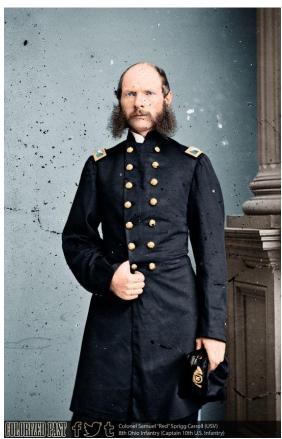
"Old Brick Top": Gen. S. Sprigg Carroll (1832-1893)

Terence Walz

Gen. Samuel Sprigg Carroll (aka Sprigg Carroll) was the most notable character among the Carroll family children, rivaling only his younger sister, Sally Carroll, Countess Esterhazy. A hero of the Civil War – one of the "forts" on the perimeter of Washington, D.C., was named after him – he is remembered as a brave if daring soldier – a daredevil among the Union army generals who was much admired by his troops. He was badly wounded and obliged to retire from active duty in 1864. In the years after the war, his reputation was tarnished by his consorting with prostitutes and a highly publicized divorce due to his and his wife's social standing. Nonetheless when he died, his notoriety was forgotten, and his sparkling military career was lauded in the newspapers. He was laid to rest in the Carroll Mausoleum in Oak Hill in 1893.



Col. S. Sprigg Carroll, ca 1861, shortly after the beginning of the Civil War. The photo has been colorized to show Sprigg's red hair. Image: Library of Congress

Sprigg or Spriggs, as he was known in the family, was born September 21, 1832, in the Carrolls' house on Capitol Hill.¹ He was the second child and first son of William and Sally Sprigg Carroll, Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States, and his birth was noted in the Carroll family Bible, to which Mrs. Carroll referred in a surviving letter sent to President Fillmore in 1852. In 1835, the family moved to the home then owned by Dr. John M. Thomas

and his wife Sally Ringgold Thomas, purchased for \$6,000 by Sally Carroll's father, former governor of Maryland Samuel Sprigg and a wealthy planter and slave owner. It is said Gov. Sprigg bought the property for Sally, but in fact William was the son by his half-sister, Ann Sprigg Carroll, who had married Charles Carroll of Bellevue when branches of the Spriggs and the Carrolls were living in Washington County, Maryland. Samuel Sprigg inherited property from his uncle Osborn and moved to Northampton farm in Prince George's County where he married and where Sally was born. Samuel Sprigg took it upon himself to look after William Carroll after Charles Carroll departed for upstate New York in 1813 and settled in a town outside Rochester. Sally and William were thus cousins and would equally have benefited from his largesse.

Sprigg Carroll and his younger brother, William Thomas Carroll. Jr. (known as Willie), who was born two years after him, were sent to boarding schools for their education. During 1845-45, they both attended St. James School outside Hagerstown under the direction of Rev. Kerfoot, where they received a thorough religious instruction with the usual secular education.² Then they were transferred to Dr. Benjamin Hallowell's boarding school in Alexandria, Virginia, during 1850 and possibly longer.³ Hallowell was a scientist and agronomist, and students in his school learned mathematics, English, geography, and natural philosophy. This was the school that Robert E. Lee had attended prior to his appointment at West Point. Sprigg also wished for a military career and applied to President Fillmore to be admitted to West Point in 1851. He apparently was unaware of how old he was, which might have affected his application,⁴ and so his mother wrote President Fillmore a letter explaining the error when she discovered he had written him.

She wrote in 1852 to President Fillmore, with whom she and her husband often socialized:

Mr. Dear Mr. President

Today by the merest accident I have got copy of a copy of the letter my son Spriggs sent to you a year or so since, and I find that by not applying to his father or myself at the time he has inadvertently represented himself as one year younger than he actually is, and fearing that at some future time he may recreate embarrassment or difficulty for him, I would beg of you for the favor of having it withdrawn and destroyed. The family Bible, in which the ages of all my children are recorded, Spriggs could not get access to at the time of writing his letter, and relying upon his own knowledge of himself, did not wait to see it. I am truly sorry to trouble you this much, and beg you will pardon me for it, hoping to receive favorable tidings from you, ever long allow me to remain your true friend, S. S. Carroll

His application was supported by Judge John Catron of the Supreme Court, who was also a frequent guest at the receptions and dinners that the Carrolls hosted during their early years at their new home on F Street. Sprigg was admitted to West Point in 1852⁵ and graduated four years later near the bottom of his class.⁶

