

William Rogers Taylor (1811 - 14 Apr 1889)

Taylor. At his residence, "The Portland," Washington D.C., on Sunday, April 14, 1889, Rear Admiral William Rogers Taylor, U.S. Navy. Funeral services at St. Johns Church, H and 16th street on Wednesday, 17th instant at 2 p.m.

The Evening Star, Monday, April 15, 1889

Admiral Taylor Dead

A Short Sketch of His Eventful Career



Admiral Wm. Rogers Taylor (retired) died last night, in his seventy-eighth year, at his apartments at the Portland. His funeral will take place from St. John's church Wednesday at 2 o'clock. He was born November 7, 1811 in Rhode Island, and on the 1st of April, 1828, was appointed a midshipman in the navy. He served in the war with Mexico on board the old St. Mary's as a lieutenant, and was present during the siege of Vera Cruz by Gen. Scott, being in command of a gun in the naval battery. In 1836, when the sloop-of-war Peacock ran ashore on the Island of Madeira, Midshipman Taylor was sent to Muscat in command of a cutter, to convey the diplomatic agent of this country to that place with some treaties in his charge. It was a perilous sea voyage of nearly five months duration, attended with peril from bad weather and from the Arab pirates, some of whom chased the cutter with her brave little commander for several hours. Upon his arrival at Muscat the Imam placed a sloop of war under his command to render aid to the threatened Peacock. He saw service during the civil war, being senior officer off Charleston in January 1863, when two rebel rams attacked the squadron, and engaged one of them with the Housatonic. He was present as fleet captain under Admiral Dahlgren during all the operations against Morris Island, and was in battle with Forts Wagner and Sumter on board the monitor Catskill on the 10th of July, 1863, and again on board the Montauk on the 18th. Captain Taylor was in command of the Juanita during the engagements with Fort Fisher on the 24th and 25th of December, 1864. Since the war he has been detailed upon several important duties, and was at one time in command of the Pacific station. He was promoted to the various grades as follows: Passed midshipman in 1834, lieutenant in 1840, commander in 1855, captain in 1866, rear admiral in 1871, and retired November 7, 1873. He last duty was in command of the South Atlantic station.

The Evening Star, April 18, 1889

Funerals. Rear Admiral Taylor's funeral took place yesterday afternoon from St. John's church. Rev. Dr. Leohard officiated. The pall-bearers were Gen.s. Schofield and Schenck and Admirals Temple, Steedman, Selfridge, Bryson, Lee, and Almy. The interment was at Congressional cemetery.