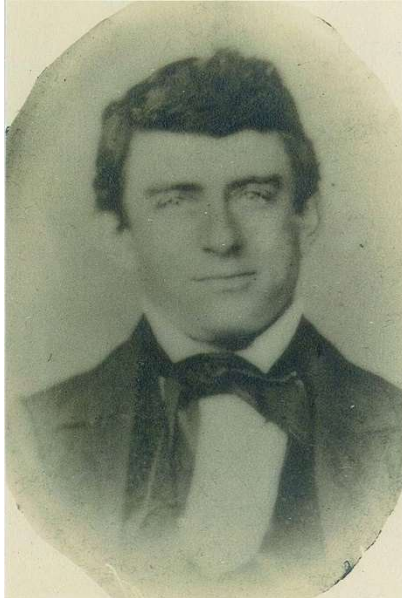


Reeve Lewis

(7 Nov 1812 - 24 Jun 1858)

Lewis. On the 24th instant, from the effects of a wound inflicted by the hand of a ruffian on the night of the 27th of March, Reeve Lewis, aged 46 years. The funeral will take place tomorrow (Saturday) June 26th, at 10 o'clock a.m.



The Evening Star, June 25, 1858, p. 3

Dead -- Mr. Reeve Lewis, who was shot on Capitol Hill last March, died yesterday afternoon from the wounds received on that occasion. The ruffians, who it is alleged committed the foul deed which has terminated so fatally, will now have to be tried for a grave offence indeed. Among all the outrages which have disgraced our city during the last twelve months the infamy of this assassination stands out as the most ruthless and cowardly. It is to be hoped that such an example will be made, as villains of all grades will tremble at for many a long day to come. The deceased was a native of Philadelphia, and moved to Alexandria, Va., twenty years ago, where he resided some eight years and was highly esteemed by all who knew him for his moral worth. Twelve years ago he removed to this city, where he has resided since. His wife died about six weeks ago from the effects of a paralytic shock, and his seven orphan children are now left to struggle through the world without parental guidance.

Mr. L.'s funeral has been postponed until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

The Evening Star, June 26, 1858, p. 3

The ball that killed Reeve Lewis was taken from the deceased yesterday by several physicians, who held a post mortem examination over the remains. It is a leaden ball of conical shape, and the size generally used in the pocket Colt's revolver. It had penetrated the hip bone at the joint, and a large piece of the joint was broken and completely detached from its place. Portions of the bone were imbedded in the flesh, and also had adhered to the ball so firmly that they were not removed by the operation of extracting it.

The Evening Star, July 6, 1858

The late Reeve Lewis, who died in consequence of a pistol-shot wound, received while walking with Mr. Entwistle, on Capitol Hill, as we recently record, left a family of young and helpless children. They are now fatherless and motherless. We are happy to learn that exertions have been set on foot whereby this bereaved family may be taken care of. A subscription has been handsomely commenced, and can be extended by application to James Adams, Esq., of the Bank of Washington.

The Evening Star, March 29, 1858

Lawlessness Rampant!

Saturday night, the lawless gangs now organized in this city were out in full force, armed to the teeth, and for want of opportunities to come in contact with each other, they attacked harmless, inoffensive persons, without regard to age, sex or color, firing their guns and pistols at dwellings, etc., etc.

In the vicinity of Judge Douglas' residence and Wendell's printing office, at 11 o'clock, a gang formed and attacked dwellings and persons, fortunately doing no material damage.

Another gang formed near the fire on Third st., and ordered citizens who were going thither to assist, to turn back. One young man, named Lewis Keck, was ordered back; he started to run, when a shot was fired at him, the ball passing through his coat sleeve. Another, who ran down with a bucket, was ordered away, and, not moving so rapidly as the rowdies wished, one of them stepped out and presented a pistol, and to give an earnest of their villainous purposes, fired the ball between his feet!

The Metropolitan Hook and Ladder arrived near the fire with their apparatus, and were ordered to halt and go back, and they had to comply.

About half past 11 o'clock on the same night, as Mr. Reeve Lewis, master armorer at the Arsenal, and Mr. Isaac Entwistle; who is engaged in the heating department of the Capitol extension, were passing the corner of North A st. and First street west, they were suddenly assailed, without a word of warning, by two assassins. Lewis was knocked down and shot in the thigh, the ball entering some four inches, where it still remains; Entwistle received three balls upon his person--the first striking the ribs over the region of the heart, and providentially glancing from the bone. The other two balls entered the hip, where they yet remain, and he is considered to be in a most critical condition.

