

James W. Thompson

(- 9 Sep 1867)

The Evening Star, September 10, 1867

Sad Case

About 9 o'clock last night, Mr. James W. Thompson, draw tender at this end of the Long Bridge, was knocked overboard by the train bound for Alexandria and drowned. No person was witness to the transaction, but as fragments of the lamp which he usually carried at night to see if all was right were found scattered about the track this morning it is highly probable that he stood there too long on the approach of the train, and was caught up by the cow-catcher and thrown over. He was rather hard of hearing, and had before been warned of the danger of lingering on the track while the train was coming. Severe bruises were visible about his face, eyes and ears, which show that the collision with the train was severe, and in all probability had killed him before he reached the water. Mr. Thompson was a man of about fifty years, and of sober, faithful principles. He leaves a wife and one child to mourn their loss. He had only been employed on the bridge one month.

This morning Coroner Woodwrd held an inquest over the body, but nothing was elicited beyond what is stated above.