

Name	Birth/Death	Age	Range/Site
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Mead, Arthur Habacuc	b. 2 Jan 1869 - d. 9 May 1915	46 yrs.	R68/182
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The Evening Star, Monday, 10 May, p. 7

Mead. On Sunday, May 9, 1915, at the residence of his sister, Deborah E. Clark, 508 D street southeast, Arthur H. Mead, son of the late James H. and Julia Mead. Funeral from the above residence, thence to St. Peter's Church where mass will be said on Tuesday, May 11, at 9 a.m.

Mead, Bertha	b. 22 Mar 1867 - d. 12 Oct 1868	1 yr. 7 mos.	R68/182
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The Evening Star, Tuesday, October 13, 1868, p.4

Mead. On the 12th instant, Bertha Mead, the youngest daughter of James H and Julia Mead. Aged 19 months.

Mead, Charles	b. 9 Jan 1841 - d. 10 Sep 1897	56 yrs.	R95/369
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The Evening Star, September 11, 1897

Died By His Own Hand

Sick and Despondent, Charles Mead, Veteran Fireman,

Commits Suicide

Mind Probably Unbalanced by Suffering--

Member of the Force for Quarter of a Century

Charles Mead, whose long service in the fire department had impaired his health, and whose mind was probably affected, ended his life last night at his home, No. 447 I street northwest, by cutting his throat with a razor.

The unfortunate man, who was about 55 years old, had served on engines and trucks for nearly thirty years, and in all the department there was not a more trusted or a braver fireman. He had done service at almost every big fire in this city for a quarter of a century, but during recent months his health declined, and he had been confined to his room some little time, an almost helpless invalid. To increase both his mental and physical suffering, he was fast losing his hearing and he seemed to fully realize that in a short time he would become entirely helpless. Death was to him preferable to this condition of affairs. While it is stated he had expressed such preference, he never hinted an intention to take his own life.

Because of his long and faithful service, Chief Parris had put him on the watch roll of his company, track D, and this really amounted to pensioning him. While on this roll he really had no work to do, and was able to remain at home each night. Even this easy position did not have the effect of restoring his health, and recently he has been attended by Dr. Mayfield, one of the surgeons of the police and fire departments.

Could Not Respond

A friend of the fireman's called last night and spent some time with the despondent patient. Mead conversed but little and his illness seemed to be preying upon his mind very much.

When the visitor got ready to leave Mrs. Mead accompanied him to the front door. Just about this time an alarm of fire was sounded, and the ringing of the bells of the fire engines, as they went along Massachusetts avenue, were heard by the sick man. But he was unable to leave his home and respond to the alarm. The noise of the engines called to his mind more clearly the fact that he had answered his last alarm, and getting out of bed he went to the bureau and took his razor from the drawer. Standing there, perhaps looking in the glass, he used the sharp weapon and made an ugly wound, which extended almost from ear to ear. His wife, standing near the front door at the time, did not hear the noise caused by the falling of her husband, probably because of the noise made by the moving engines. When Mead had used the weapon he fell to the floor, his head striking on a stool, and then he rolled to the corner. It was in this position that Mrs. Mead found him when she returned to the sick room. There was a pool of blood on the floor, and the long, gaping wound satisfied her that there was not the slightest hope that he would live, if he were not already dead.

Shock to the Wife

Mrs. Mead had never before experienced so severe a nervous shock, but she managed to call a neighbor and tell him what had happened. The neighbor responded without delay and found that life was extinct. Chief Parris was sent for, and visited the house as soon as he returned from a fire. Policeman Wannell was also summoned, and made a report of the sad affair to the coroner.

Coroner Carr called at the house and made an investigation. From the circumstances he concluded that an inquest was not necessary, and gave a death certificate.

It is the opinion of friends of the dead man that his mind had become impaired by reason of sickness, and that he did not realize what he was doing.

Funeral Arrangements

The funeral of the dead fireman will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. A detail of thirty-two firemen, under Assistant Chief Belt, will escort the body to Congressional Cemetery. The services will be conducted by the Rev. Chapman.

