

## William Stephens Inch

( - 8 Nov 1839)

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**Inch.** On Thursday evening last, William Stephens Inch, in the 22d year of his age. The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully requested to attend his funeral tomorrow (Sunday) afternoon at 2 o'clock from the residence of his father, Philip Inch, Navy Yard.

*The Huntress, November 16, 1839*

Madam: Will you have the goodness to give place to the following Obituary notice of the late lamented Wm. Inch, of the Navy Yard.

The funeral took place on Sunday, 10th inst. and was attended by a large concourse of the citizens.

The procession formed about 3 o'clock, the Anacostia Fire Company to which Mr. I, belonged, taking the right. Next followed the pall-bearers, bearing the deceased. Next the mourners, and lastly the citizens, all deeply sympathizing with the afflicted relatives. The funeral sermon was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Bean, which was eloquent and impressive, and a prayer was offered up at the grave.

Respectfully,

A Friend to the Deceased

[We sympathize deeply with the afflicted parents of the deceased, who was an amiable young man, and well known to us. It is a reproach to the Surgical Department of the Navy (as we understand they were called in,) that they could not, or did not save this man, whom we understand died from loss of blood from a wound in the hand, occasioned from the bursting of a gun.

These are hopeful sprigs to be Pensioned upon the Government. We trust Dr. Lawrence will have the matter investigated!--at the seat of Government, too, Shame.]

*The Huntress, November 23, 1839*

Mr. Inch--The Deceased

It gives us much pleasure to contradict the report of the treatment of this worthy young man, who died at the residence of his father, near the Navy Yard, on the 8th inst., from a wound in the hand, as mentioned in our last paper.

We have since heard the correct story from the young man's father, who exonerates the surgeons of the Navy Yard from all blame. It appears the young man was alone in the woods when he was wounded by the bursting of a gun, and nearly bled to death--alternately walking and fainting, until he was accidentally found by a lady, who brought him to his father's in a cart.

The surgeons, under the direction of Dr. McWilliams, an old and successful practitioner, dressed the wound, and he continued doing well for eleven days--but leaving his room to walk about, contrary to the surgeons' instructions, the wound commenced bleeding afresh. Dr. Hall was called in and stopped the bleeding. But the patient was too weak to sustain the operation--was seized with spasms and died. Mr. Inch, the father, is quite a respectable man, and has no doubt given a true statement of the facts.