

Sallie Sprigg Carroll, DACOR Bacon House's First Grande Dame

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Part 1, Section 2

Life in the Carroll House in the pre-Civil War Period

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll may have begun entertaining in the house shortly after they took possession of it in 1835, and they may also have begun some of the alterations that the house underwent in the next twenty years. They began purchasing large sets of rosewood furniture with extra chairs for the parlor and drawing rooms, expensive Medallion velvet Brussels carpets, French-style fireplace mantels with ornamental glass, and eventually armchairs and sofas for the other public rooms. They adorned the mantelpieces in the main rooms with ornamental ceramic vases and bronze figurines, and they draped the windows with red or green and gold damask curtains. Of particular importance was the Chickering piano they purchased, which must have featured in many of their soirees. These details are evident from the inventory of the house that was made in 1863 after William died.

An early report of one of the Carroll entertainments dates to 1846 when Mrs. Elizabeth Dixon, wife of James Dixon, the new congressman from Connecticut (1845-49), came to one of



Elizabeth Cogswell Dixon, wife of Congressman James Dixon, who attended one of Mrs. Carroll's parties in 1846. Image: Lost and Found.¹

their soirees. The passage in her letters describing the evening gives a good idea of the elite company the Carrolls kept in these years and that music was already a part of their life:²

At ½ past [Mr. Rockwell]³ came for me & we went to Mrs. Carroll's. I wore my new velvet & a little velvet headdress worked in pearls with silver fringe, also my diamond pin, silver chain & cross.—The house was much lighted & 2 drawing rooms elegantly furnished were open—& some young ladies visiting there sang & played very well & Miss McLeod played very well—Mme. Calderon⁴ was there in a bright red dress, & gold ornaments, Mrs. Madison in purple velvet & a striped india scarf,⁵ Annie Payne,⁶ the Cutts,⁷ Judge & Mrs. Catron,⁸ Mrs. Benson a fair divorcée, Judge Nelson & family,⁹ Mrs. Pearson,¹⁰ Mrs. Walsh,¹¹ some of the foreign ministers, & others. Mrs. Carroll looked beautifully in a pink & silver headdress, plaid flounces, silk & thread lace cape—There was an elegant supper, with pyramids &c one had a lamp in it giving it the effect of a little coloured lantern. Mr. Sargent¹² handed me to supper, & we left soon after & Mr. Campbell & Mr. R. came home with me & got a cigar a piece to smoke on the way home—

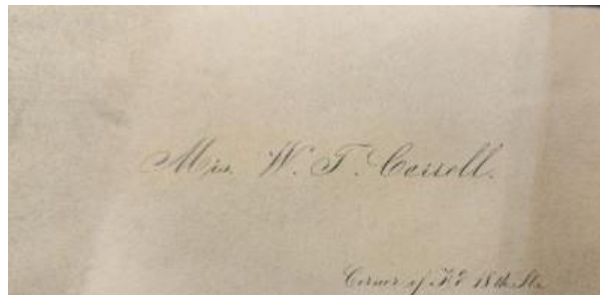
Elizabeth Dixon spent many years in Washington, first as the wife of a congressman (1845-49) and then as the wife of a senator (1857-69) and became acquainted with the Lincolns during the Civil War period. The night that Lincoln was shot, Elizabeth was summoned by Robert Todd Lincoln to sit with his mother at Lincoln's deathbed at the Peterson House. In yet another instance of how interconnected Washington society was in the pre-Gilded Age period, her nephew, Nathaniel Cogswell Kinney was the first husband of Carrie Carroll, William and Sallie's third daughter.¹³

Dolley Madison, who attended that evening in 1846, may have been a frequent visitor at the Carrolls' home.¹⁴ Her letters indicate that she was invited to the house at least four times between 1839 and 1846, to small dinner parties as well as larger gatherings.¹⁵ In her invitations, Sallie usually styled herself, "Mrs. W. T. Carroll," and she maintained the address until late in life. In one of her notes to Mrs. Carroll, Dolley wished to be remembered to "my valued friend



Dolley Madison and her niece Anna Payne, in 1848. They attended the Carrolls' soiree in 1846. Image: Library of Congress.