He was posted to Ft. Ridgely, the frontier post of the U. S. Army in southern Minnesota, but on his way to the post, he stopped in St. Louis and made the acquaintance of Helen Morrell Bennett, who was a cousin of the wife of Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock. They decided quickly to marry on September 3, 1856, and enjoyed a honeymoon traveling back East where he could introduce Helen to his family. We know this because he invited two sisters of one of his classmates to "dine with them" at his mother's house on F Street while he was there. Sprigg and his wife were back in the West. Sprigg rejoined the 10th Infantry Regiment in Minnesota, and Helen, as an army wife, was sent to Ft. Leavenworth where she gave birth to their first child, Katherine Dubois Carroll on August 31, 1857.

Sprigg's duties at Ft. Ridgely may not have involved actual fighting. The troops were used to protect pioneers settling in erstwhile but still contested Native American territories. Later, he was 2nd Lieutenant of part of the 10th Infantry Regiment that was sent on an expedition to Utah to enforce the government's authority in the Mormon settled areas of Utah territory. After several skirmishes, the troops entered Salt Lake City without incident.⁹

In 1859 he was back at West Point where he was appointed one of the quartermasters. His housing was adjoined to that of Oliver O. Howard, with whom he became life-long friends. According to Howard's autobiography, they were visited by Fitzhugh Lee, a great friend of Sprigg's, who gave Sprigg a lively account of events in the South (before the war). He said that the South was alive while the North was "apathetic" and that if he wanted a chance for advancement, he should go south. Another Southerner with whom Sprigg was friendly was Maj. Thomas Howland, who wrote that he had been invited to spend Christmas with Sprigg and his wife. They apparently knew each other through Fitzhugh Lee. Throughout his life, Sprigg maintained friendly relations with classmates-turned-Confederate officers.

Sprigg's loyalty to the Union was something he must have learned from his parents, both of whom, though born in a slave-state and Democrats, remained loyal throughout the Civil War.¹²



Cadet hop at West Point, *Harper's Weekly*, after Winslow Homer, 1859. Image: Metropolitan Museum of Art.

In the summer of 1860, he hosted his mother and sisters at the Point, while his father went to St. Catherine, Ontario, whose mineral waters were believed to cure a variety of diseases. A letter written by him to his father at this time is chatty and affectionate, full of news about the balls and hops in the area and how his sisters were being entertained. From the letters his sister Carrie sent to their Dad, they were highly popular among the cadets and soon attracted beaux. Apparently Sprigg, like many other cadets, was an amateur artist and made some sketches of West Point while he lived there. They were among the art works that were divided up among the heirs when his mother died in 1895.

Soon after the Civil War broke out, Sprigg was assigned for duty with the 10th Infantry, but in November was reassigned to the 8th Ohio Volunteers and was appointed a colonel with this transfer. He remained with this regiment through his active career. By chance his next-door neighbor, Oliver O. Howard, was sent to Washington and while stationed in a barracks with his regiment, he contracted "something like" cholera. As he wrote in his memoir, ¹⁸

"Then, to complete my good fortune, just as I began convalescing, the mother of my friend, Lieutenant S. S. Carroll, took me in her carriage to her home in Washington. Her gentle nursing gave me just those things which would nourish and strengthen, and soon restored me to the field and to duty. Her generous husband and herself always made their house a home to me."

Howard went on to an illustrious military career, then became head of the Freedman's Bureau after the war, and it was through him that Howard University was established and subsequently named after him.

In December that year, he may have taken leave to attend the wedding of his sister Sally to Maj. Charles Griffin, an older graduate of West Point, who had distinguished himself as leader of an artillery unit at the first Battle of Manassas and was already earmarked as an officer with a promising future. Griffin and Sally may have first met when she visited her brother at West Point in 1860. The wedding at the Carrolls' home on F Street was a huge social event, with President and Mrs. Lincoln, Gens. McClellan and Meade attending. His younger brother Charles had enlisted that summer in the 5th Artillery Regiment, perhaps the same one that Griffin was attached to, although their connection cannot be confirmed.

