

## Daniel J. Flynn

( - 15 Sep 1874)

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*The Evening Star, September 17, 1874*

### **The Body of Daniel J. Flynn Found in the Eastern Branch**

Mr. Daniel J. Flynn, a clerk in the Land Office, on Monday last attended the Mexican Veterans' excursion to Marshall Hall, and on returning to the city was last seen alive about midnight on Monday night at Christman's restaurant, from when he started for his home, in Uniontown, where his wife and family reside. He did not reach home, however, nor was he seen alive afterwards. This morning, about 8 ½ o'clock, Mr. Frank Payne, clerk for Mr. Wm. Guinand, wood and coal dealer, at the foot of 3d street southeast, discovered a body floating off the wharf, and Mr. Guinand had it brought in, when it was discovered to be the body of Mr. Flynn. Sergeant Pierce took charge of the remains, and placing Officer Loane in charge, notified the family. Dr. J.P. Hartigan, acting coroner, viewed the body and ordered its removal to the 8th precinct station. There was found on the body his watch and chain; the watch stopped at 1:03 o'clock, showing probably the hour he fell into the water. There was also his seal ring on his finger, and a pocket book in his pockets containing some small change, as also some private papers, which would tend to show that if there was any foul play at all, it was not for the valuables upon his person. The body was much swollen and disfigured by bruises, but these may have been caused by floating against the rocks. Owing to some suspicions being expressed by his friends (including some members of Franklin Lodge, No. 2, Knights of Pythias, of which he was a member,) Dr. Hartigan determined to make a post mortem examination and ordered a jury to be summoned for this afternoon. Mr. Kennedy, secretary of the Mexican Veterans' Association, said he was talking with the deceased on the trip up the Potomac, and he was perfectly sober.

*The Evening Star, September 18, 1874*

### **The Drowning of Mr. D.J. Flynn**

#### **The Coroner's Inquest**

Yesterday afternoon, Dr. J.F. Hartigan, acting coroner, held an inquest at the eighth precinct station on the body of Mr. D.J. Flynn, which was found in the Eastern Branch yesterday morning, as stated in the STAR last evening. Mr. George Brown was the foreman of the jury. Mr. Victor Beyer testified that as he was coming over the Maryland bridge on Monday night with a wagon load of vegetables he met two men who turned their heads so as to prevent their faces being seen. Messrs. Hancock, Vickers, and Murdock, shipkeepers on the U.S. vessels at the navy yard, testified to hearing a splash in the water on Tuesday morning about one o'clock, and from the noise judged the body must have struck the water at full length.

Geo. Dent testified that he was drunk on Monday night and laid down near the city end of the bridge; it was between 12 and 1 o'clock, as he thought, when he saw two men or boys walk on the bridge, and when they got about twenty-five yards out one attempted to throw the other overboard; heard the splash in the water, but thought the party who went overboard got ashore.

Mrs. McClary, residing at the corner of 8th and M streets southeast, testified that she heard three men coming down 8th street about 12:45 o'clock on Tuesday morning. They stopped at the corner and commenced talking about lodges, grips, etc.; two of the men turned back and went up 8th street, and one remained at the corner. After a short time some other man came and took the one on the corner away towards the bridge.

W.H. Mockabee testified that he met deceased about 12 o'clock on Monday night at Christman's restaurant; had some conversation with him, and they drank together. John Soper testified to being with Mockabee at the time.

Dr. Hartigan stated that he had made an examination of the body, and that it presented no marks of violence, and that he was satisfied that the deceased made no efforts to save himself after he got in the water; the he was insensible from drink or the concussion of the fall, and was drowned before reason returned.

The jury returned a verdict: "That the deceased, Daniel J. Flynn, came to his death between the hours of 12 and 2 o'clock a.m., September 15, 1874, from accidental drowning near the Navy Yard bridge, city of Washington."

The deceased was a native of Dublin, Ireland, was about 33 years of age, and a clerk in the General Land Office. He was a member of Franklin Lodge, Knights of Pythias, and leaves a wife and three children residing in Uniontown. His funeral will take place this afternoon.

The Evening Star, September 19, 1874

The funeral of Mr. Daniel J. Flynn, who was drowned in the Eastern branch on Monday night took place from his late residence in Uniontown, yesterday afternoon and was attended by a large number of friends, including many of his fellow clerks from the General Land Office and Franklin Lodge No. 2, Knights of Pythias in citizens dress and without music (by request of the family). The funeral services were conducted by Rev. A.B. Atkins of St. Johns P.E. Church, Georgetown and Rev. Arthur Steel of St. Mark's Church, Capitol Hill. At the grave in Congressional Cemetery, Mr. Richard Emmons of Franklin Lodge, read the burial service of the Pythian order.