The Evening Star, September 13, 1897

Fireman Mead's Funeral

The funeral services over the body of Fireman Charles Mead, who committed suicide, as told in The Star, were held at his late home, No. 447 I street northwest, yesterday afternoon. The Rev. Chapman officiated, and a number of firemen and members of the Knights of the Golden Eagle, of which deceased was a member, were in attendance.

On the way to Congressional cemetery three engine houses were passed, and at each one the firemen were lined up on the pavement as a mark of respect to their dead comrade. At the cemetery the body was placed in the receiving vault, and was interred this afternoon.

Mead, Edward William d. 11 Feb 1893 70 yrs. **R22/192**

The Evening Star, Monday, February 13, 1893, p. 5

Mead. On Saturday, February 11, 1893, at 12 o'clock m., Edward Mead, aged 70 years. Funeral notice hereafter.

Mead. On Saturday, February 11, 1893, at 12:30 at his daughter's residence, Fannie E. Overby, 730 6th St., southeast, Edward Mead, aged seventy years. Funeral Tuesday, February 14, 2 p.m. Friends and relatives invited.

Mead, Elizabeth Filius b. 1 Mar 1811 - d. 18 Jul 1893 81 yrs. **R87/236**

The Evening Star, Monday, July 17, 1893, p.5

Mead. On Monday, July 17, 1893, at 6:45 a.m. Elizabeth Mead, widow of the late John W. Mead, in the eighty-second year of her age. Funeral Wednesday, July 19, at 8:30 a.m. from her son's residence, 477 I street northwest, thence to St. Patrick's Church where requiem mass will be said. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend

Mead, Francis S. d. 8 Jan 1904 **R87/236**

Mead. Suddenly, January 8, 1904 at 8 o'clock a.m. at Georgetown University Hospital, Frances S. Mead. Remains at residence of his sister, Mrs. George W. Perkins, 1600 New Jersey n.w.

The Evening Star, January 8, 1904

Suicide By Shooting

Francis S. Mead, Canal Employee Takes His Own Life

No One Able to Assign a Cause--Deceased Was a Bachelor and Lived Alone

Francis S. Mead, harbormaster of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, committed suicide early this morning by shooting himself in the head. He had previously attempted self-destruction by inhaling illuminating gas.

The fatal shot was fired shortly before 7 o'clock and Mead died at the Georgetown University Hospital about two hours later. The dead was committed in a small room on the third floor of the Farmers and Mechanics Bank building at the corner of 31st and M streets northwest.

Mead was a morose temperament. His actions of late, while somewhat unusual, did not excite the suspicions of his friends. He was a bachelor, and practically lived the life of a recluse. For the past few days he spent but little time at his boarding house, 1219 32d street, and has not been regular in taking his meals at the place. He has also remained away from home several nights. He arose early yesterday morning and left his home without eating his breakfast or telling his landlady, Mrs. Henry, when he might be expected to return.

From what can be learned he attended to his duties as harbormaster yesterday. Nothing is known of his movements after he had completed his duties for the day. He did not, however, spend the night at his, home, but this fact did not cause any uneasiness to Mrs. Henry, as he had remained away all night at intervals previously.

It was stated by Mrs. Henry that Mead had been drinking heavily recently, but no notice was taken of it, as he was a man who attended strictly to his own business. It is understood that he returned to the office of the canal company late last night and slept there. He was seen walking about the third floor of the building at 6:30 o'clock this morning by Mr. William M. Smith, an employee of the Georgetown post office, as the latter was going to his place of employment.

The Discovery Made

Within a half hour thereafter George Patterson, the janitor of the canal company's offices, arrived at the building. The outside door was locked and everything was in proper order. The odor of gas was detected in the hallway, however, and Patterson began an investigation. In the bookkeeping room the gas was discovered to be turned on full force in an unlighted stove, and the fumes were very strong.

After turning off the gas and opening the doors to air the room, Patterson went upstairs to the portion of the building over the bank. In an ante-room adjoining the office of several of the officials of the company the unconscious form of Mead was found. His body was lying on a lounge and his feet rested on the floor.

