

Christ Episcopal Church Cemetery Inventory

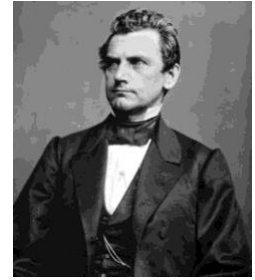
State and Water Streets, Dover DE 19903

Walking Tour #19

Lot Number: 58 Space: G

Find A Grave # 7534257

Name: **Fisher, (Judge) George Purnell**



Birth date: October 13, 1817 Death date: February 10, 1899 Burial Date: Age: 81
b. Milford, DE

Spouse: Eliza Ann *McColley* Fisher (1820-1908)

Children: Truston Fenwick Fisher (1840-1845); Frances Virginia Fisher (1842-1845); Frances Virginia Fisher (1845-1909); Nancy Owens *Fisher* Cahoon (1847-1915); Sallie Fisher (1851-1852); Charles George Fisher (1851-1912); Sallie Angelina (Lena) Fisher (1853-1864); George Purnell Fisher (1856-1931); Truston P. Fisher (1859 – 1859) twin of: Hetty Fisher (1859-1859)

Parents: Thomas Fisher (1761-1835) and Nancy *Owens* Fisher (1774-1841)

Siblings:

Residence: Washington, D.C.

Cause of death: Pneumonia

Service/occupation information: Lawyer; see next page

Officiate: Rev. George M. Bond

Lot Owner: George P. Fisher

Marker: Family monument, name on north side looking south

Inscription: See next page

DIMENSIONS: H 85" x W 44" x D 44" (base)

STYLE: footstone and family monument

Corner markers "F"

No repairs needed



Inventory date: February 9, 2020 Recorder: Robert Marston, Nancy Quinn

MONUMENT INSCRIPTION:

Headstone:

George P. Fisher
Born Oct. 13, A.D. 1817
Died Feb. 10, A.D. 1899

Mark the perfect man
and behold the upright.
For the end of that man
is peace.

FISHER - on the base



GEORGE P. FISHER

Footstone at east end of 58 G :

G. P. F.

Retrieved from [Find a Grave](#) June 17, 2020

U.S. Congressman. He graduated from Dickinson College, Pennsylvania, in 1838, studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1841 and commenced to practice law in Dover, Delaware. He was a member of the Delaware State house of representatives, (1843-44), Delaware State Secretary, in 1846; confidential clerk to Secretary Clayton in the Department of State at Washington, in 1849, appointed by President Taylor a commissioner to adjudicate claims against Brazil, (1850-52) and Delaware Attorney General, (1857-60). In 1861, he was elected as a Unionist to the Thirty-seventh Congress, serving until 1863. After his term, he was appointed by President Lincoln, a judge of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, in 1863 and later appointed District Attorney for the District of Columbia, serving until 1875. He was appointed by President Harrison, First Auditor of the Treasury Department, serving (1889-93). Leaving politics, he then took up reading and literary pursuits, until his death at age 81.

FISHER, Family of George Purnell Fisher:

George Purnell Fisher (1817-1899)

Son of Thomas Fisher (1761-1835) and Nancy *Owens* Fisher (1774-1841)

Wife: Eliza Ann *McColley* Fisher (1820-1908)

Children: Truston Fenwick Fisher (1840-1845); Frances Virginia Fisher (1842-1845); Frances Virginia Fisher (1845-1909); Nancy Owens *Fisher* Cahoon (1847-1915); Sallie Fisher (1851-1852); Charles George Fisher (1851-1912); Sallie Angelina (Lena) Fisher (1853-1864); George Purnell Fisher (1856-1931); Truston P. Fisher (1859 – 1859) twin of: Hetty Fisher (1859-1859)

Children might be buried in Christ Church or not on a marker:

Charles George Fisher (1851-1912) FAG# 42345122. Married Philippa *Lloyd* Fisher; Buried Odd Fellows Cemetery, Milford DE

George Purnell Fisher Jr. (January 30, 1856-1931) FAG # 114334170 is buried in Lake Forest Cemetery, Lake Forest IL.

He married Julia Farnsworth(1850-1940) (m. 1886); Children: George Farnsworth Fisher (1887-1946) and Ethel Virginia *Fisher* Hardin (1890-1979).

Truston P. Fisher was born and died on January 20, 1859. FAG# 158042932. He was twin to Hettie Fisher.

Hettie Fisher was born on January 20, 1859 and died on January 21, 1859. FAG # 158043051. She was the twin of Truston P. Fisher. No marked grave space was found for them. They have been assigned LOT 58 J1 and J2.

126 GENEALOGY OF THE FISHER FAMILY.

Hannah Hazzard, his wife, of Slaughter Neck; m. 3d, Martha Campbell, sister of above. In 1835 or 1836 Martha Fisher removed to Ohio with her daughter.

Children of first marriage:

754. MARY J. FISHER, b. 1816; d. about 1832.
 755. JOHN H. FISHER, b. Aug. 18, 1818; d. Oct. 3, 1851; m. Eliza A. Coulter.
 756. THOMAS FISHER, b. Aug. 18, 1818; d. about 1833.

Child of third marriage:

757. MARTHA A. FISHER, b. April 17, 1881; m. Jeremiah Weakley and went West. Have been traced no farther.

350. GEORGE PURNELL FISHER⁶ (Thomas⁵, Jabez M.⁴, John³, John², John¹), b. Oct. 13, 1817; m. Jan. 9, 1840, Eliza Ann McCaulley, b. Sept. 21, 1820; dau. of Rev. Truston P. McCaulley and Hettie Smith, his wife.

