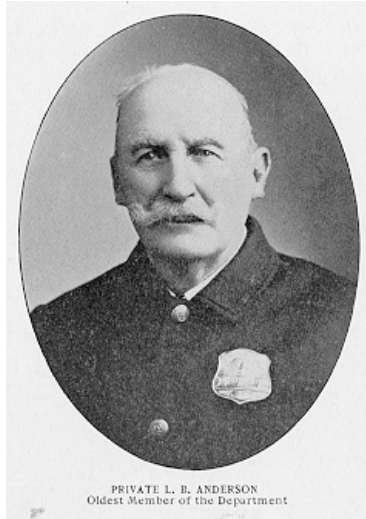


Lingan B. Anderson

(1826 - 30 Aug 1920)

Anderson. Monday, August 30 at 4 a.m., Lingan B. Anderson in the 95th year of his age. Funeral from his late residence 1528 W street southeast, Wednesday 2 p.m. Relatives and friends invited.



The Evening Star, September 16, 1908, p. 2

**Policeman Number One Quits
Private Anderson First and Oldest Member of Force
Has Enough After Long and Useful Career --
Board to Pass on Application**

Private Lingan B. Anderson, the oldest member of the metropolitan police force, who for the past twelve years or more has done duty at the District building, has applied to the Commissioners, through Maj. Sylvester, for retirement because of failing health.

The police retiring board will hold a meeting at police headquarters Friday. The application of Private Anderson will be considered. What pension, if any, shall be granted to him will also be determined.

Anderson was born in Maryland, October 8, 1825, and was a gardener by trade. He served three months in the Union army, and September 13, 1861, was sworn in as a policeman in the District of

Columbia. Of 170 men sworn in at that time, he is now the only one remaining on the force.

He was given badge No. 1, which he has since retained.

Appointed to duty at the first precinct station, he served there until transferred to the fifth precinct. For a number of years he was detailed at the Government Hospital for the Insane.

He was promoted to class 2 November 1, 1892 and to class 3 July 3, 1906.

While doing duty at the fifth precinct, which covered the territory of Uniontown, now Anacostia, Anderson, with Private W.T. Anderson, on the night of May 4, 1878, arrested Richard Harris, colored, who the previous night had violently assaulted Miss Gertrude Christmond near her mother's home in Uniontown.

Lieut. Noonan, in charge of the fifth precinct, at that time wrote a communication to Maj. Thomas P. Morgan, superintendent of police, commending the efficiency of the two policemen in making the capture.

Anderson's home is at 328 W street, Anacostia, where he lives with his family. He has reached such an old age that he feels it would better serve his health if he were to retire from service. Friends have urged him to round out the half-century of police service, which he has so nearly completed.

His record as a policeman has been without a blemish.

The Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C., 1908, p. 46

Only Surviving Member of the Original Metropolitan Police Force of 1861

Lingan B. Anderson, for the past fourteen years stationed at the District Building as one of the police detail to guard that building, enjoys the unique distinction of being the oldest active member of the force with the longest continuous service, and is the only surviving member of the Metropolitan Police force as it was originally organized in 1861. He is the veteran of the force, an octogenarian, past 83 years of age, and possesses to a remarkable degree for a man of his years his mental and physical

facilities, that enables him to nightly perform the police duties to which he is assigned. His police badge is No. 1. Probably no other man connected with the police departments of any of the cities of the country can claim such long and continuous service and remaining on duty at his advanced age.

Private Anderson was born in Prince George county, Maryland in 1825. At the age of 8 years he came to this city with his parents, and has been a resident of Washington ever since, covering a period of three-quarters of a century. He was educated in private schools of this city, there being no public schools here when he was a boy. In 1850 he was married to Miss Susan Griffith, of this city. Mrs. Anderson died in 1875. By this marriage there were twelve children, seven of them surviving. They are Mrs. Fred Butler, of Anacostia; L.G. Anderson, Harry Anderson and Samuel Anderson, connected with the administration of St. Elizabeth's Asylum; Mrs. Laura G. Proctor, a widowed daughter; Miss Constanche Anderson and Miss Annie Anderson, residing with their father at his home, 328 Jefferson street, Anacostia.

Private Anderson at the outbreak of the Civil War enlisted in the Slemmer Guards, commanded by Captain Henry Knight, District of Columbia Volunteers, and did ninety days' service with that command in protection of the National Capital. He was honorably discharged at the end of his enlistment. September 12, 1861, when the Metropolitan Police force was organized, he joined that organization, then commanded by Major Webb. He was sworn in by Silas J. Bowen, a clerk of one of the Senate committees and a member of the Board of Police Commissioners, in the Senate wing of the Capitol. He was assigned as a private to Anacostia, then the first precinct, where he remained as a mounted officer for twenty-five years--the officers at that station during that period being mounted. After twenty-five years' service mounted he was dismounted and placed on duty at the same precinct as a private on foot and did duty there until 1894, when he was detailed to duty at the District Building. His continuous service on the Metropolitan Police force covers a period of twenty-five years mounted at Anacostia, 1861 to 1886; dismounted at the same station eight years, 1886 to 1894, and fourteen years at the District Building, 1894 to 1908, or a total of forty-seven years' continuous service.

Private Anderson is one of the veteran members of the Order of Odd Fellows, having joined that fraternity over fifty years ago. He is connected with Union Lodge, No. 11, I.O.O.F. He is also a member of General John A. Logan Post, No. 13, Grand Army of the Republic.

Notwithstanding his long service on the force, Private Anderson never held an official position in the service. However, his record is free from blemish of any character. He has performed efficient service and enjoys the confidence and respect of his official superiors from the Commissioners down to the lowest commissioned officer. Among the older members of the force, including the privates, he is personally known and respected.

The Evening Star, September 1, 1920

Ex-Policeman is Dead

L.B. Anderson Served 47 Years on "Force"

Lingan B. Anderson, member of the metropolitan police force for forty-seven years, died Monday at his home, 1528 W street southeast. He was ninety-four years and eleven months old.

Mr. Anderson was born in Prince George's county, Md., and came to this city when but a small boy. He had lived here ever since. He was retired from the police department at the age of eighty-two. He was a member of Union Lodge, No. 11, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, for sixty-five years. He attended the Methodist Church in Anacostia, D.C.

Surviving him are three sons, Ligman, Samuel and Harry Anderson, and four daughters, Miss Constantia Anderson, Miss Annie Anderson, Mrs. Laura Proctor and Mrs. Nellie Butler.

Funeral services were held this afternoon at his residence. Interment was in Congressional cemetery.