Mr. Carroll” and “your sweet daughter, Violetta.”¹⁶ She and Mrs. Carroll also exchanged visits. William Carroll was one of the lawyers and Washington notables who helped Dolley’s nephew settle her estate after she died in 1849.¹⁷



A calling card that Sallie Carroll left when she visited her friends, such as Dolley Madison.
Maine Historical Society, John Marshall Brown Papers,

As Clerk of the Supreme Court, William was the only permanent Washington-based administrative officer of the Court. He had an office in the Capitol where the Court’s business was carried out, “taking care of correspondence, the arrangement of the docket, the collection of fees, the location of rooms for justices during their annual visits to Washington, and other matters.”¹⁸ He became acquainted not only with all the justices and their families, when they came to the

Capitol during the months of the Court's session, but most of the congressmen in both houses of government. His position allowed William and Sallie to become friends with most people in power. Among them, during the early 1850s, the Carrolls made friends with President Millard Fillmore (1850-53) and his wife. Fillmore had first become a member of the House of Representatives in 1833 from upstate New York where he would have been acquainted with William's father and sibling who had settled near Rochester. Amelia Fillmore is said to have been most comfortable with a small group of ladies of her own liking that she could entertain in the library at the White House. One of these was Sallie Carroll. Mrs. Fillmore was also very fond of music and often invited young ladies to perform. One such evening is sketched by the biographer Laura Holloway this way:¹⁹

One of these evenings I remember with more than ordinary pleasure, Mr. Webster was there, and Mr. Corwin²⁰, and Mrs. A. H. H. Stuart, of Virginia,²¹ Judge Hall and his wife,²² and possibly some other members of the Cabinet; Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, of New York,²³ Miss Derby, of Boston, then a guest at the White House,²⁴ Mr. and Mrs. Carroll, and several others of the distinguished residents of Washington. Mrs. Brooks' daughter, then quite too young to appear in general society, was there by special request of Mrs. Fillmore, who so enjoyed her wonderfully sweet singing, that she relied upon her as one of the attractions for this evening. Miss Fillmore played the piano with much skill and exquisite taste. Indeed, few ladies excelled her in this accomplishment; and this evening she was particularly successful in her efforts to please. Mrs. Brooks accompanied her upon the harp, which instrument she played with much grace. Altogether, the music, the conversation, and the company made it an occasion long and pleasantly to be remembered.

The Carroll's piano was located in the south parlor according to the 1863 inventory of the house and was valued at \$300.²⁵ It was a Chickering, considered one of the better instruments of its time, manufactured in Massachusetts and sold throughout the country. Some models were square pianos with as many as seven octaves, and others were uprights. The Carrolls may have



Chickering piano, upright model, courtesy Piano Technicians Guild Foundation.
(This was the piano owned by Laura Keane in 1859 and present in the Ford Theatre
the night of Lincoln's assassination.)

owned one of these. They also had a music stand in the parlor. With such an expensive item in the house, one wonders who played it in the house. In the 1850s, young ladies were expected to be able to perform on the piano or to sing. In the Carroll household, three daughters were in their teens or early twenties: Violetta (b. 1829), who had attended M. Labbé's dancing school and may have been musically inclined; Sarah (Sally) (b. 1837), and Carrie (b. 1841). However, we know that Alida (b. 1844), the youngest, was most probably the musician. Sometime before December 1866, possibly shortly before her marriage to Gen. John Marshall Brown of Portland, Maine, she had bound a collection of sheet music, some of which displayed her own penciled-in fingering, that she could take with her. This volume, now deposited at the Houghton Library at Harvard University, is bound in half black morocco and grey marbled boards, with gilt-stamped ownership label on the front cover (Alida C. Carroll) and stamped "Music" on the spine.²⁶ The thirty-five items in the volume, are mostly arrangements for the piano of a wide variety of music – arias transcribed for piano from popular operas – "La Fille du Regiment," "Anna Bolena," "Il Barbiere di Siviglia," an aria from "The Marriage of Figaro", a theme from "Lucrezia Borgia" (that may have been sung by Jenny Lind when she visited Washington in 1850), and a large selection of dance music – waltzes (Strauss's Sofien-Tanze), polkas, and redowas (a Czech dance similar to the polka). And, of course, a number of sentimental ballads ("Tis the Last Rose of Summer," "Oft in the Stilly Night," "Willie's on the Dark Blue Sea," and "I know Not Why I

Love Thee”).²⁷ It seems highly likely that Alida accompanied a singer in performing these songs – using the music stand available in the parlor – if she did not sing them herself. Some of the sheet music was arranged for four hands, suggesting that on occasion Alida had a partner on the piano bench. From this we can imagine that musical evenings at the Carroll House were frequent and may perhaps have included dances for the young people. A blossoming late teen during the Civil War years when many young officers were in town, Alida must have attracted much attention.

