

George Kossuth Burns

(16 Aug 1849 - 18 May 1861)

The Evening Star, May 20, 1861

Distressing Death

Saturday afternoon last, the eldest son of Mr. George Burns, of this city, aged twelve years, who had been riding on an omnibus in Fourteenth street, jumped suddenly off, and before he could get off the street another omnibus, close behind, run against him, knocking him down, and the wheels passed over the lower part of the body, inflicting fatal injury. He died at 12 o'clock that night, after lingering up to that hour in great suffering. Yesterday morning, the driver of the omnibus (John Lane) was arrested and taken before Justice Donn, who held an examination into the case. The evidence showed that the lad was riding behind the first omnibus on the steps with two others, when he jumped off, and in an instant was under the horses of the second one, before the driver had time to pull them up. All the witnesses agreed in holding the driver blameless in all, except the single circumstance that he did not stop to see what harm had been done. Lane appeared very much distressed at the accident, and said that he saw the boy fall or jump off, and before he could possibly pull up his horses they were upon him. He looked over the side of the coach, and seeing the lad on his feet and the other boys coming up to him, concluded that the omnibus had not touched him, but that he had passed under the axles, and was not hurt. He was held for further examination.