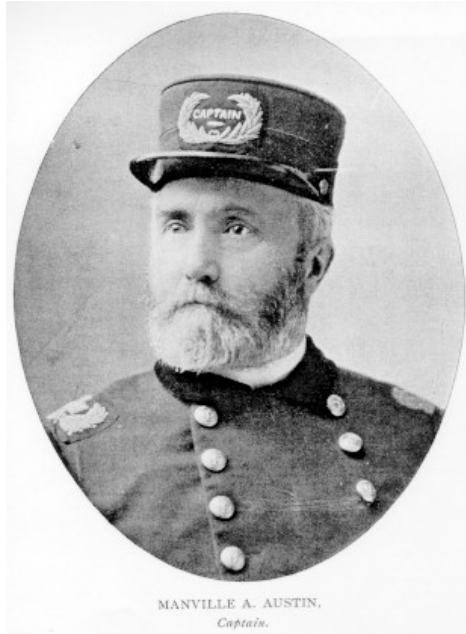


## Manville Augustus Austin (11 Oct 1840 – 14 Feb 1911)

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**Austin.** On Tuesday, February 14, 1911 at 11 p.m. at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Daniel Pfeiffer, Hamlin, Kansas, Capt. Manville A. Austin, metropolitan police force (retired) in his 71st year. Funeral from the residence of his son V.G. Austin, 71 Bryant street n.w., Monday, February 20 at 2 p.m. Friends and relatives invited.



*The Evening Star, June 13, 1901*

### **Captain Austin to Retire Files Application With Chief of Police Department His Continuous Service of More Than 35 Years--Points in His Record**

Manville A. Austin, captain and assistant superintendent of the metropolitan police force, has asked to be retired, after a continuous service of more than 35 years. It was stated several weeks ago that the captain contemplated such action, but it was not until yesterday that the application was actually made. Major Sylvester, superintendent of the department, was not surprised when informed of Capt. Austin's request, but he regrets very much that he is to be deprived of the services of an officer who has served the department so faithfully during the long period mentioned.

Capt. Austin's health has been failing for several months, and there seems to be no question about the recommendation of the board of surgeons in the case. The amount of pension to be allowed him will be determined upon by the Commissioners and Major Sylvester. Under the law \$100 a month is the maximum amount of pension, and in consideration of Capt. Austin's long and faithful services his friends think he should receive that sum.

During his term of service Capt. Austin has filled every office in the police department creditably, and has received many unsolicited promotions. In the early days he did duty in what was then known as "Swampoodle," and on one occasion, when he was acting sergeant, he succeeded, with the assistance of a few officers, in dispersing a crowd of men who were armed with every conceivable weapon. It was the day after the election of Sayles J. Bowen as mayor. The men had been told of a proposed invasion on part of a gang of colored men from "Crow Hill." and in anticipation of the visit certain parties in the other sections had armed themselves and a riot had started when the police appeared upon the scene. It was through the action of Capt. Austin that the members of the police force were armed with revolvers.

### *Distinguished Service*

About 1878, when Isaac Cohen, a labor agitator, was organizing crowds of men to parade the streets and terrorize workmen and merchants, the authorities experienced some trouble in preventing outbreaks. Judges and other officials were unable to find any law upon which to act. The men were camped on a hill near North Capitol and M streets and day after day they paraded the thoroughfares, ringing a big bell and calling upon merchants for assistance. One morning the mixed crowd moved down 7th street, stopping men employed on public works and causing all kinds of trouble. Captain Austin, who was then lieutenant of the first precinct, went out with fourteen policemen, and upon his order to

"charge," the officers used the clubs in a manner that caused the breaking of the lines of the agitator and the trouble was at an end.

At the time Austin was made lieutenant of this precinct he was charged with the duty of breaking up gambling joints and stopping the illegal sale of liquor on Sundays. Both these tasks he accomplished, only at the peril of his life. Captain Austin has figured in many daring and exciting events in the history of the police department, and in severing his connection with the force an able officer will be lost.

*The Washington Post, August 6, 1901, p. 10*

### **Presentation to Capt. Austin**

#### **Retired Police Veteran Receives Purse of \$125 from Old Comrades**

As a token of appreciation on the part of the members of the police force, Capt. M.A. Austin, retired, was presented with a purse containing \$125 in gold yesterday morning in the office of Maj. Sylvester at police headquarters. Capt. Austin was retired July 1 at his own request, after long service. His former fellow-officers decided to manifest their appreciation of his services in a substantial manner, and Lieuts. Amiss and Daley, of the First and Ninth precincts, respectively, were appointed a committee to receive subscriptions.

The money came in very quickly, and in a short time the officers found that they had over a hundred dollars. Capt. Austin was requested to report to Maj. Sylvester yesterday morning, and he hurried to headquarters from his home on Capitol Hill. When he entered the office he found every captain and lieutenant of the force assembled. Before he could greet them all Maj. Sylvester stepped forward, and in a characteristic speech presented the astonished veteran with a purse containing the gold coins.

Capt. Austin was taken by surprise, but he expressed his appreciation of the gift and the motives which inspired it in a brief speech.

*The Evening Star, February 16, 1911, p. 16*

### **Funeral of Capt. Austin**

#### **Services Will Be Held Sunday at the Home of His Son**

Funeral services for Capt. M.A. Austin, retired, of the police department of the District of Columbia, who died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Daniel Pfeiffer, at Hamlin Kan., Tuesday night, will be held at the home of his son, V.G. Austin, 71 Bryant street northwest, at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Interment will be made in Congressional cemetery.

The body will arrive here at 2:10 o'clock Saturday afternoon, accompanied by the widow and a daughter, Miss Emma Austin, who with Capt. Austin were making a visit to the married daughter's home.

Capt. Austin during his service on the police force, from his appointment in 1866 until his retirement some five years ago, served in every capacity on the force. Upon his retirement he went to Woodside, Md., to live.

His widow, three daughters Mrs. Pfeiffer of Hamlin, Kan. Mrs. R.K. Whitford and Miss Emma Austin, a son, V.G. Austin, and a sister, Mrs. J. Orville Johnson, all of this city, survive him; also four grandchildren.

**The Evening Star, March 13, 1911, p. 16**

### **Will of Manville A. Austin**

#### **Country Home to Wife During Lifetime - Bequests to Children**

The will of Manville A. Austin retired police captain child, February 13, 1907, was filed today for probate. His country home, known as Rockledge in Montgomery County, Md. Is left to his wife Julia O. Austin, for life, and to her is given absolutely the personal property. Premises 107 5th street northeast is to be sold and out of the proceeds Rockledge is to be put in repair and the remainder goes to the widow. On the death of the wife, Rockledge is to be sold and the proceeds distributed, 3/10 to his daughter, Emma A. Austin; 2/10 to his daughter, Mamie A. Pfeiffer; 2/10 to his daughter, Julia R. Whitford; 2/10 to his son, V.G. Austin and 1/10 to his grandson, Manville H. Austin. The widow is named as executrix.