As for keeping the Chickering in tune, the Carrolls may have turned to Jacob Hilbus, who tuned the pianos at the White House for eleven presidents.²⁸ But who did they ask to teach their daughters to play? There were a half-dozen or more music teachers in Washington in the 1850s.²⁹ Perhaps the best known was Prof. C. W. Schuermann, a student of the Leipzig School, who had a studio on L Street between Ninth and Tenth and advertised for students in the Washington *Intelligencer*.³⁰ Alida, however, may also have taken music lessons when she attended the Patapsco Female Institute in Ellicott City, Maryland in the late 1850s and early 1860s which offered them at additional cost.³¹

The itemization of two punch bowls in the Carroll inventory in 1863, one of them Japanese,³² means that at some time in the pre-Civil War period Sallie, like many other hostesses in Washington, had started the custom of having open house during the Christmas season in which her celebrated punch and hot apple toddy was served. This was recalled in 1883 in a



Japanese punch bowl ca 1850 on sale at Dubey's Antiques, Baltimore, a few years ago. The Carroll punch bowl may have been similar.

“gossip” column of the *Sunday Herald* when the writer recollected with fondness the days when “house of Mrs. William T. Carroll was thrown open for her delicious hot apple toddy and punch.”³³ She may have been following a traditional Maryland recipe, possibly from her family, which included peach brandy and rum as well as Maryland apples, spiced with cloves, cinnamon or allspice.³⁴ Apple toddy was a popular feature at Washington gatherings, and the Peters of Tudor House had a celebrated recipe and punch bowl, both possibly passed on to them by Martha Washington, Martha Parke Custis Peter’s grandmother.³⁵ President Buchanan was given a ceremonial bowl by the first Japanese delegation to the United States in 1860,³⁶ but even if Sallie was inspired by visiting the White House to purchase one for herself to use at her punch parties, other large Japanese bowls made ca. 1850 are known to have been imported; owning one may have caught Sallie’s fancy.³⁷

Christmas was a festive time in the Carroll household, not only because of the “punch” parties that Sallie liked to throw but also as a time to put up decorations in the house. An early occasion was recalled in a reminiscence by Cornelia Lansdale, a teen-aged cousin of Sallie’s, who was staying with them during the holidays in the late 1830s. In preparation for a ball or a punch party, Cornelia, her hair pinned up in paper curlers, was on a ladder putting up garlands when a noise made her turn her head and see “a handsome young army officer being ushered into the room. Curl papers or no curl papers, he fell instantly in love with the pretty creature on the stepladder.”³⁸ The officer was young Maskell Cochran Ewing, latter surveyor for the city of Alexandria, and they married in 1840.

In 1852 the Carrolls went with the Fillmores to take the waters at Berkeley Springs, Virginia, returning in early September.³⁹ William had a health issue that encouraged him to seek treatment at various spas and resorts on the East Coast. A year after William had died in 1863, President Fillmore sent a condolence letter to Sallie expressing his sorrow and mentioning how they had both lost their dearest. His wife Abigail had died in late 1853, and his daughter Mary, who played an active role in the White House during his presidency, died soon after. The letter mentions an exchange of photographs as mementoes of their friendship.⁴⁰

Shortly after the year 1852 began, Sallie gave birth to a fourth son who was named Howard. This was also the year that Sam Sprigg Carroll, who was known in the family and by his friends as Sprigg, went off to West Point to begin his military career. He had applied in 1851 in a letter to President Fillmore, saying that he had hoped to go to West Point for several years

but needed first to get the “assent” of his parents. It was finally given. In his letter to the president, he said he was nineteen going on twenty (letter written in March 1851), when in fact he was a year younger than he thought he was. A letter of recommendation accompanied his application from Judge John Catron of the Supreme Court, attesting to Sam’s health, good education and habits, and sound moral character. When Sallie happened to find a copy of that letter a year later, she wrote to President Fillmore around March 15, 1852:⁴¹

Mr. Dear Mr. President

Today by the merest accident I have got a copy of the letter my son Sprigg 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, Sprigg 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

The letter contains two revelations about the Carroll family at this time. It shows a measure of the familiarity that existed between the Fillmore and the Carroll families. It also shows that birthdays were not celebrated in upper-class households in the first half of the nineteenth century. Otherwise Sprigg would have been better aware of how old he was.

