

[Peak, William]

WILLIAM PEAK'S FUNERAL

Many Theatrical People Attend Services for the Old Bell Ringer

The funeral of William Peak, the originator of the bell-ringing form of entertainment in this country, was held from his late residence, 35 Powers Street, Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon. The service, which was conducted by The Rev. John Coleman Adams of All Souls' Universalist Church, was largely attended by theatrical people. Mr. Peak was ninety-four years old and was a lifelong resident of Brooklyn's eastern district. He was a member of the Peak family who were famous in the seventies.

Previous to the civil war, the Peak family, seven in number, toured the United States, giving performances in bell ringing, a form of entertainment much in vogue at that time. Mr. Peak conducted the tours of the family, and was always to be found in the centre of the group. The others were arranged on either side, according to their height.

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Transcribed on 28 Jul 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY