horton was taken from his cell to the photographer's. On his way out he remarked that he wished he were on his way to his execution instead of going to have his picture taken. He is now in jail.

Detective Carter, who is connected with the office of District Attorney Davis, was present at the inquest with Assistant District Attorney Shillington. He made arrangements to have the witnesses before the grand jury without delay, and it is possible that Horton's fate will be settled next week.

The Date of Trial

The trial of Horton will probably occur in the middle of July.

"We hope to bring him to the bar about the 15th," said Assistant District Attorney Shillington today. Speedy justice should be meted out to him. The murder was so horrible, so cold-blooded, that there should be special effort made to secure conviction. The case should be a warning to others. Too many murders are being committed at present in this community."

The case will be brought to the attention of the grand jury this week, but the district attorney's office is not prepared now to state when. An indictment for murder will doubtless be promptly returned and the prisoner arraigned.

Horton may desire to enter the plea of guilty, but should he do so, the court will set it aside and order the plea of not guilty to be received, as this is the rule of law in capital cases. The prosecutors must convict the accused. To that end Mr. Davis and his assistants will prepare their effort and will have all their witnesses in court.

The Guiteau Decision

If Horton engages counsel it is not believed that the defense of temporary insanity could be urged successfully for the prisoner. Justice Cox went all over this ground in the Guiteau case, and held that the plea that a man can become suddenly insane and then after a few moments become sane again, in the meantime committing a capital crime, is no defense where the insanity only develops upon one occasion. In a late murder case Justice Bradley reviewed and sustained this opinion.

Mr. Davis does not, however, anticipate that Horton will attempt a defense, and the belief is that the panel of jurors summoned for July in Criminal Court No. 1 will try Horton and convict him within two days, possibly a day, after beginning.

*The Evening Star, July 14, 1898**Horton Makes His Plea**Says He is Not Guilty of Murdering Anna Nicholson**His Statement to the Court*

George W. Horton, the ex-policeman who June 24 deliberately murdered Mrs. Anna Nicholson, afterwards acknowledging the crime, was arraigned in Criminal Court No. 1 this morning and pleaded not guilty. When asked the pointed question by the clerk of the court, Mr. Gatley, as to guilt or innocence, the prisoner, looking directly at Chief Justice Bingham, who was on the bench, said:

"My hands may have been guilty of the deed, but my heart was not in concert with my mind. I may be guilty in some respects, but not in others. I am not guilty of murder."

Horton was returned to jail. He stated that his friends are at work endeavoring to secure counsel for his defense. If Justice Bingham decides to have jury trials this month it is possible that Horton's case may be disposed of before August. The jury in the court is incomplete and is respited until the 19th instant. The panel cannot be completed before the 20th, and trials may not be begun until two days later, as the law provides that defendants shall have a list of the jurors at least two days before being brought to trial. There will doubtless be a plea of insanity entered in Horton's case, and in such event the trial will necessarily be indefinitely postponed.

*The Evening Star, May 16, 1899**Trial of George Horton**Jury Incomplete and Case Goes Over Until Tomorrow*

The trial of George W. Horton, formerly a member of the metropolitan police force of the District of Columbia, indicted for the murder of Mrs. Jane Nicholson, the 24th of last June, while in Armory Square, was begun this morning before Justice Clabaugh, in Criminal Court No. 1. Nearly three hours were devoted to the work of impaneling a jury, which was not completed, and the matter went over until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. The clerk was instructed to summon forty additional talesmen to report at that hour. It is expected that twelve men satisfactory to both sides will be secured and the introduction of testimony begun tomorrow.

The defendant was accompanied in court today by his wife and several other relatives. Mrs. Horton appeared deeply agitated and gave way to tears soon after taking her seat.

*The Evening Star, May 18, 1899**Horton on Trial**Ex-Policeman Charged With Murder of Jane Nicholson**The Prosecutor's Opening Address**Result of Autopsy as Told by Deputy Coroner**The Evidence Introduced*

The trial of George W. Horton, formerly a member of the metropolitan police force, indicted for what is described as one of the most deliberate murders in the history of the crime, in causing the death of Mrs. Jane Nicholson, the 24th of last June, began this morning before Justice Clabaugh in Criminal Court No. 1. The past two days have been devoted to the work of empanelling a jury. Twelve men satisfactory to both the prosecution and the defense were not secured until an hour after the opening of court this morning. Those finally sworn to pass on the guilt or innocence of Horton are Messrs. Emmett Hoopes, Charles E. Fries, E.W. Yount, William B. Tippet, Cresson E. Finch, Edwin Burke, John S. Abell, John M. Harry, Lawrence Mangum, George N. Hill, George W. Reintee and James G. Bates.

