Augustus T. Stewart

(-29 Jul 1863)

The Evening Star, July 30, 1863

Sad Accident

Yesterday evening, about five or six o'clock, while a train of burden cars from the wharf was standing on the curve, at the corner of Sixth street and Maryland avenue, Augustus Stewart, a boy between 12 and 14 years of age, (son of Mr. Richard Stewart, Superintendent of Public Buildings,) started to walk across the track just as the train began to move, and he was caught by the cowcatcher of the locomotive, and thrown across the track, the wheels of the cars passing over his left ankle, and severing his foot from the leg, and passing also over the right leg of the boy, tearing the flesh off the calf of the leg in a horrible manner, and inflicting such severe and painful injuries that death ensued about three hours after the accident.

The suffering boy was taken to his home, nearby, and Drs. Willet, May, Leiberman and Croggon were speedily in attendance, but their services were of no avail. It was at one time proposed to amputate the right leg, but upon administering the chloroform, the sufferer was found to be sinking so fast that the operation was considered useless, and therefore it was not performed.

The testimony of eyewitnesses as to the cause of the distressing occurrence is conflicting--some alleging that the train was started without warning, and others asserting positively that the engine bell was rung continuously.