

## Parke Ruff Davis

( - 31 Mar 1889)

---

**Davis.** Suddenly at 11:30 a.m., March 31, 1889, Parke R., son of Madison and Virginia Ruff Davis aged 18 years. The funeral will take place from the residence of his parents, 316 A street s.e. Tuesday April 2, 1889 at 3 p.m. Strictly private.

*The Evening Star, April 2, 1889*

### **In Memoriam**

Just approaching the threshold, as it seemed, of a useful, honorable, upright manhood, Paul R. Davis, at the age of 18, was last Sunday suddenly called to the bosom of his Maker. When apparent convalescence, following a brief, though serious illness, was filling home with sunshine, the mortal stroke came with the abruptness of a thunder-clap. A devoted mother, momentarily and with cheerful words leaving her cherished charge, is recalled by a sudden fall, and in a few minutes finds herself alone with the dead semblance of an idolized son. A father, leaving home with buoyant, thankful heart, is speedily met at the street corner with the news that the joy and pride of his life has been struck down.

To the parents thus bereaved, and to others near akin, a sorrow has come in the presence of which human sympathy seems cold and out of place. Human wisdom can compound no "sweet oblivious antidote" for grief like this. Even superhuman Power, while it may and will in time bind up these wounded hearts, can never repress the ever-present longing for "the touch of a vanished hand and the sound of a voice that is still." But this longing will be softened and assuaged by the precious recollection of the pure character of this bright, brave boy, who lived his life of filial devotion under the chastening influence of a calm premonition (not a fearful foreboding), confided months ago to a few, that for him death was not far away. The memory of his brief but lovely career will "smell sweet and blossom in the dust."

B.