Sprigg and his regiment were sent into western Virginia and the Shenandoah area in 1862, in pursuit of Jackson, and engaged in a number of skirmishes. During the pursuit, he had an encounter with a Confederate soldier who related it in a letter to his mother in 1862. The writer was Col. Edward Willis of the 12th Georgia Infantry, who was fighting with Jackson's army in Virginia. As he narrated the tale in his letter, he had been surrounded by Yankee troops who demanded that he give up his pistol and follow them:

After this I was taken before the colonel, who, to my great joy and surprise, was an old friend Sprigg Carroll, of Washington, D. C. He was very glad to see me, and his delight when I told him I was a member of Stonewall's staff was uncontrollable. He offered me a drink, which, by the way, I declined, and, after many friendly questions, he said: 'Willis,

if you will give me your word of honor that you will not try to escape you can go anywhere you please and I will relieve the guard which is over you.' As I was being exposed to a very heavy fire, and as that fire was from our own men, I accepted the offer.

In fact, Willis didn't keep his word and escaped from his captors. It was shortly after this encounter that Carroll was first wounded at Rapidan, requiring an absence from the field. According to Sharpe's article, he was assigned to the defense of Washington while he recovered. He then returned to the field as commander of a brigade of the 3rd Corps at Fredericksburg. ¹⁹ His action there, although never putting him in danger, were singled out for praise by Gen. Amiel W. Whipple for "bravery and skill." It would not be the first time his valor was admired.

Called "Old Brick Top," though he was only thirty years old, he requested a transfer to the 2nd Corps. Again, following Sharpe, he had to take a medical leave because he was hemorrhaging and suffering from rheumatism in right hip and knee. By the time he was fit, the transfer was completed and he commanded the 2nd Corps in the confusing battle of Chancellorsville in May 1863. Again, his bravery was noted in reports. Sprigg was at Gettysburg



Gen. S. Sprigg Carroll and his staff, ca. 1864. William McKinley (no. 4), future president of the United States, is standing to the left of the general in this photo. At this point Carroll was bald and his arm has not yet been amputated. Image: Library of Congress.

in July, where as commander of what became known as the "Gibraltar Brigade," he repulsed on July 2 an attack at Cemetery Ridge that cost them dearly. His name is memorialized in a plaque on the site.²⁰

Carroll took a short leave in the middle of July to attend the funeral of his father, William Thomas Carroll, who suddenly died and was interred in the family mausoleum in Oak Hill

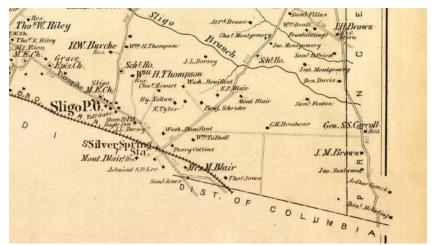
Cemetery.²¹ He then rejoined the brigade and was active in northern Virginia, leading men in various engagements in the Fredericksburg area. In the Wilderness Campaign of May 1864, he was shot at three times by the Confederates. Of this encounter, Theodore Lyman, then an aide to Gen. Meade, wrote to his wife, "It was a welcome sight to see Carroll's brigade coming along Brock Road, he riding at their head as calm as a May morning. 'Left – prime – forward,' and the line disappeared in the woods to wake with musketry with double violence. Carroll was brought back wounded."

In fact, he was wounded on multiple occasions. The third shot fractured his elbow. He was taken to the field hospital where his right arm was amputated. He was bedridden for three months and was sent to Washington to recover at his mother's home.²³ Though now sidelined from active duty, he was promoted to Brigadier General for bravery in the field. It was probably at this time that one of the fortifications surrounding Washington was named after him.²⁴

Carroll's daredevil bravery became the stuff of legends and endeared him to his men. Many years later, Governor William McKinley of Ohio, who served on Carroll's staff when he became brigadier general, recalled before an audience of veterans of the 8th Ohio Volunteers in 1894 a story about Carroll involving Sally Carroll. He reminisced before a cheering crowd:²⁵

I remember to have heard from his dear old mother, a noble woman, tell the story of how he received his commission of brigadier general. She was living in Washington. Twice had Carroll been wounded, but he was not in favor with the authorities at the War Department. One day he was brought home on a stretcher sorely wounded. As he was being carried by the war office²⁶ to his old mother, a clerk looking out the window saw him. Here is poor Colonel Carroll being taken home. Secretary Stanton went to the window, looked upon the wounded man and turning to the Commission Clerk said, "Issue a Commission of Brigadier-General for Colonel Carroll." It was taken to his mother, and going to the bedside of her son, said, "Sprague, the Secretary of War has sent you a commission of Brigadier General." He asked her to repeat it, and after he had done so, Colonel Carroll said, "Mother, they don't believe I'll live, but I'll disappoint them, and I'll live." And he did, to gain greater glory on the field of battle (prolonged applause). I was always glad to take my hat off to him, for no braver man, no more loyal man ever lived.

