

## Peter Taltavull

(1825 – 8 Apr 1881)

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**Taltavull.** On the 8th of April 1881, Peter Taltavull, aged 55 years. Funeral from his late residence, No. 723, 8th street southeast, Sunday, the 10th inst. at 3 o'clock p.m. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

*The Evening Star, April 11, 1881*

Mr. Peter Taltavull, a well known resident of East Washington, who died last Friday, was buried yesterday from his late residence on 8th street between G and H streets southeast. Mr. Taltavull was 55 years of age at the time of his death, and had resided since his early boyhood near the Washington Navy Yard. For over a fourth of a century he was a member of the Marine band, was a fine performer on many instruments and one of the best soloists on the French horn in the country. He will be pleasantly remembered by many of our music-loving citizens. He had many friends throughout the city. He leaves a family of six sons and three daughters.

*Forman, Stephen M., A Guide to Civil War Washington, Washington, DC: Elliott & Clark Publishing, 1995.*

Taltavull owned the Star Saloon next door to Ford's Theatre. He testified that he had served John Wilkes Booth a drink about ten minutes before Booth shot President Lincoln. Booth usually drank brandy, but Taltavull said that Booth drank whiskey and water before he left the saloon.