

David N. Russell

(1 Jun 1830 - 19 Apr 1902)

The Evening Star, Monday, April 21, 1902

Death of David N. Russell

David N. Russell, a well-known resident 11th street southeast, died at his home, 712 11th street southeast, Saturday last in the seventy-second year of his age. He was born in the north of Ireland, of Scotch-Irish parents, June 1, 1830. At the age of seven years he came to this country with his parents and they settled in Philadelphia, where he attended the public schools and served an apprenticeship at the machine business. He went to Lancaster, Pa., at the time the locomotive works were first start, in 1853 or 1854, and remained in the employ of the company and of its successors the Norrises, until after the breaking out of the rebellion, when he came to Washington at the request of Captain (afterward rear admiral) Dahlgren, and was employed three years at the navy yard on ordnance.

For the past thirty-eight successive years he had been a faithful employee, as engineer and machinist, in the Washington navy yard. He helped to build and was the engineer on the first engine that ran from Philadelphia to Memphis, Tenn. He was made a Mason in Lodge No. 43 July 11, 1855; was elected junior warden in 1867, and worshipful master in 1868. He was a pallbearer at the funeral of the late ex-President James Buchanan and was also the one chosen to place upon his casket the apron and sword, emblems of the order. He was a member of Chapter No. 43, Royal Arch Masons; of Goodwin Council, No. 19, R. and S.M. and of Lancaster Commandery, No. 13, K.T. He had been an Odd Fellow also for many years and was, at the time of his death, a member in good standing of Union Lodge, No. 11, I.O.O.F. His wife, one son and three daughters, the latter all grown, survive him. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock, from Trinity M.E. Church, corner 5th and C streets southeast.