Edward Franklin

(- 10 Nov 1911)

The Evening Star, November 11, 1911, p. 12 Drowned From Oyster Boat Search Being Made for the Body of Edward Franklin

Members of the crew of the police boat proceeded to the vicinity of Marshall Hall today to drag for the body of Edward Franklin who was drowned last night from the bugeye Bessie Ford. Thomas Sabins, captain of the boat, telegraphed from Fort Washington a report of the drowning and asked that the police search for the body. He explained that a buoy had been left to indicate the place where the drowning occurred.

Franklin who was about forty-three years old, lived in Riley court southwest and was well known along the river front. He was recently employed by Capt. Robert Knott, owner of the oyster boat named and yesterday he started for the lower Potomac.

The Evening Star, April 16, 1912, p. 14

Body of Drowned Man Identified By Police

Proves to Be That of Edward Franklin, Lost From Boat Last November

The body of Edward Franklin, drowned from an oyster boat in the Potomac river November 10 of last year was found this morning by the crew of the mine planter, Royal P. Frank. Identification was established by tattoo marks on the arm of the corpse which answered the description given the police when the drowning occurred.

Franklin, a white man, and about forty-four years of age, had his home in Raleigh court. He was taken on as one of the crew on the oyster boat Bessie Ford, Capt. Bob Knott, for a trip after oysters in Wicomico river last fall. He was lost overboard on the way to the oyster grounds.

The crew of the Bessie Ford hunted for the body, but was unable to locate it. A buoy was set at the place where he went overboard. In the vicinity the police boat afterward dragged the river without success.

The body was recovered this morning by the mine planter's crew and towed to the wharf at Fort Hunt. The authorities at the army post notified Washington. The police boat went after and brought hack the corpse.

Photographer Sanberg bared the arms and revealed the marks in India ink. They were immediately recognized as answering the description of Franklin.