

Albert William Stepper (- 16 Jul 1893)

The Evening Star, July 17, 1893

Another Drowning

Albert Stepper Loses His Life at Quantico While Fishing

Albert Stepper, a fireman, on the Baltimore and Potomac railroad, was drowned at Quantico yesterday afternoon. The sad intelligence was brought here and conveyed to his wife at her home, No. 714 9th street southwest, last evening. Mr. Stepper was twenty-six years old and had a wife and two children.

Yesterday morning he was invited to go on a fishing trip with John Dempsey and a friend named Johnson. Before going he asked his wife's advice, and as he had been sick she thought the trip would do him good, and advised him to go. He kissed his wife and little ones goodbye, and after promising to bring home some crabs to one of the little children he started. The party reached Quantico in safety and secured a boat in which they spent the day fishing, intending to return home at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. When the party was ready to start Stepper did not have the crabs for his child. The boat was not the best in the world, and only two of them, Stepper and one of the others, ventured in it. There was a high wind at the time and every appearance of a storm. This made the boatmen more anxious to reach the shore in a hurry, and in making the effort the boat upset and the occupants went in the water. The other man was rescued by someone on the river and Stepper started to swim ashore. He had made a good effort, but the wind was so strong that he was blown into the channel and nothing more was seen of him.

An effort was made to find his body, but without avail. Today the search was renewed. His wife and two little ones are left in poor circumstances. The heart-broken woman was seated in the front room of her home when a Star reporter called there this afternoon. She said she heard the sad news last night, but today had heard no further particulars.

The deceased she said had been a good husband and father. He was always kind to the children, and now that he is dead she does not know what she will do.