Upon seeing the revolver on the floor and the blood flowing from the back of Mead's head, Patterson ran into the street and summoned aid. Policemen J.G. Walsh and J.S. Custer of the seventh precinct station were near by and quickly responded. The officers made an examination. They found a hole almost three-quarters of an inch in diameter immediately back of Mead's right ear. The pistol lying on the floor was found to be of .44 caliber, and resembled the bulldog pattern.

Conveyed to Hospital

The patrol of the seventh precinct station was summoned and Mead was conveyed to the Georgetown University Hospital with all possible speed. He was immediately placed on the operating table and the physicians did what they could, though the unfortunate man died shortly after 8 o'clock without regaining consciousness.

Nothing that would throw light on the tragedy was found on Mead's body or in the room in which he fired the fatal shot. No one could be found that would advance a cause for the rash act. Mrs. Henry, his landlady, was at an utter loss to explain the suicide. She stated that Mead had boarded with her for fourteen years. The loss of his mother several years ago, it is thought, preyed on his mind.

Mead was a lifelong employee of the canal company. His father, John W. Mead, who was also employed by the canal company, was killed, May 30, 1877, at the outlet lock through an accident caused by a derangement of the machinery which was used in letting the boats from the canal into the Potomac river. Mead was fifty-four years of age, and is survived by a sister, Mrs. Perkins, and a brother, both of whom reside at 1600 New Jersey avenue northwest.

Mead, Harry B. d. 24 Dec 1949 **R145/260**

The Evening Star, December 26, 1949, p.A-14

Mead, Harry B. On Saturday, December 24, 1949, at Casualty Hospital, Harry B. Mead, husband of the late Ella F. Mead, father of Mrs. Helen M. Longo, and Mrs. Margaret Bowman, brother of Mrs. John I. Scheidemen, stepfather of Mrs. Evelyn V. Johnson and Edward Reed. Prayers at Chambers' Funeral Home, 517 11th st. s.e. on Tuesday, December 27, at 8:30 a.m.; mass at St. Peter's Church at 9 a.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

Mead, James Carroll b. 20 Nov 1886 - d. 10 Oct 1906 19 yrs. **R44/185**

The Evening Star, Thursday, Oct. 11, 1906, p. 5

Mead. Entered into rest October 10, 1906, James Carroll Mead, beloved son of Jos. Elger and Rosa E. Mead in the twentieth year of his age. "Gone but not Forgotten" Funeral from his parents' residence, 405 Harrison St., Anacostia, DC, Friday, October 12, at 2 p.m. Friends and relatives invited.

Mead, James E. b. 23 Nov 1851 - d. 29 Jan 1893 42 yrs. **R68/185**

Washington Post, Monday, January 30, 1893, p.2

Mead. On Sunday, January 29, 1893, at 5:15 a.m., James E. Mead, eldest son of James H. and Julia Mead, and the beloved husband of Sarah Mead, nee Offutt, age forty-two years. Funeral from his late residence, 513 D street southeast, at 9 a.m. Tuesday, January 31, thence to St. Peter's Church. Relatives and friends invited to attend.

Mead, James Habacuc b. Jan 1825 - d. 12 Jan 1903 **R67/183**

The Evening Star, Tuesday, Jan. 13, 1903, p. 5.

Mead. On Monday, January 12, 1903 at 10 o'clock am., James H., beloved husband of Julia Mead, in the 78th year of his age. Funeral from his late residence, 401 6th street southeast, on Wednesday, January 14, at 10:30 a.m. Relatives and friends invited.

NOTE:

James H. Mead was a blacksmith and later an iron railing maker on Capitol Hill. A known example of James' ironwork is one of the two surviving plot fences at Congressional Cemetery. The label on the lovely wrought iron fence reads: J.H. Mead, Maker

Mead, John W.

d. 30 May 1877

R87/236

The Evening Star, Wednesday, May 30, 1877

Frightful Disaster in Georgetown -- The Outlet Lock Gives Way

Mr. J.W. Mead Killed and Two Men Injured

A terrible and fatal accident occurred this morning at 10 o'clock at the new outlet lock, a mile above the Aqueduct bridge, in Georgetown, by which Mr. John W. Mead, assistant harbor master of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, was instantly killed, and two employees -- Sylvester Carroll, aged 17 years, and Michael Reynolds, aged 60 years, were severely if not fatally injured, the former having both legs broken and sustaining an injury to his left arm, and the latter having his right leg crushed below the knee. Carroll resides at Foxhall's place, near Green Springs, and Reynolds at the corner of 1st and Lingan streets, Georgetown.