In the period after the war, Carroll was assigned to the inspector general division of the army and then was fully retired with the rank of major general in 1869. It was probably at this



A close up of the southeast section of Berry's map of Montgomery County (1880) showing the location of "Bellevue," the Gen. Carroll manor house, very close to the District line and near the residence of Montgomery Blair.



The Carroll Manor House. Courtesy, Dr. Ron Graybill.

The Carroll house which he called "Bellevue," near what became Takoma Park, Maryland."27

period that he built a home in the area of what was later developed into Takoma Park, which he called "Bellevue" or "Belle View" in remembrance of the ancestral home of the Charles Carroll family in Washington County. The 1870 census shows that the household included at least four Black and Irish servants, including a gardener who was a veteran of Hancock's troops and therefore had a connection to the family when he was looking for work after the war.²⁸

Carroll spent his later days organizing and/or attending gatherings of the veterans of his old brigade and regiment. If he wasn't attending, the veterans would relate stories about him and his fearlessness in the glory days of Civil War battles.

Kate Carroll, the general's eldest daughter, was married in 1875 to John Wheeler Beale²⁹ in a big society wedding attended by President and Mrs. Hays. The wedding reception was held

at Sally Carroll's rented apartment at 2103 G Street. (At this time, she had leased her home to the Russian minister to Washington, Nikolai Shishkin.) The president was asked to cut the wedding cake.³⁰ Mrs. Carroll was apparently very fond of Kate and her husband. When Kate lost her first two children shortly after childbirth, they were interred in the Carroll Mausoleum. John Wheeler was an initial executor of her will, and Kate would inherit a prized silver tea set after the death of her daughter Countess Esterhazy under the terms of a codicil to her will.³¹

Sprigg and his wife had a second child, Helen Hancock Carroll who was born in New York, where Helen may have been living during the war in 1864 and a third, their only son, named Samuel Sprigg Carroll Jr., who was born at "Bellevue" in 1875. The marriage appears to have been rocky, and in 1884, Helen filed for divorce on the grounds of Sprigg's drunkenness and adultery. She accused her husband of consorting with prostitutes in Washington, naming two in particular: Lottie Harris and Madeline Sinclair.³² The papers reported that Mrs. Carroll's cousin, the wife of Gen. Hancock, came to Washington in a personal effort to reconcile the pair.³³

Shortly after these disclosures were made in the newspapers, young Helen, known as Nellie, died of meningitis on May 20 while staying at her grandmother's house, to which she may have retreated during the divorce. The funeral was held in the house, and she was buried in the Carroll Mausoleum, attended by six pallbearers.³⁴ She was nineteen, and it must have been yet another blow to old Mrs. Carroll, whose suffering from the loss and personal difficulties of her children and loved ones must have been difficult to bear.

A divorce was granted in June. Gen. Carroll was incensed, and in November he went to the Willard Hotel in an attempt to shoot Mrs. Carroll's lawyer. Once they were in the room together, Carroll decided not to.³⁵ Despite this dramatic incident, the Carrolls decided to reconcile, and were remarried in April 1885. Their young son was only ten. However, this effort came to naught, and in 1886, Helen Carroll filed once again for divorce, her petition stating that the general had failed to reform and resumed his previous habits of drinking and consorting with prostitutes. This time the divorce degree became permanent. The pair never reconciled, and in death she asked to be buried in Arlington National Cemetery while he chose the Carroll Mausoleum.

In 1884 and 1886, the papers made much of the divorce suits, given the general's high social standing and distinguished military career. "A Scandal in Army Circle," ran one headline in the *Evening Star*. The St. Louis papers also reported on it. "Scandal among Old St. Louisans" is how they headlined the story, noting that Helen Carroll had been a "belle of St Louis" when she was married to Lt. Carroll in 1856.