The case has attracted widespread attention, and the court room was crowded throughout the day. The defendant, a man of middle age, neatly dressed and of respectable appearance, was, to all appearances, the

least concerned of any one in attendance at the trial. His wife, however, was deeply interested in every word spoken, her feelings evidently being highly wrought up. Other relatives of the defendant were also present.

The prosecution is in the hands of Assistant District Attorneys Shillington and Laskey. Attorneys Tracy L. Jeffords and Robert G. Wells appear for Horton.

The Opening Address

The opening address to the jury was made by Assistant District Attorney Lakey. He told of an intimacy that existed between Horton and Mrs. Jane Nicholson, which reached such a stage that Horton even prohibited the woman from seeing members of her family. The deceased decided to cease her relations with the defendant, it was said, and so notified him. They met in Armory Square the evening of the 24th of last June, had a fatal quarrel, and Horton followed it up by deliberately ...

The Evening Star, May 23, 1899

The End in View

Trial of George W. Horton Drawing to a Close

Doctor's View of Hypothetical Case

Defense Closes and Prosecution

Introduces Evidence in Rebuttal

Both Sides Represented

The beginning of the end of the trial of George W. Horton for the murder of Mrs. Jane Nicholson was noted this morning in Criminal Court No. 1. It was known when court opened that the defense would conclude its case in an hour or two; that the government would wind up its rebuttal during the remainder of the day, and that by tomorrow evening the matter would be placed in the hands of the jury for determination. The attendance was very much smaller today than at any time since the trial began, but the deepest interest was manifested by every one in the room.

Frederick S. Coburn a Witness

Among the witnesses called late yesterday afternoon was Frederick S. Coburn, who is undergoing a term of imprisonment in the Ohio penitentiary at Columbus. At the request of the defense, the court directed that Coburn be brought to this city to testify in behalf of Horton. Mr. Coburn formerly conducted a drug store at the southwest corner of 9th street and New York avenue. He was convicted of violation of the postal law when he was in charge of the post office substation at the place mentioned.

The witness stated that he had occasion to closely observe Horton for two months at the District jail and considered his mind unbalanced; a man of weak moral character, dangerous and one who should be watched. The witness explained that he had had considerable experience in cases of insanity.

Ossie Klinger, an operator in the electrical department at police headquarters, formerly a member of the police force, testified that he at one time performed duty with Horton. Once the latter, without warning, drew his pistol and fired two shots past the head of the witness. Horton never talked intelligently. The witness asked to be transferred to another precinct so that he would not be compelled to serve with Horton. The defendant was insane at times, said Mr. Klinger.

John Hancock, nephew of the accused, and John Connell also made statements as to alleged insane actions on the part of Horton.

Just before court adjourned yesterday it was stated that the defense would probably not call more than three additional witnesses.

Answers Hypothetical Questions

The first witness for the defense today

.....

that he has been engaged in the practice of medicine for thirty-nine years, holds diplomas issued by several well-known universities, is an active member of a number of medical societies and has written several medical works. Dr. Rosse testified as to the classifications of insanity, saying that hereditary insanity is recognized. The witness then answered favorably to the defense a hypothetical question, tending to show the probable mental condition of a person, under certain circumstances, one of whose parents and a number of other near relatives were insane. Continuing, Dr. Rosse explained the meaning of hallucinations.

Another hypothetical question was put to Dr. Rosse, embracing the main points of the testimony covering the alleged queer actions on the part of Horton. In the opinion of the witness such a person would be of unsound mind, suffering, specifically, of paranoia.

Was a Witness in Guiteau Case

On cross-examination, Dr. Rosse made statements to the effect that Dr. Chapin, who testified for the government, is regarded as an expert on insanity only by a few lawyers, and not by the medical profession.