Particulars of the Accident

The facts in the case, so far as they could be ascertained by our reporter, are as follows: A canal boat loaded with coal was passed into the caisson at this outlet, preparatory to being lowered into the river. The caisson is lowered on a railway and inclined plane at an angle of about thirty degrees, and for counter weight two cars loaded with two hundred and fifty tons of stone are placed on rails each side the caisson. As the caisson, loaded, goes down toward the river these cars ascend. Some slight signs of weakness were noticed in the machinery this morning while the caisson with its boat was being lowered, and the attention of the person in charge of the engine having been called to it, he immediately and suddenly brought the engine to a stop. It is supposed that this sudden stoppage caused an unnatural strain on the ropes, breaking them and precipitating the cars and caisson to the foot of the railways. The boat was not injured, and passed to the river with its occupants in safety. One of the cars in the descent struck Mr. Mead, who was walking behind it in its ascent, and when the ropes broke he had not time to get out of its course. It is supposed that the other sufferers were injured by the ropes, which were of 1 3/4 inch steel wire. The cars were completely demolished, and the entire machinery is more or less injured. Large cog-wheels of cast iron, bolts, rods and bars are scattered over the scene in great confusion.

The Body of Mr. Mead was recovered with difficulty, it being covered by the debris to a depth of four or five feet. His right leg was terribly mangled, and he had a severe cut penetrating the skull. He was injured internally.

Mr. Mead was an old and respected citizen of Capitol Hill, and with his family resided on 6th street, near B, southeast. He was an iron worker by trade, and for the past two or three years had been employed in the canal office at Georgetown and on the Georgetown division of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. He was about 55 years of age, and in old times was active in the volunteer fire department, and was also a member of the old Washington Light Infantry. He represented the fifth ward several times in the board of common council and for many years was assessor of the ward.

Cause of the Accident -- It appears that a safety brake had been removed from the caissons several days since, and for some reason had not been replaced. Two boats passed in safety this morning through the outlet, and no cause is assigned for the accident which overtook the third boat.

The Wounded Men -- Michael Reynolds was sent to Providence Hospital and Sylvester Carroll was taken to his home. Both were attended by Dr. Ritchie. The accident will be a serious drawback to the company, as most of the machinery is completely wrecked.

The Evening Star, May 31, 1877

The Disaster at the Outlet Lock -- Death of Another Victim

Yesterday evening the scene of the Outlet Lock accident, noticed in The Star, was visited by large number of persons. The body of Mr. John W. Mead was taken to the third precinct station house, and Dr. Patterson, the coroner, after viewing it, directed the police to summon a jury to appear this evening. The young man, Sylvester Carroll, was removed to his father's residence, on the Foxall place and attended by Doctors Taylor, Lewis Mackrall, Bowie Taylor, Lewis Ritchie and James Mackall. After consultation it was decided that the only chance for his life lay in the amputation of both legs. One was taken off just above the ankle joint, and the other below the knee joint, but he survived the amputation only about one hour. Michael Reynolds was found to have sustained a compound fracture of the right leg, and severe injuries in the back. He was removed by Sanitary Officer Connell to the Providence hospital, where the amputation of the crushed leg was performed.

