



## 1868 Photograph of Peter Doyle

Ed Folsom

*University of Iowa*, ed-folsom@uiowa.edu

ISSN 0737-0679 (Print)

ISSN 2153-3695 (Online)

Copyright © 1987 Ed Folsom

---

### Recommended Citation

Folsom, Ed. "1868 Photograph of Peter Doyle." *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 4 (Spring 1987), 38-38.

Available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.13008/2153-3695.1153>

## ON THE BACK COVER:

1868 PHOTOGRAPH OF PETER DOYLE—While preparing the special double issue of *WWQR* (Volume 4, 2/3 [Fall/Winter 1986–1987]) containing all known photographs of Whitman, I found some interesting, little-known portraits of Whitman’s friends and associates. This striking photograph of Whitman’s close friend Peter Doyle is reproduced courtesy of the Sixsmith Collection, John Rylands Library, University of Manchester (England). The photograph is in an envelope on which Whitman has written “photograph P.D.” On the back of the photograph, Whitman has written “taken July 5, 1868 / M. P. Rice, Photog., / 520 Pennsylvania Ave. / Washington D.C.” Doyle, of course, was a former Confederate soldier who became a horsecar driver in Washington; he met Whitman in 1865, and they were close companions for the next eight years. The two most familiar photographs of Doyle are of him and Whitman together: one where they are seated facing each other (see *WWQR*, 4 [Fall/Winter 1986–1987], 1860s, #27), and one where they are next to each other (1860s, #28). Both of these were also taken by M. P. Rice in Washington, and all three of the photos appear to have been taken within a few months of each other. A later photo of Doyle, taken when he was fifty-seven, has appeared in several Whitman-related publications, including Henry Bryan Binns, *A Life of Walt Whitman* (London: Methuen, 1905), facing page 233. The well-trimmed figure in conservative suit and tie in that photo contrasts with the hirsute younger figure here.

*The University of Iowa*

ED FOLSOM