The Capitol police, hearing the cries of Messrs. Entwistle and Lewis, went to their aid and assisted them to their homes.

This murderous assault upon two sober, quiet citizens, has created much feeling among the residents upon Capitol Hill, and it will be seen that they have offered a reward of \$250 for the apprehension of the assassins.

Last night a number of random shots were fired. A young man named Frazier, while passing along the street near Wendell's printing office, received a shot in the face, slightly wounding him.

A young man named Franklin was attacked Saturday night on the avenue, and stabbed in the arm. He said his offence was simply denying that he was a "Swyper." So we go.

The Evening Star, April 5, 1858

The Assassination Case

Capt. Klopfer and Officer McKenry on Saturday night arrested Charles Barrett, alias Squirly, and Henry Williams, both Baltimoreans, on charge of being the parties concerned in the attempt to assassinate Messrs. Isaac Entwistle and Reeve Lewis, on Capitol Hill, on the 27th ult. The examination took place before Justice Donn at the Central Guard house, and during it some curious developments were made. Carrico, the principal witness, is a watchman on the beat at the foot of the Capitol and in the neighborhood of the old Railroad Depot. He, it appears, saw the attack upon Messrs. Entwistle and Lewis, and saw Barrett fire at Entwistle. As a ruse to lull the suspicions of Barrett and compass his arrest, his confederate, Williams, was on Thursday night put on duty as a special police officer, under the joint resolution of the Councils passed the Monday previous.

The arrangements of the police having been completed, Captain Klopfer notified the Captain of the Guard, and he retained Williams for "special duty," and sent for Carrico.

Barrett, alias Squirly, who had been arrested, was then placed in the criminal dock for trial, in view of his thunderstruck companion, who was also jerked up for trial.

Carrico was then called upon to give his testimony, but so intimidated was he by the appearance of the desperate gang of Barrett's associates who accompanied him to the guard house that he refused to give testimony.

Capt. Mills remarked that it was a pretty state of things, when an officer, who had always been regarded as fearless, was afraid to give in testimony.

Carrico replied that he had a wife and children, who loved and depended upon him, and he was not quite ready to die and leave them.

A commitment to send him to jail for contempt of court was made out, and he was about being taken thither, when, the crowd having somewhat dispersed, he signified to Capt. Klopfer his reconsideration of his purpose not to testify. He accordingly gave evidence fastening the shooting upon the parties in custody. Afterwards he was placed upon a different beat, his former post being in the midst of Barrett and Williams' confederates.

The prisoners were held for further hearing, and yesterday they were fully committed for court.

The credit for the arrangements for the arrest of Barrett and Williams is due to Chief of Police Klopfer, and in carrying them out he was very efficiently aided by Officer McKenry, who, we may take this occasion to say, has on various other occasions shown himself a courageous and efficient officer.

The Evening Star, July 16, 1858

Mr. Isaac Entwistle. We are informed by a brother of this gentleman that some time before he was shot in company with the late Mr. Reeve Lewis, he received a letter signed

Regulators, alias Status Hose

stating that in case he failed to discharge some of the workmen employed under him in the Navy Yard and employ others in their stead, his life would be taken.

Note: Charles H. Barrett was convicted of the murder of Reeve Lewis and sentenced to death. The day before his scheduled execution (Nov. 5, 1858) his sentence was commuted, by President Buchanan, to life in prison on the argument that the murder was not premeditated.

The Evening Star, March 21, 1861

Escape of Prisoners From the Penitentiary

This morning, between 3 and 5 o'clock, two notorious convicts, well known in this community, made their escape from the Penitentiary. They are "Wrangy" Jones--who had nearly served out a term for assault and battery with intent to kill an unfortunate woman, his sweetheart--and "Squirley" Barret, in for life for the murder of Mr. Reeve Lewis. They were turned out at 3 o'clock, to bake the prison bread, and embraced an opportunity to wrench a hook from the chimney place, to which they attached a sort of rope which they hastily made by tearing the bread cloths into strips, and, going to the wall which overlooks the marsh, threw their hook upon the parapet, where it caught, and they were thus enabled to pull themselves over and make good their escape.