Frederick D. Stuart, Jr.

(-12 May 1872)

The Evening Star, May 15, 1872

Reported Murder of Fred. Stuart, Jr.

Information was received here this morning from Vandalia, Ill., that the body of a man supposed to be Fred. Stuart, formerly of the U.S. navy, was found in the suburbs of that city a few days ago, and it was supposed he had been murdered. The letter was received by an officer of the navy, and the father of the deceased, Mr. F.D. Stuart, of this city, was apprised of the fact, and has telegraphed for particulars. Mr. Stuart, Jr., was an engineer in the navy during the war, serving for a time on the dispatch steamer Ella, of the Potomac flotilla, and for several years was engineer on the steamer Arrow, plying between Washington and Mount Vernon. He left this city last week on his way to Texas to join a surveying expedition. His father and family are in great distress, and have the sympathy of a host of friends in their affliction.

The Evening Star, May 20, 1872

A Melancholy Mission

Mr. Fred. D. Stuart returned to this city from Vandalia, Ill., this morning, with the body of his son, Fred. D., and had the same conveyed to Congressional cemetery, where it will be privately buried tomorrow. The rumor that he had been murdered was without foundation, as it was established that he died of apoplexy. He was on his way to northwestern Texas, in company with a geological surveying party. He was 34 years of age, and leaves a widow to mourn his loss, but no children. His has been an eventful life for one so young. As long ago as 1853 he went to sea as a master's mate in the U.S. North Pacific exploring expedition. When the war broke out he entered the navy as an engineer, and served as such until it ended. Subsequently he was attached to the Stonewall, which was sold to the Japanese government, and in the capacity of engineer, accompanied that vessel part of the way to Japan. More recently he was employed in the line of his profession as engineer of the steamer Arrow, plying between this city and Mount Vernon. He was a man of affectionate disposition and of remarkable social qualities, and for this reason was a universal favorite with all who knew him. His father (who is well known in this community) and his family have the sympathies of a large class of our citizens.