Sprigg died On January 28, 1893, of pneumonia. Sally Esterhazy telegraphed the news to her sister Alida in Portland, Maine. "Sprigg died suddenly at 2 o'clock today. Mother cannot be told. Will write particulars as soon as known"³⁶ Gen. Howard wrote a letter of condolence to Sally Carroll from Governor's Island, New York, a few days later:³⁷

Yesterday I heard of the death of the General your son. He looked so well when I saw him at his home that I didn't dream of him preceding me in this march to the grave. His gallant conduct in battle, his generous hospitality, his rallying expressions of cheer in dark days and all the evidences of a noble nature and warm heart keep coming before me

as I think of our mutual past. I hope indeed that his angel mother was with him in the last days.

But she was not and was probably too infirm to attend his interment in the Carroll Mausoleum.

A full military funeral service was given to the old general on February 1, 1893, at St. John's Church where he had been a parishioner since he was a boy. The *National Tribune*³⁸ reported it was

"brief but quite impressive. The casket, wound about by Stars and Stripes, but almost hidden by banks of floral tributes, rested in front of the chancel. The church was filled with veterans and friends of the dead soldiers, and the streets in front of the church were filled with people.... The religious services were held at the grave, followed by military exercises of the Loyal Service, to which society the dead soldier was a member. The casket was carried by an artillery caisson...."

The pallbearers included Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, his old friend from West Point.

Kate Wheeler, Sprigg's eldest daughter, was appointed guardian of Samuel S. Carroll, Jr., the twelve-year-old son of the general (it is unclear why his former wife wasn't appointed, although she had moved back into her home at Bellevue in March after the general's death).³⁹ Portions of "Bellevue," Carroll's estate, were sold following Carroll's estate,⁴⁰ and the old house was bought by George Bloomer, a Beale son-in-law, who planned to remodel it.⁴¹ At various dates Katherine Carroll Beale and Alida Carroll Brown, who inherited portions of the Carroll property, sold off the remaining parts of their holdings in the area to developers of Takoma Park ⁴²

¹ The birth date on his vault in the Carroll Mausoleum is 21 September 1831; most military records give 1832 as the year of his birth.

² Hall Harrison, *Life of the Right Reverend John Barrett Kerfoot, First Bishop of Pittsburgh: With Selections from His Diaries and Correspondence*, Vol. 1 (New York: J. Pott & Company, 1886), 347.

³ The 1850 census counts them as students at the Hallowell School.

⁴ Today a candidate can't be younger than 17 or older than 22.

⁵ USMA Cadet Applications, 1805-1866, 1851: file #001-75, on Ancestry.com.

⁶ From his biography in American National Biography (Oxford University Press) by D. Scott Hartwig.

⁷ Elizabeth Lindsay Lomax, ed. by Lindsay Lomax Wood, *Leaves from an old Washington diary, 1854-1863* (New York: Dutton, 1943), entry for September 11, 1856, p. 57. Her son, Lunsford Lindsay Lomax, was a West Point classmate of Sprigg's.

 $^{^8}$ On the history of the 10th Regiment at this time, $\underline{\text{https://www.history.army.mil/books/r\&h/R\&H-10IN.htm}}$.

⁹ https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/uwcnf/learning/history-culture/?cid=stelprdb5052889. On his being part of the expedition, recollection by C. E. Church, National Tribune, March 9, 1893, p. 4. This is part of a tribute to Carroll after his death.

¹⁰ Oliver O. Howard, Autobiography, 2 vols. (New York: Baker and Taylor, 1907), 1:101-02.

¹¹ Letters of a Virginia Cadet at West Point, 1859-1861, Major Thomas Rowland, C. S. A. Introduction by Kate Mason Rowland (published in The South Atlantic Quarterly, vol. 15, Duke University Press, 1916), 155.