The Cause of the Accident

Mr. City, the engineer in charge, gives the following account of the accident. A few minutes before the accident occurred his attention was called by the peculiar motion of the brace between two of the sheaves, (wheels around which is the heavy iron chain works), but could not detect the cause of the trouble. His assistant, seeing his movement, and fearing something was wrong, began gradually to shut off the water, so that there was no sudden stoppage of the engine, nor was the iron rope broken at all, nor is it broken at the present time. Mr. City says he is also prepared to prove that the absence of the safety shoe brake was not the cause of the accident; because the shoe brake was by experiment found entirely inadequate to stop the counter weights if they had a start of only a few feet. It was only of value in case the weight jumped backwards--it was therefore abandoned--and in its stead men with chocks followed the weights, which work two of the men were doing at the time of the accident. It may then be asked why did they not stop the weights? The iron rope which pulls up the caisson, weights, etc., works around three large sheaves, (wheels,) which are fastened by heavy plates in solid masonry. This masonry, which fastened the journal of the wheel, broke first, the canting of that caused the rope to jump to the next smaller wheel, and when the rope struck the smaller wheel it broke it, and tore it away from the masonry. This made a slack rope--the weights then went at full speed beyond the power of the men whose duty it was to chock the weights. The cause then of the accident was either a weak plate in the wheel, which is fastened in the masonry, or a defect in the masonry itself.

Remarkable Presence of Mind

Many have asked, very sensibly, why it was that the canal boat and its occupants in the caisson escaped? It was all owing to the presence of mind of an employee at the lock, Mr. John W. Carroll, who, before the actual occurring of the catastrophe, seemed to know what was coming, and without any orders opened the gate of the caisson, and when the shock came the rebound shoved the boat on safely out into the river. The caisson was much strained and bent. This lock was built by Mr. H.A. Ramsey & Co. The coroner at half-past one o'clock went to the lock, and upon his return an inquest will be held at the station house.

*The Evening Star, Friday, June 1, 1877**The Outlet Lock Disaster -- Death of the Third Victim of the Tragedy*

Michael Reynolds, who was injured by the disaster at the outlet lock in Georgetown on Wednesday, and was taken to Providence hospital for treatment, died there yesterday, making the third victim of the accident.

The Coroner's inquest over the body of Mr. J.W. Mead, who was killed outright by the accident (Sylvester Carroll, the second victim, died Wednesday night) was commenced at 1 o'clock yesterday, at the police station in Georgetown.

The first witness--Mr. Henry W. Denmead, superintendent of the canal company at the lock, testified that he had orders to assist Mr. City; that he turned over all the men at his disposal, and notified them that they were under the orders of Mr. City, who proceeded with the work, and put the first and second boats safely through the lock. The accident occurred on letting the third one through. Witness first noticed the unusual speed of the cables, and he made a remark about it to Mr. Mead, who was with him, and expressed his belief that something was wrong. Mr. Mead stepped on the counter-weight track, and witness caught hold of him and pulled him back to the main track, saying it was the safest place to be. Mr. Mead again stepped on the counter track, when witness again pulled him back, saying at the same time, "for God's sake, stay here." Witness was struck on the finger by a piece of flying material, and turning to see what it was, let go his hold on Mead and lost sight of him; next saw the rope throwing young Carroll against the counter weight, which knocked him down; saw Reynolds struck by the same rope; the counter rope sunk under Carroll, and the accident was all over; believes that the breaking of the keeper was the cause of the accident; as a machinist and mechanic he thought the wheels sufficiently strong; had the keeper been of wrought iron it would have lessened the chances of accident; the breaks had been used, but were taken off; had they been on they would have prevented the accident; the counter weights are about two hundred tons in weight, and the caisson and boat weigh about the same.

Mr. C.W. City, the superintendent of the contractors, testified that he was employed by H.A. Ramsey & Co., and was in charge at the time of the accident; was near the wheels (sheafs) at the time of the accident, and observed that the brace was vibrating more than it had ever done previously; as two journals of the sheaves had broken previously, he naturally looked for similar accidents; the great sudden jar was what caused the accident; had the bases been braced at the bottom the accident might have been avoided; as a machinist, witness considered it necessary to watch those large sheaves closely; on account of accidents having happened he was naturally suspicious; Mr. Ramsey had the contract for the work, but had been told there was nothing to be done without consulting Mr. Hutton, the chief engineer of the canal company; there had been no conflict between Mr. Hutton and witness; he took the brakes off about three weeks ago; Mr. Ramsey was present; it was a perfect Godsend that the brakes were not on; had they been on, the caisson would have been ruined and every one on the boat and caisson would have been injured; the brakes would have ripped out and would not have stopped the counter-weight trucks. Adjourned until this afternoon.