You testified in the Guiteau case that the defendant was insane, did you not? inquired Assistant District Attorney Shillington.

I did, replied Dr. Rosse.

And Guiteau was convicted and hanged, remarked Mr. Shillington.

He was, answered the witness, but the post-mortem examination demonstrated that the man's brain was diseased and that my testimony was accurate.

Testimony in Rebuttal

The defense at this point announced that its case was closed, and the government thereupon began the introduction of testimony in rebuttal, placing Lieut. Hollingerger of the fourth police precinct on the stand. Lieut. Hollinberger testified that Horton served under him, and was assigned to important work. The witness considered the man entirely sane.

Lieut. James W. Gessford of the fifth police precinct, Lieut. Isaac Pearson, inspector of police, and Sergt. E.N. Burgess of the fifth police precinct testified to having had occasion to observe Horton while he was connected with the force. They all testified that the defendant, in their opinion, was sane at the time referred to.

Dr. Percy Hickling, formerly a police surgeon, told the jury that he attended Horton professionally for several years, and from his observation of the defendant, in that capacity, he had no reason to think that the defendant is not perfectly sound in mind.

Lieut. McCathran of the ninth police precinct, under whom Horton at one time served, in the fifth precinct, testified that he believed the man to be of sound mind, and a recess was then taken.

Corroborative Testimony

John Stewart, W.T. Anderson, George G. Augusterfer, William Vermillion and Charles S. Baum, all members of the metropolitan police force, testified, as did the preceding witness, in effect, that they had never noticed any actions on the part of Horton that would indicate insanity.

Mr. Frank Hume, who indorsed Horton's application for appointment on the police force, appeared before the jury, and expressed it as his opinion that the defendant is of sound mind.

Mr. George R. Repetti described a real estate transaction between Horton and himself, and remarked that the defendant conducted himself as any man would in thorough possession of his menses. The next witnesses, Mr. N.H. Shea, Mr. James C. Ergood, Mr. M.I. Weller, testified to the same effect.

*The Evening Star, May 26, 1899**Horton Guilty as Indicted**Jury Holds Him Responsible for Jane Nicholson's Death*

After a conference which consumed less than two hours, a jury in Criminal Court No. 1, late yesterday afternoon, returned a verdict declaring George W. Horton to be guilty as indicted of the murder of Mrs. Jane Nicholson. The verdict was not qualified, and unless the situation is relieved, through the medium of a new trial or executive interference, it will be incumbent on the court, under the law, to sentence Horton to be hanged. As stated in The Star, the jury retired to consider a verdict shortly after 3 o'clock. A few minutes before 5 o'clock word was sent down that a report was in readiness.

In answer to the usual inquiry of the clerk the foreman announced that the twelve men were of the opinion that the defendant was guilty as indicted. At the request of counsel the jury was polled, whereupon each of the twelve men made the same statement as did the foreman.

Counsel gave notice of the filing of a motion for a new trial. Horton was to al appearances unaffected by the verdict. He looked straight ahead as the momentous statement was made, but said not a word. His wife and other near relatives who sat beside the prisoner throughout the trial were in attendance when his sentence was made known. They were greatly affected, particularly Mrs. Horton.

The jury, which had been compelled to serve more than a week, was discharged with the thanks of the court just in time to participate in the concluding features of the peace jubilee festivities.

The Evening Star, December 8, 1899

Expiates His Crime

George W. Horton Executed at District Jail Today

Dramatic Scene on the Scaffold

Condemned Mann Offered Prayer Just Before Drop Fell

Letter to His Wife

George W. Horton, formerly a member of the metropolitan police force of the District of Columbia, was executed within the walls of the District jail at twelve minutes past 12 o'clock noon, today. Horton was convicted of what has been generally characterized as one of the most atrocious murders in the history of crimes. He caused the death of Mrs. Jane Nicholson by stabbing her and slashing her throat with a pocket knife while they were together in Armory Square early during the evening of June 24, 1898.

As stated, the drop fell at twelve minutes past 12 o'clock. A moment thereafter the body was lowered several feet in order that the physicians might conduct an examination. Horton's heart ceased to beat at 12:24 o'clock, twelve minutes after the drop fell. The remains were soon thereafter taken down and placed in a casket. The physicians continued the examination and announced that the neck had been broken by the fall and that beyond question life had passed away without pain being experienced by Horton.

