

James Welch

(- 20 Nov 1866)

The Evening Star, December 5, 1866

Recovery of the Body of Mr. James Welch.

Yesterday afternoon, the body of Mr. James Welch, of Lafayette Lodge of Masons, and Columbia Commandery, Knights Templar, of this city, was found in the slip at the foot of Gay street, in Baltimore. The fact of his disappearance on the evening on the 20th ult. from the Front street Theater, Baltimore, where a banquet was given to the visiting Masons on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the new temple, was noticed first in the Star, and a few days after the return of the Masons the members of his lodge and commandery took measures to make a thorough search for him. King David's Lodge of Baltimore took the matter in hand, and at the suggestion of members of Lafayette Lodge, Master C. Tickner employed parties to drag the docks for the body. The new Police Commissioners, (Messrs. Young and Valiant) Marshal Carmichael, and the police generally, and detectives Houck and Wallis, of that city, as also some of our detectives, seconded the efforts of the fraternity to ferret out the matter. As soon as opportunity offered, Mr. N.D. Larner, W. Master of Lafayette Lodge of this city, dispatched Mr. J.A.W. Clarvoe to Baltimore to cooperate with Mr. Davis, a friend and roommate of the deceased, in searching for the remains. Men were employed at \$3 per day to dredge the basin and docks, with an additional reward of \$50 for the recovery of the body. Yesterday, as above stated, the body was found, it having nothing on but a grey undershirt. Except the face being slightly discolored, the body appeared to have been in the water but a few days. Mr. N.D. Larner, W.M., and Messrs. McGroffy, Andrews, Fuller and Flowers, of Lafayette Lodge, were in Baltimore, and were taken in charge by the members of the order, who turned over the remains to them. An inquest was held by Coroner Sparklin, and a verdict of accidental drowning rendered. Dr. Stevenson made a post mortem examination last night, but elicited no new facts. Notwithstanding the verdict, there appears to be something mysterious connected with this death, and the police of Baltimore will doubtless do everything to clear it up. The remains were brought to the city this morning, and taken to Mr. Buchly's establishment. The members of the order meet tonight to make arrangements for the funeral tomorrow. The deceased was only twenty-three years of age, and came out here during the war with a Pennsylvania regiment. He was wounded at Antietam, and was subsequently appointed to a clerkship in the War Department.

The Evening Star, November 30, 1866

Missing

Mr. James Welch, a clerk in the Adjutant General's Office, and a member of the Columbia Commandery of Knights Templar, has been missing since Tuesday night week. Mr. Welch, accompanied the Masons of this city to Baltimore to take part in the celebration of that day, and was with the Knights at the banquet in Front Street Theater. The last seen of him by his friends, he was in company with a person in regalia leaving the theater. His numerous friends here are anxious to hear of him, and are apprehensive that he may have been foully dealt with. Notwithstanding the most strenuous efforts have been made to discover his whereabouts, thus far the smallest clue has not been obtained.

The Evening Star, April 11, 1867

The Supposed Murderers of Knight Templar James Welsh.

The Gorsuch brothers, charged with the murder in Baltimore of Knight Templar James Welsh, of Washington, on November 20th last, were brought out on a writ of habeas corpus before Judge Crain, of the Court of Appeals in Baltimore yesterday, and were remanded for the action of the grand jury.