The Evening Star, Saturday, June 2, 1877

The Funeral of John W. Mead, who was killed by the outlet lock accident on Wednesday, took place from his late residence on Capitol Hill yesterday and was attended by an immense concourse of citizens, among them Col. J.G. Berret and other officers, and employees of the C. and O. Canal Co., many of the members of the old Light Infantry and the citizens of East Washington generally. The services were conducted by Rev. John Chester, and the interment was made at Congressional cemetery.

Mead, Joseph Elgar b. 1 Aug 1855 - d. 17 Jan 1911 55 yrs. **R44/183**

The Washington Evening Star, Jan 19, 1911, p.7

Mead. Departed this life Tuesday, January 17, 1911, Joseph Elgar, husband of Rosa E. Mead and son of the late J.H. Mead, aged fifty-five years. Funeral Saturday, January 21, at 9 o'clock from St. Teresa's Church, Anacostia, D.C. Friends and relatives invited.

Mead, Julia d. 13 Feb 1861 7 yrs. 6 mos. **R68/183**

Mead. On Wednesday, 13th instant, Julia, second daughter of James H. and Julia Mead, aged 7 years and 6 months. The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, this (Thursday) afternoon, at 3 o'clock, from the residence of her father, corner D street south and Sixth street east.

Mead, Julia Ann Bailey b. Aug 1828 - d. 20 Oct 1912 **R67/182**

The Evening Star, Mon. & Tues., 21 & 22 Oct., 1912, p. 7

Mead. On Sunday, October 20, 1912, at her residence, 401 6th Street southeast, Julia A., widow of James H. Mead. Funeral Wednesday, October 23, at 8:30 a.m., thence to St. Peter's Church, where requiem mass will be said for the repose of her soul. Interment private. Kindly omit flowers. (Richmond and Lexington, Va., papers please copy.)

Mead, Julia Augusta b. 8 Oct 1800 - d. 4 Dec 1900 **R68/185**

The Evening Star, Wednesday, Dec 4, 1900, p. 5

Mead. On Tuesday, December 4, 1900, Julia, beloved daughter of Sarah Offutt and the late James E. Mead. Funeral from St. Peter's Church Thursday morning, December 6, at 9 o'clock. Interment private. (New York papers please copy)

Mead, Mary V. d. 13 Jun 1899 48 yrs. **R95/369**

Mead. On Tuesday, June 13, 1899 at 3:45 p.m., Mary V. widow of Charles Mead. Funeral from Wesley Chapel, 5th and F streets northwest, Thursday, June 15 at 3 p.m. Interment at Congressional cemetery.

Mead, Millicent Perkins d. 22 Jul 1888 53 yrs. **R45/105**

The Evening Star, Monday, July 23, 1888, p. 3

Mead. On Sunday, July 22, 1888, Millison, beloved wife of John W. Mead, aged 53 years.

May she rest in peace.

Her funeral will take place from her late residence, 120 Tenth street southeast, at 4 o'clock p.m., Tuesday, July 24. Friends and acquaintances invited to attend.

Mead, Richmond d. 16 Sep 1903 50 yrs. **R22/191**

Mead. On Wednesday, September 16, 1903, at 5:45 p.m., Richmond Mead, in the 51st year of his age. Funeral Friday, September 18, at 3 o'clock p.m., from residence of his sister, Mrs. S.E. Overby, 739 6th street southeast.

Mead, Sarah Elizabeth Offutt b. 9 Nov 1852 - d. 17 Feb 1943 90 yrs. **R68/185**

The Evening Star, Thursday, 18 Feb., p. A12

Mead, Sarah E. On Wednesday, February 17, 1943, at the residence of her grandson, Charles J. Foley, 230 Channing st., n.e., Sarah E. Mead, beloved wife of the late James E. Mead. Funeral from the Collins funeral home, 3821 14th st., n.w., on Friday, February 19, at 8:15 a.m. Requiem mass at St. Martin's Church at 8:45 a.m. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Congressional Cemetery.