Sallie’s letter did not impede in any way Sprigg’s acceptance to West Point, which came shortly thereafter, and he entered the academy in the fall. He graduated in 1856, near the bottom of his class (46th out of 49), and went shortly thereafter to St. Louis to be assigned to military duties in the West. Though he was not a good student, he was well liked by his fellow cadets and made many friends from both the northern and southern states. While in St. Louis, he met Helen Morrell Bennett, a cousin of the wife of General Winfield Scott Hancock, and they decided to marry after a short courtship. Carroll benefited greatly from his friendship with Hancock and both Hancock and Carroll would distinguish themselves at the Battle of Gettysburg.

When Sallie’s father, Governor Sprigg passed away in April 1855, Sallie must have attended the funeral at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Upper Marlboro where he was buried. He was extolled in the Washington papers: “No gentleman was more esteemed by friends and neighbors, none more exemplary in all domestic and social relations, none more faithful than he

in the varied public trusts committed to him by his native State” (*National Intelligencer*). He left everything to his wife, including some sixty slaves, who continued to live at Northampton with her son Osborn and his family until her death ten years later. Relations between the Carrolls and Violetta remained close, and some of the Carroll daughters would go out to stay with her from time to time.⁴²

In October, 1856, Sallie’s first-born child, daughter Violetta Lansdale Carroll, was married to a cousin, Thomas Swann Mercer of West River Farm, Maryland.⁴³ The ceremony took place at St. John’s Church, which the Carrolls had joined in 1836 and later became benefactors by donating the “Carroll Window.”⁴⁴ The Mercers were an old Maryland-Virginia family.⁴⁵ Thomas was the son of John Francis Mercer, another former governor of Maryland, and they owned a large plantation in Anne Arundel County with a view of the Chesapeake Bay that was worked by some fifty enslaved laborers. However, among his more interesting relations was an aunt, Margaret Mercer, a remarkable early abolitionist who was a supporter of the American Colonization Society and freed a number of the slaves she inherited, paying their passage back to Africa (Liberia). She also established a female academy that was run on the estate for some years. It was later moved to Belmont plantation in Loudon County, which she bought from Ludwell Lee, the cousin of the second wife of the previous owner of the Carroll’s house, Tench Ringgold. Violetta, in fact, boarded at the school during the 1848 year (after Miss Mercer had died), where she was joined by her cousin, Addie Carroll, the daughter of William’s brother, Charles Hilker Carroll.⁴⁶

Mercer was a doctor by training and identified in censuses and newspapers as “Dr. Mercer.” He may have practiced when he was living on the family estate in Maryland, but he seems to have been dissatisfied with his position when he and his wife decided to leave West River. In 1861 William Carroll wrote several letters to Abraham Lincoln urging him to appoint his son-in-law to a good position at the Baltimore Customs House. He closed his letter by suggesting that his appointment “will be a recognition by the country of the revolutionary services of his ancestor (Col. John F. Mercer), who shed his blood and spent largely of his private fortune in achieving our independence.”⁴⁷ The past weighed heavily on the Carroll household and they were always conscious of their role in the country’s early history. Carroll also asked several of his friends – Robert J. Brent (former Attorney General of Maryland), Henry May (Unionist Representative from Maryland), and Thomas Swann (former mayor of Baltimore)

– to recommend his appointment in separate letters. All this effort was to no avail, as he did not get the position.

Violetta's first child, Carroll Mercer, was born in the F Street house in December 1857. After his birth the Mercers went to live at West River farm with his mother and unmarried siblings.⁴⁸ Their second son, John Francis Mercer, was born on the farm in 1861.