The scene on the scaffold was most dramatic. It has been the practice since Warden Harris has been in charge at the jail not to have anything in the way of speechmaking during the final moments at hangings. In the present case the spiritual advisers had been requested by the condemned man to arrange to have the ceremony on the scaffold as brief as possible. Just as the noose was about to be adjusted, however, Horton exclaimed, "Wait one moment." He then gave utterance to a prayer, the impressiveness of which can only be appreciated by those within the jail at the time. The fervor of the man caused his voice to raise until his appeal to God to receive his soul reached the proportions of a shout.

With the words "Protect my dear wife, oh, God," on his lips the murderer passed into eternity.

"Oh, Thou Almighty God, in whom my soul has ever trusted," Horton's prayer began, "receive Thou me. Oh, Jesus, Thou who hast been my friend for eighteen months nearly, receive my spirit."

"Farewell, wife, mother, sister, brother and friends, all farewell, goodbye. God save me; God protect me. Protect my dear wife, oh God."

The Noose Adjusted

During the last words of the prayer the noose was adjusted and the black cap placed in position. The deputy warden nodded to signify that all was in readiness, Warden Harris gave the signal to the unknown party who was to spring the trap, and the figure shot downward. Death, in the usual acceptance of the meaning, must have been instantaneous, for not a quiver of the body was noticed, not so much as the reflex motion of the muscles.

As stated, the body was almost immediately lowered in order that the physicians might make their observations.

As soon as he mounted the scaffold Horton admonished one of the guards not to hurry, telling the others to take their time in strapping his legs.

Promptly at noon the jury left the warden's office and proceeded to the seats arranged near the scaffold. The physicians followed. About five minutes later the warden proceeded to the cell to read the warrant of execution. Horton's arms were tied behind his back and the march to the scaffold then began. The little procession was led by Warden Harris. Directly following him were the three ministers who had been spiritual advisers of the condemned man. During the march they sang "Leaning on Jesus." Horton walked next in line, with an official of the jail on either side and several of the guards behind him. He appeared very weak, but was apparently in full possession of his senses and nerve. As he approached the jury he smiled faintly, bowed and said goodbye several times. He ascended the steep stairway without assistance and took his place on the trap with no sign of hesitation.

Wife's Farewell Visit

Mrs. Horton bade farewell to her husband shortly after 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The final interview was most affectionate. The ministers of the gospel were with Horton in his cell until midnight, when he retired. He was very quiet all night, although he remarked this morning that he had not rested well. He arose shortly after 6 o'clock and, although served with a substantial breakfast, ate sparingly.

A close watch was maintained throughout the night, the guard detail consisting of W.S. Perry, acting captain; H.A. Smith, lieutenant; Thomas J. Mitchell, south wing officer; M.S. Brannigan, north wing officer, and George W. Dutton, outside officer.

Gave Way to Emotion

For a few moments early this morning Horton gave way to tears, but soon recovered his composure and thereafter was calm and collected. Late last night, in speaking with one of the guards, he made reference to the murder of Mrs. Nicholson.

"The evening of the killing," he said, "I looked back at my home, little thinking I would never enter it again. I entered an establishment, bought a quantity of coffee and proceeded to another place where I left it. I met Mrs. Nicholson. She complained about not being well. She complained about doing a hard day's work where she was employed, and, in addition doing some work for her herself. She suggested that we take a seat in the park. As we crossed the street two electric cars were approaching from opposite directions. She deliberately stepped in front of one of them and it was all that I could do to get her out of the way in time. I told her that she had had a narrow escape. Though I saved her life then I killed her a minute and a quarter later. I never quarreled with Mrs. Nicholson and we were on the best of terms."

Horton repeatedly declared he did not mind dying on the scaffold. This announcement on his part some time ago caused the jail officials to fear that he might attempt suicide. During the past two or three days since the hope of executive clemency had departed, a deathly pallor had overspread Horton's features, and this was very marked today. He began reading his Bible early in the morning, and while perusing the 68th Psalm, it was remarked his countenance brightened very much.

