

William F. Magill

(-28 May 1888)

Magill. Suddenly, on Monday morning, May 28, 1888, a few minutes after 12 o'clock, William Frank, youngest child of Hannah J. and the late William A. Magill, aged 13 years 10 months. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend his funeral from his late residence, 1013 Maryland avenue southwest, Wednesday, May 30, at 4 o'clock p.m.

The Evening Star, May 28, 1888

A Shocking Sight

A Boy's Frightful Death on the Railroad Witnessed by Many People

A shocking sight was witnessed this afternoon by many persons living on Maryland avenue, between 9th and 13th streets. The mangled body of Willie McGill, a boy, was dragged for some distance by a freight train in full view of many people. The unfortunate youth who lived at No. 1013 Maryland avenue, attended school in the Bradley building. At noon today, when the children were dismissed for recess, Willie started home to dinner. He cut through a lot between 12th and 13th streets and attempted to jump on the freight train and then jump off in front of his house. He missed his footing or slipped in some way and fell head foremost to the ground. His clothing caught in the wheels and he was dragged along Maryland avenue, beside the train past his mother's home, until the train stopped east of 9th street. A number of ladies who saw the sight screamed, and one man was so overcome that he made a rush for the train which was in motion to save the boy. When the train stopped the body was removed to the Baltimore and Potomac freight depot, where Dr. Boarman, the railroad company's physician, sewed up some of the terrible cuts made by the wheels. The boy's neck was broken, and one side of his face was completely worn off and the back of his head was badly mashed. His abdomen was cut open in several places. The clothing was torn almost complete from his body. His body was later removed to an undertaking establishment.