- ¹² This is something mentioned in Augustus Buell's recollections of Carroll after he died in 1893: *National Tribune*, February 16,1893, p. 2.
- ¹³ St. Catherine's: https://niagara.insauga.com/st-catharines-healing-waters-drew-thousands-of-tourists-in-the-1850s/. Carroll's exact ailment is unknown.
- ¹⁴ John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 18A, folder 2, Lt. S.S. Carroll to William Thomas Carroll, St. Catherine, Canada, West Point, August 28, 1860
- ¹⁵ John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 18A, Folder 2, "Carroll Family, Anna Ella Carroll," Carrie Carroll to W. Thom. Carroll, undated (enveloped stamped September 6, 1860).
- ¹⁶ See the comment on a sketch made by Cadet Francis L. Vinton: https://art.thewalters.org/detail/3074/cadet-days-picnic-2/.
- ¹⁷ John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 11, folder 15, McKenna to Alida Carroll Brown, November 20, 1897. The list in Alida's handwriting includes: "two of brother's drawings West Point."
- ¹⁸Howard, *op. cit.*: 1: 137.
- ¹⁹ Much of his early career is based on https://www.angelfire.com/va3/valleywar/people/carroll.html by Hal Sharpe. He is the author of *Shenandoah County during the Civil War* (History Books, 2012); and https://www.ohiocivilwarcentral.com/samuel-spriggs-carroll/.
- ²⁰ https://gettysburg.stonesentinels.com/union-headquarters/1st-brigade-3rd-division-2nd-corps/.
- ²¹ Daily National Republican, July 15, 1863, p. 4.
- ²² Theodore Lyman's Meade's Headquarters, 1863-1865, selected and ed. By George S. Agassiz (Boston: Atlantic Monthly Press, 1922), 92.
- ²³ The Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion (1861-65.), part 2, vol. 2 (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1876), 848. A digitized version of the remarks on Carroll is available at: https://civilwardc.org/texts/cases/med.d2e31454.html. Elizabeth Blair, who was close to the Carroll family, heard about him being wounded, mentioning it in a letter to her husband: Virginia Jeans Lass, ed., Wartime Washington: The Civil War Letters of Elizabeth Blair Lee (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1999), 379.
- ²⁴ Ft. Carroll is on the southern eastern boundary of the city in Anacostia.
- ²⁵ Newspaper clippings in the John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 18A, folder 3. The paper may be the (Sandusky) *Register*. The meeting of the veterans was held in Margaretta, Ohio, which is near Sandusky. ²⁶ Situated on 17th Street, a block from the Carroll mansion.
- ²⁷ Image courtesy of Diana Kohn, "How General Carroll's Estate Became Takoma Junction," *Takoma Voice* (May 2008), p. 14.
- ²⁸ He was John Finn, who from an Ohioan and ended up in Gen. Hancock's troop. See my post, http://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Irish_workers_in_Mrs._Carrolls_Household_a.pdf.
- ²⁹ He was the nephew of Edward Beale who owned Decatur House at this time.
- ³⁰ Daily National Republican, December 14, 1877, p. 2.
- ³¹ The complete text of the will and the attached codicils are found in: "Suit brought by John Marshall Brown against all the inheritors listed in her will Probate of Sally Carroll: Before the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia filed June 17, 1896," John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 11 (Estates), Folder 13 (Estate of Mrs. Sally Carroll). The suit dealt with the result of the sale of Mrs. Carroll's property which reduced the amount of the annuities listed in the will.
- ³² Evening Star, April 23, 1884, p. 3. Lottie remained outside newspaper radar; but Madeline Sinclair was regularly the subject of police scrutiny, either for keeping a bawdy house or for crimes occurring in her house: Evening Star, December 14, 188, p. 5; Daily Critic, January 13, p. 3; Critic and Record, March 1, 1887, p. 5; Evening Times, November 5, 1897, p. 6. Madeline's business was located at 405 13th Street.
- ³³ Bozeman Weekly Chronicle, May 7, 1884, p. 2.
- ³⁴ Evening Star, May 22, 1884; also reported in *The Independent* (New York), June 5, 1884, p. 713, drawing attention to the multiple misfortunes of the Carroll family.
- ³⁵ Boston Herald, November 23,1884, p. 4.
- ³⁶ John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 26A, folder 5.
- ³⁷ Gen. Oliver O. Howard to Mrs. Carroll, January 31, 1893: John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 27, folder 18.
- ³⁸ National Tribune, February 9, 1893, p, 3. This article and others mistakenly state the general was buried at Arlington National Cemetery; in fact, he was interred at the Carroll Mausoleum.
- ³⁹ Evening Star, May 13, 1893. p. 13; Evening Star, March 3, 1893, p. 3.

 $\underline{\text{https://takomapenhistory.wordpress.com/tag/carroll-avenue/.}}$

⁴⁰ Evening Star, July 14, 1893, p. 8.

⁴¹ Evening Star, February 1, 1896, p. 14. Bloomer married Violet Blair Beale, the sister of John Wheeler Beale.

⁴² Master Plan for the Historic Preservation: Takoma Park Historic District: Carroll Manor/Douglas House (Maryland-National Capital Park Commission, 1993); and