While arranging for Violetta's marriage in 1856, Sallie and the household staff were also attending to her twenty-two-year-old son Willie who was succumbing to the tuberculosis he had contracted four or five years earlier. Early in 1857, he died,⁴⁹ followed scarcely a month later by the five-year-old Howard.⁵⁰ The same day that Howard's death was announced in the *National Intelligencer*, the front page contained an effusive eulogy of Willie Carroll's life, headlined, "Truth's Tribute." In it, his "Christian" character, fortitude and kindness in the midst of prolonged illness was lauded. The Carrolls held funeral services for both children at their home on F Street.⁵¹ In March William purchased Lot 292 in Oak Hill cemetery which overlooked Rock Creek and construction began soon after on the Carroll Mausoleum which was to play an important role in the Carroll family legacy. The first interments – the bodies of William T. and Howard – were made in May.⁵²

When Sallie turned 48 on March 27, 1860, she was two months pregnant with her last child, William Cuyler Carroll, who was born in the house on September 24. He may have come as a surprise. He may also have not been healthy – he survived only seven months before he succumbed, the third family member to be interred in the Carroll Mausoleum.

Sallie must have taken his death, as she did her deceased children, in stride with a strength she drew from her strong religious beliefs. "Her pure and Christian character was manifested by every act of her life," the *Evening Star* wrote in a short notice in its regular pages upon hearing of her death in 1895.⁵³ It also enabled her to support certain charitable institutions in the city, including the Washington City Protestant Asylum home for orphans that had been founded by Mrs. Van Ness,⁵⁴ and for the Washington Home for the Incurables. Beyond these good works, Sallie also interested herself in the work of Ann Pamela Cunningham, who established in Mt. Vernon Ladies Association to preserve the home of George Washington. The treasurer of the association was George M. Riggs, the Washington banker, and Mrs. Carroll was asked to be one of several "assistant lady managers" in the District.⁵⁵ "Lady managers" were appointed by the Vice Regent, and given the task of raising contributions with friends and

neighbors, usually starting at one dollar.⁵⁶ The amounts raised by each of these ladies was reported regular in the *Mount Vernon Record*, a bulletin sent out to all members.⁵⁷ As an “assistant lady manager,” Mrs. Carroll may have suggested possible donors or have even solicited donations for the association. If she was successful, it was not mentioned in the issues of the Record I perused.

¹ <https://earchives.blog/tag/elizabeth-l-c-dixon/>.

² <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/introduction-to-the-transcription-of-the-washington-diary-of-elizabeth-l-c-dixon> (accessed 04/29/2020).

³ Unidentified.

⁴ Mme. Calderon was Fanny Erskine Inglis Calderon de Barca, who was married to a Spanish diplomat and was in Mexico in 1840 for several years before returning to Washington.

⁵ Dolley Madison, who had retired to Washington after her husband’s death and later lived with her sister Ann Payne Cutts on Lafayette Square.

⁶ Dolley’s niece and adopted daughter, Anna Coles Payne Causten.

⁷ Probably Dolley’s nephew, James Madison Cutts and his wife.

⁸ Justice John Catron of the Supreme Court (1837-65), married to the former Mathilda Childress. He later endorsed Sam Sprigg Carroll’s application to West Point.

⁹ Newly appointed Justice of the Supreme Court, Samuel Nelson and his second wife, Catherine Mary Russell.

¹⁰ Mrs. Pearson: Eleanor Pearson, the widow of Congressman Joseph Pearson, the daughter of Robert Brent, who gave his daughter Brentwood Mansion.

¹¹ Mrs. Walsh: Mary Ann Pearson, daughter of Mrs. Pearson, wife of Robert Walsh.

¹² John Osborn Sargent, journalist and politician, the brother of Epes Sargent who wrote a history of Henry Clay.

¹³ Married in 1868, divorced in 1874. He was the son of Elizabeth’s sister, Mary Cogswell Kinney. She, too, befriended Mary Todd Lincoln after the war.

¹⁴ On Dolley and the Carrolls, see my posting

https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Dolley_Madison_the_Carrolls_and_the_Ringgolds.pdf.

¹⁵ The details of her visits are found in the Dolley Madison Digital Edition on the University of Virginia website: <https://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/dmde/>.