Events of the Morning

About 9 o'clock this morning two nieces of the condemned man were admitted to the jail and shown into the rotunda. They were shown to the grating near Horton's cell. He came north, conversed with them a few moments and then bade them a final farewell. These were the last of his relatives to see him. The next two hours were devoted to prayer and singing. Shortly after 11 o'clock Warden Harris entered the cell to inquire if Horton desired anything in the way of luncheon. The reply was, although he had something in the cell at the time, he did not care to eat.

During the morning a letter was received by Horton from a Mr. McKnight, one of his friends. He was expecting a letter from Mrs. Horton, and one of the ministers made constant inquiry concerning it. It was learned later, however, that Mrs. Horton did not write the letter until midnight, and it was not mailed until this morning. The officials did not expect it to reach the jail until the afternoon delivery. The letter will be returned to Mrs. Horton.

During his final conversation with one of the guards Horton gave expression to the wish that his wife could accompany him into the next world.

During the morning Horton visited Funk, Snell Ormsby, and other alleged murderers who have been his near neighbors in jail. He bade them all goodbye. Funk, whose trial will begin Monday next, appeared to be deeply affected by the parting.

At 11:20 o'clock the warden and all the jail officials who could be spared from their posts were assembled outside of the grating near the cell. Horton came forth and, in tones that were choked, said he hoped to meet all of them in the hereafter, and thanked them one and all for the kindness they had shown him during his imprisonment. Reaching his arm through the grating he shook each of the officials by the hand.

Horton stated to the ministers a few nights ago that he had had a dream to the effect that he was going away somewhere to leave his troubles behind. He seemed to be among a number of people, but rose, above them. He then left them, seeming to go, and that is all he remembered.

Disposition of the Body

The body was removed to the undertaking establishment of Boteler and Scott, 401 8th street southeast, where it was embalmed. From there it will be taken to the residence of Mrs. Horton, 707 11th street southeast. The funeral will occur tomorrow, interment to be made in Congressional Cemetery.

The hanging of Horton differed from former executions within the walls of the District jail, for the reason that the attendance today was noticeably smaller than at any similar event in the history of the institution. Warren Harris admitted only those authorized by the law to be present. Less than thirty persons were witnesses to the hanging. The warden declined even to admit the policemen detailed for duty at the

Name	Birth/Death	Age	Range/Site
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Horton, Mrs. Lavenia R. d. 1 Jan 1874 23 yrs. **Vault**

Horton. Of consumption, on the 1st of January, Lavenia R. Horton, wife of George W. Horton, and daughter of John Lederer, aged 23 years. Seldom are we called upon to pay tribute to one more worthy, one more endowed with noble traits of character, so essential in making this life happy to ourselves and to those with whom we live and associate. Having a warm heart and a genial disposition, she won the affection of all that knew her, and truly left an example which may be followed without fear in this life, and which bears a beacon of light to guide them over that path, which she has already past, into the land of eternal bliss. Knowing of care no more, she has gone to the haven of rest and to the full realization of those pleasures which reach beyond the grave. Weep not, mourn not, dear friends, I am at rest.

Few were the days we spent together,
Those days were spent in love and peace;
It was God who did us sever;
When will he my sorrows cease. J.E.C.

Her funeral will take place from her late residence, at No. 227 3d street, between Maryland avenue and C street northeast, Sunday morning, at 10 o'clock. Her relatives and friends are invited to attend.

Horton, Roy Lee d. 3 Feb 1951 **R94/165-S**

Horton, R. Lee. On Saturday, February 3, 1951, R. Lee Horton of 5508 13th street northwest, beloved husband of the late Annie I. Horton, father of Mrs. Mabelle H. Donovan, brother of Maurice E. Horton. Services at the S.H. Hines Co. Funeral Home, 2901 14th street northwest on Tuesday, February 6 at 11 a.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

Horton, Ruby Chapman d. 31 Jan 1882 3 yrs. 18 days **R1/151**

Horton. On Tuesday, January 31st, 1882 at 12 o'clock p.m., Ruby Chapman Horton, beloved daughter of Denham and Caroline Horton, aged 3 years and 18 days. Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral, at the residence of the parents, 308 East Capitol street, Thursday, at 2 o'clock p.m.