"Hon. George P. Fisher was born in Milford, Kent county, Del. He received his collegiate education partly at St. Mary's College, Maryland, and at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., where he was graduated in 1838. Shortly after he entered the law office of Hon. John M. Clayton, and after three years' study was admitted to the bar.

"While still a very young man Mr. Fisher took a prominent part in the public affairs of Delaware, having at different times been a member of the House of Representatives, Secretary of State, and Attorney-General. Called to Washington in April, 1849, by his lifelong friend and preceptor, Hon. John M. Clayton, then Secretary of State, he accepted the position of assistant secretary to Mr. Clayton, and during this period he met, on the most cordial terms, the leading men of that day. He took part in the interview between Mr. Clayton and Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer, in the celebrated 'Clayton-Bulwer Treaty.'

"Returning to his native State in 1855, he again entered actively into politics. At the outbreak of the Civil War the 'People's Party' nominated him as candidate for Representative in Congress, and he was elected by a triumphant majority in the face of the fact that the Democratic party was then largely in the ascendant.

SEVENTH GENERATION. 127

"While member of Congress Mr. Fisher was a conspicuous figure in the House of Representatives, he being in close and frequent communication with President Lincoln in the project of the latter for the emancipation of the slaves, which was then stirring the heart of the country, and it was to him and Hon. N. B. Smithers, of Delaware, that the President entrusted the preparation of a bill to be presented to the Legislature of that State.

"So impressed was the President with the zeal and patriotism of Mr. Fisher that, upon the abolition of the old courts and the creation of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, he, without solicitation, appointed Mr. Fisher one of the Associate Justices of the new court. During his term upon the bench he presided at the trial of John H. Surratt for the murder of Abraham Lincoln. It was said of his charge to the jury, during that trial, that so able a charge had not been made since the days of Taney.

"In May, 1870, Judge Fisher resigned his place upon the bench and accepted the office of U. S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, and here he was noted for the same calm courage and high integrity he had displayed in his judicial capacity. At the expiration of five years he resigned this office and returned to Delaware, with no intention of again entering public life; but in June, 1889, the position of First Auditor of the Treasury was tendered him by President Harrison, which position he accepted and held until the change of presidential administration in 1893.

"Feeling a very strong attachment for his native State and the home of his childhood, Mr. Fisher again returned to Delaware, where he is now living."—A. F. C.

Children:

758. TRUSTON FEZWICK FISHER, b. Oct. 8, 1840; d. Mar. 12, 1845.
 759. FRANCES VIRGINIA FISHER, b. Aug. 6, 1842; d. Mar. 15, 1845.
 760. FRANCES VIRGINIA FISHER, b. Dec. 17, 1845.
 761. NANCIE OWENS FISHER, b. Dec. 25, 1847; m. Mar. 4, 1891, Benjamin Benson Cahoon, of Fredericktown, Mo.
 762. CHARLES GEORGE FISHER, b. Nov. 3, 1849; m. Philippa Lloyd.
 763. SALLIE FISHER, b. Oct. 21, 1851; d. July 21, 1852.
 764. SALLIE ANGELINA FISHER, b. July 1, 1853; d. Aug. 11, 1864.

"Genealogy of the Fisher Family" from N American Family Histories, 1682-1896
 retrieved from ancestry.com, June 19, 2020

Marriage record, January 7, 1840

128 GENEALOGY OF THE FISHER FAMILY.

765. GEORGE PURNELL FISHER, JR., b. Jan. 30, 1856; m. Julia S. Farnsworth.
 766. TRUSTON FISHER, b. Jan. 20, 1859; d. Jan. 20, 1859.
 767. HETTIE FISHER, b. Jan. 20, 1859; d. July 21, 1859.

355. RODNEY FISHER⁶ (John⁵, Jabez M.⁴, John³, John², John¹), b. Feb. 17, 1798; d. Sept. 13, 1863; m. July 3, 1828, Eliza Bella Callender, b. Feb. 14, 1808; d. Jan. 1880; dau. of Thomas Callender and Eliza Bella Wilcox, his wife.

"By every family tie and early association Rodney Fisher was closely and honorably connected with the history of our country, being a grandnephew of Caesar Rodney, the signer of the Declaration of Independence, and grandson of Colonel Thomas Rodney, who, during the Revolutionary War, led the van in the famous march from Trenton to Princeton, on 'the awful night,' Jan. 1, 1777, when he was wounded.

"In early life Mr. Rodney Fisher, who was born at Dover, Del., entered the navy as midshipman, but being more attracted by commerce, for which his mind was peculiarly adapted, soon left the service and entered the employ of the well-known Edward Thompson, of Philadelphia, who was at that time at the head of 'the China trade' in this country. He was, subsequently, for a long time, in the Bank of the United States, and in its service resided for nearly a year in England, in company with the well-known Samuel Judson, having previously traveled extensively as agent for that institution in this country, conducting for it many highly important negotiations.

"Returning to China, Mr. Fisher became partner with 'McVicar & Co.,' one of the first English firms in Canton. He resided, at different periods, many years in the East, and was, both in China and India, connected with some of the leading commercial transactions of his time, and intimately acquainted with many of the first men, both natives and foreigners, who distinguished themselves in the important series of diplomatic and military events which attended the opening of China to the world. Having remarkably varied powers of observation and a very retentive memory, Mr. Fisher retained a fund of anecdote and description, drawn from his extensive travels, such as few men possess.