¹⁶ Dolley Payne Todd Madison to Sally Sprigg Carroll, 12 January 1849, in The Dolley Madison Digital Edition, ed. Holly C. Shulman. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, Rotunda, 2004; <http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/dmde/DPM1560> (accessed 2024-02-21).

¹⁷ James Madison Cutts to James Buchanan, 11 July 1849, in The Dolley Madison Digital Edition, ed. Holly C. Shulman. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, Rotunda, 2004. <http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/dmde/DPM7346> (accessed 2024-02-21).

¹⁸ Carl B. Swisher, *The Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise History of the Supreme Court: Vol 5: The Taney Years, 1836-1864* (New York: MacMillan, 1974), 13.

¹⁹ Laura Carter Holloway, *The Ladies of the White House* (Philadelphia Bradley and Co. 1881), 469-70; see also Robert J. Scarry, *Millard Fillmore* (McFarland, Dec 31, 2003), 194.

²⁰ John Corwin, senator from Ohio.

²¹ Wife of Alexander Hugh Holmes Stuart, secretary of the Interior. Stuart, though a Virginian, was a strong supporter of the Unionist cause in his hometown of Staunton: Edward L. Ayers, *The Thin Light of Freedom* (New York: Norton, 2017), 162.

²² Nathan K. Hall, Postmaster General under Fillmore.

²³ Rep. James Brooks of New York

²⁴ A friend of the Fillmore's daughter, Mary.

²⁵ Valued at \$300 in 1863. It was perhaps the costliest piece of furniture in the house. Mrs. Carroll was taxed on the piano as well as her carriage and a watch in 1866: US IRS Tax Assessment Lists, 1862-1918, Annual Lists 1866, on Ancestry.com. President Buchanan was given a Chickering grand piano in 1857, considered a chef-d'oeuvre of the company, which was played by his niece, Harriet Lane. It was said to be valued at \$800: States (newspaper), September 23, 1857, p. 3.

²⁶ Historical Sheet Music Collections of Houghton Library and the Harvard Theatre Collection, Alida C. Carroll Volume of Music for the piano circa 1835-1866; Kathryn Lowerre, "Some Uncataloged Musical Resources in the Harvard Theatre Collection with a Handlist for the Bound Music Volumes," *Notes* 62: 3 (2006), 556.

²⁷ The sheet music of many of these popular songs are available online through the Library of Congress. Some is available on Youtube: "Oft in the Stilly Night": <https://youtu.be/So8HHngk8>; "Tis the Last Rose of Summer": <https://youtu.be/CxJsXWHmFiA>;

²⁸ Robert J. Scarry, *Millard Fillmore* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2010), 198.

²⁹ From the *Stranger's Guide to Washington* (Alfred Hunter, 1853): John Iardella, professor of music, boarded at Mrs. Bunnerman; F. Kiey, professor of music, Louisiana Avenue between 4th and 6th; B. Reiss, professor of music, G Street between 14th and 15th; Mr. Schadd, music teacher, Bridge Street, Georgetown; Charles Walter, music teacher, 11th Street between F and G; John E. Sheel, professor of music, 14th between F and G.

³⁰ *Daily Intelligencer*, February 4, 1854.

³¹ She appears in the 1860 census as a student at the school; on the Institute:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patapsco_Female_Institute.

³² It is interesting how Sallie collected Japanese porcelain bowls from the early period in US-Japan relations, opened only in the 1850s.

³³ *Sunday Herald and National Daily Intelligencer*, January 7, 1883. On the popularity of punch bowl parties during the Christmas season, "there was scarcely a house in Washington in which there was not a well--filled punch bowl": Benjamin Perley Poore, *Perley's Reminiscences of Sixty Years in the National Metropolis* (Philadelphia: Hubbard, 186), 87.

³⁴ See the recipes in <http://atasteofhistorywithjoycewhite.blogspot.com/2014/12/a-cup-of-holiday-cheer-maryland-style.html>.

³⁵ *Tudor Place: Historic House and Garden* (Washington, DC, Tudor Place Foundation, 2005), 10.

³⁶ <https://www.lancasterhistory.org/the-president-and-the-punch-bowl/>

³⁷ <https://dubeysaniques.wordpress.com/welcome-2/japanese-ceramics/japanese-blue-and-white-porcelain-punch-bowl/>

³⁸ Lansdale, *Two Colonial Families*, 28.

