

Alfred Pearce Mathews

(- 24 Sep 1863)

The Evening Star, September 25, 1863

Melancholy Accident

A melancholy accident occurred yesterday afternoon on the gunboat Wyandank, by which Acting Master's Mate Alfred P. Mathews of this city, was instantly killed. It appears that the quarter gunner, Thomas Seeger, was engaged in cleaning a revolver, when, by some means as yet unexplained, one of the barrels was discharged, the ball entering the right breast of Mr. Mathews, and, it is supposed, cut the main artery of the heart, as he bled profusely and died without uttering a word. Mr. M. has been in the navy since the breaking out of the rebellion, and has spent most of his time in the Potomac Flotilla, among the officers and men of which he was deservedly popular. He was well known throughout this city, and he leaves a large number of friends to mourn his loss. The accident occurred when the boat was off Chickamoxsin, and immediately the flags were displayed at half-mast, and the boat returned to the Navy Yard, arriving here this morning.

The Evening Star, Sept. 28, 1863

Funeral

The funeral of the late Alfred Pearce Mathews, Acting Master's Mate on the Wyandank, who was accidentally killed on Thursday last, took place yesterday afternoon from the residence of Mr. C.A. Sears, H street, and was attended by a large concourse of relatives and friends, among whom were several officers of the Potomac Flotilla. The services were conducted by Rev. D. Evans Reese, of the Methodist Protestant Church, assisted by Rev. Oliver Cox. The remains were interred in the Congressional Cemetery. The following Master's Mates acted as pall-bearers:--E Gallindo and C.R. Jones, of the Eutaw; H.C. Fuller, schr. Adolph Huego; G.H. Patchke and E.K. Holland, Commodore Reed; R. Robinson, Yankee; G.H. Marks and S.W. Ward, schr. Mathew Vasser.