

Charles Wheeler Denison

(11 Nov 1809 – 14 Nov 1881)

The Evening Star, November 15, 1881

Death of Rev. C.W. Denison

Rev. Charles Wheeler Denison died last evening about 7 o'clock, at his residence, 1323 Q street, in the 70th year of his age. Sunday morning Mr. Denison was stricken with apoplexy. He had another attack last evening at 7 o'clock and expired a few minutes afterward. Mr. Denison was born at Stonington, Conn., November 5th, 1812, and his father, captain of a merchant vessel dying when he was a small child, an aunt raised him. Mr. Denison in 1850 married Miss Mary Andrews, who survives him, and they had one son, Charles W., who now resides in Connecticut. The deceased became a Methodist, and was an exhorter in the Richmond-street church, Boston. Afterwards he took charge of the Seamen's Bethel, of that city, after which he accepted the pastorate of a Baptist church in Milwaukee. He was appointed consul to Demerara in 1852 and returned to this country in 1856. He was then for some years a clerk in the Interior department, which position he resigned to establish the New National Era with Fred. Douglass. During the war he was a chaplain in the navy, and of late years was in the Treasury Department. He was prominent in nearly all the local temperance organizations, and was also a member of Pentalpha Lodge and Mt. Vernon Chapter of Masons. One of his last requests was to be buried by the Masons, and it is probable that his funeral will take place from Christ Church, Navy Yard, of which Rev. C.D. Andrews is the rector.

Appleton's Encyclopedia

DENISON, Charles Wheeler, author, born in New London, Connecticut, 11 November 1809; died 14 November 1881. Before he was of age he edited a newspaper in his native town. He afterward became a clergyman, edited the "Emancipator," the first antislavery journal published in New York, and took part in other similar publications. In 1853 he was U. S. consul in British Guiana. He spent some time among the operatives of Lancashire, speaking in behalf of the National cause during the American civil war, and in 1867 edited an American paper in London, being at the same time pastor of Grove Road chapel, Victoria park. During the last two years of the war he served as post chaplain in Winchester, Virginia, and as hospital chaplain in Washington. He published "The American Village and other Poems" (Boston, 1845) "Paul St. Clair," a temperance story; "Out at Sea," poems (London, 1867); "Antonio, the Italian Boy" (Boston, 1873) "The Child Hunters," relating to the abuses of the pardon system (Philadelphia, 1877) and a series of biographies published during the war, including "The Tanner Boy" (Grant); "The Bobbin Boy" (Banks); and "Winfield ; the Lawyer's Son " (Hancock).