³⁹ *The Republic* (Washington), September 9, 1852. On the various spas frequented by the Carrolls, see my posting https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Summer_Resorts_in_the_19th_Century.pdf.

⁴⁰ Millard Fillmore to Mrs. William Carroll, dated 8 September 1864: Auctioned in 2013: RR Auction, January 17, 2013, Amherst, New Hampshire: <https://www.invaluable.com/auction-lot/millard-fillmore-19-c-1ff423de88>. The photograph of Sallie Carroll has not yet been located in the Fillmore Papers at Oswego State University (email to the author from Zachary Vickery, College Archivist Librarian, Penfield Library, 16 March 2020). However, his papers are scattered in several archives, including the Library of Congress.

⁴¹ USMA Cadet Applications, 1805-1866, 1851: file #001-75, on Ancestry.com.

⁴² As did Alida Carroll in November 1862, after her uncle Osborn died: Virginia Jeans Laas, *Wartime Washington: The Civil War letters of Elizabeth Blair Lee* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1999), 207

⁴³ District of Columbia Marriages, 1811-1950, p. 140.

⁴⁴ Richard F. Grimmett, *St. John's Church, Lafayette Square: The History and Heritage of the Church of the Presidents, Washington, DC* (Minneapolis: Mill City Press, 2000), 139-40. The window was dedicated to William T. Carroll, Violetta Mercer, William Carroll (Jr.), and Howard Carroll. It would have been installed sometime after Violetta's death in 1872.

⁴⁵ The Mercers were part of the Mason web of descendants: <https://gunstonhall.org/wp-content/uploads/masonweb/p6881.htm>

⁴⁶ See my posting, https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Educating_Sons_and_Daughters.pdf.

⁴⁷ John F. Mercer, wealthy planter and slave holder, fought in the American Revolution, attended the Continental Congress, former governor of Maryland, former Representative to the US Congress: <https://bioguideretro.congress.gov/Home/MemberDetails?memIndex=M000645> (accessed 05/13/2020).

⁴⁸ There were 42 slaves on the farm in the 1850 Slave Schedule; the 1860 Slave Schedule for District 7 of the Maryland census seems to be missing.

⁴⁹ "... prostrated for several years of his life by an agonizing malady": *Daily National Intelligencer*, January 22, 1857.

⁵⁰ *Daily National Intelligencer*, February 23, 1857.

⁵¹ *Daily National Intelligencer*, January 19, 1857, p. 1, and February 23, 1857, p. 3.

⁵² https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/lincoln-in-the-bardo-novel-has-people-flocking-to-a-georgetown-cemetery/2017/04/17/acc9f0a0-237d-11e7-a1b3-faff0034e2de_story.html?utm_term=.800e9250242d.

⁵³ *Evening Star*, February 12, 1895

⁵⁴ *Evening Star*, January 17, 1854, p. 1; *Daily Union*, July 29, 1855, p. 3; *Daily National Intelligencer*, March 5, 1857, p. 1; *Evening Star*, June 12, 1857, p. 4. On the asylum, Jamalin Rae Harp, *The Capitals Children: The Washington City Orphan Asylum, 1815-1890*, dissertation, Department of History, 2017, Texas Christian University, available online at <https://repository.tcu.edu/handle/116099117/17463>.

⁵⁵ Lady Managers and Assistant Lady Managers identified in *Daily National Intelligencer*, May 23, 1860. They were often appointed on the basis of the lineages and connections to the Founding Fathers and signers of the Declaration of Independence.

⁵⁶ According to the manual publicized by the Ladies Association, the lady managers' "sole duty is to canvass every inch of ground, requesting subscriptions, and not let a farm house or lonely cabin in their district be passed over."

⁵⁷ The records have been digitized at

<http://catalog.mountvernon.org/digital/collection/p16829coll2/search/searchterm/mount%20vernon%20record/field/relati/mode/exact/conn/and> . Link kindly provided by Rebecca Laird, Archivist, The Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington. Mount Vernon Ladies' Association. By the time Mrs. Carroll was listed as a lady manager, the association had almost completed raising the amount of money needed.