

Name	Birth/Death	Age	Range/Site
Wrenn, Ann M.	d. 28 Jan 1900	61 yrs.	R131/206
Wrenn. On Sunday, January 28, 1900 at 3:45 o'clock a.m., Maria A., beloved wife of Lysander Wrenn, aged 61 years. Funeral Tuesday morning, January 30 at 10:30 o'clock from her late residence, 118 L street northwest.			
Wrenn, Augusta B.	d. 10 Feb 1903		R131/205
Wrenn. On Thursday, February 10, 1903 at 5:30 a.m., Miss Augusta B. Wrenn. Funeral will take place from her late residence, 426 H street northwest, Thursday, February 12 at 1:30 o'clock p.m.			
Wrenn, Bettie Lee	d. 29 Mar 1900	54 yrs.	R6/93
Wren. On Thursday, March 29, 1900 at 2 o'clock p.m., Bettie Lee Wren, wife of the late John W. Wren and daughter of the late George W. and Catherine Wren. Relatives and friends are requested to attend the funeral from the chapel of J.Wm. Lee, undertaker, 332 Pennsylvania avenue northwest on Sunday, April 1 at 3 o'clock (Fairfax Court House please copy).			
<i>The Evening Star, March 29, 1900</i>			
<i>Charged With Murder</i>			
<i>James Lancton to be Tried For Serious Crime</i>			
<i>Death of Mrs. Wren, Alleged Victim of Assault--</i>			
<i>Autopsy to be Performed</i>			
The charge of assault recently preferred against James Lancton was changed to murder this afternoon. This was done when the police learned from Columbian University Hospital that his alleged victim, Mrs. Bettie Ann Wren, had passed away. She died about 2 o'clock this afternoon. When arrested Lancton was very much under the influence of liquor, and his condition was so serious that he was taken to the Emergency Hospital for treatment. He remained in the hospital just one week before he was able to be taken to the Police Court. This was only two days ago. A charge of simple assault was preferred against him, and he was committed to jail without bail to await the result of the woman's injuries.			
The assault is charged to have occurred the 12th of this month, at the home of Mrs. Wren, No. 634 E street southwest. It was a week later when the police learned that the woman had been badly injured and was likely to die. Then she was removed to the hospital and Lancton was arrested by the officers of the sixth precinct.			
Wanted Her to Marry Him			
Mrs. Wren was employed by an F street pension attorney, with whom Lancton had business. It was during his visits to the attorney's office that he met Miss Wren.			
Then he called at her house to see her and, it is charged, he wanted her to marry him. Because she refused to accept him it is alleged he called at her house and assaulted her. She was in a critical condition when the police removed her to the hospital. Symptoms of paralysis soon developed and later the patient's mind was affected.			
The police received from the hospital, from time to time, an account of her condition, and this afternoon learned of her death.			
While at the hospital the man stated that he was innocent of the charge. He admitted that he was very much in love with the woman, and claimed they were to be married in May.			
Coroner Carr was notified of the death of Mrs. Wren this afternoon. He will probably hold an inquest tomorrow. The prisoner is about fifty-four years old, while Mrs. Wren was nineteen years younger.			
<i>The Evening Star, March 30, 1900</i>			
<i>Committed to Jail</i>			
<i>Lancton Held Responsible for Mrs. Wren's Death</i>			
<i>Verdict of the Coroner's Jury</i>			
<i>Evidence That Defendent Had Threatened Her With Death</i>			
<i>Disclosures by Autopsy</i>			
James Lancton, who has been in custody several days on a charge of having inflicted fatal injuries on Mrs. Bettie Lee Wren, was held for the action of the grand jury today. He was present at the inquest held at the sixth precinct station this morning, having been brought up from jail. Lieut. Hollinberger of the fourth precinct and two of his officers who had made the investigation were also present. Several witnesses were			

examined, none of whom with possibly one exception, had witnessed the alleged assault, charged to have occurred the 12th of the month, at the home of the deceased, No. 634 E street southwest.

The prisoner was represented by Warder Voorhees and W.M. Offley. After the verdict was rendered the prisoner was returned to jail and the body of the deceased was removed from the morgue to Lee's undertaking establishment. The funeral will probably take place tomorrow.

Physician's Testimony

Dr. G.G. Morris, 815 14th street northwest, testified that he was called to see Mrs. Wren Saturday morning following the day she was injured. He found her in a serious condition showing evidences of brain trouble. There was also a man in the room, who was very much under the influence of liquor. Witness was told that Mrs. Wren's sister had complained that the intoxicated man had assaulted her. The man, whom the witness identified as Lancton, left the room and went into the kitchen. Mrs. Wren told him, he said, that the man had assaulted her. When witness ordered the intoxicated man from the house the latter refused to go, saying he was the injured woman's husband. Witness helped him on with his overcoat and saw that he left the house. Witness then informed the police. He got most of his information from a colored woman named King. She told him the assault was committed Monday afternoon, the 12th of the month. When he was called he found a bruise on the woman's head and there was paralysis of the left arm.

Afflicted Sister a Witness

Miss Ellen Wren, an invalid sister of the deceased, appeared before the coroner's jury. She had to be carried on a chair and was deaf and dumb. She motioned with her hand to show how her sister had been beaten about the face and body, and then pointed to the defendant who occupied a chair in the room.

John R. Wheatley, 907 6th street northwest, testified that when he heard about Mrs. Wren's injury he called at her house and found her in bed. She told him she had been beaten and kicked by Lancton. Witness said he had heard Lancton threaten the woman's life on several occasions.

The night of February 20, said witness, Lancton came into the house and said 'I'll cut your throat.' and 'I'll kill you, you ___ ___.' Witness added that he also said 'I'll murder you and I'll poison you.'

Witness said he had boarded at Mrs. Wren's house for seven years. Lancton also lived there, and, said witness, he was a very jealous man. On one occasion, the witness said Lancton ordered him out of the house saying he had married Mrs. Wren, and he wanted to live there alone with her. The prisoner, he said, became acquainted with Mrs. Wren at the office of Mr. B. Stevens, where she was employed. He changed his boarding house after the prisoner told him he was married. Witness mentioned the dates on which the alleged threats were made. On one occasion he threatened to kill both Mrs. Wren and witness, and said: 'If I kill both of you I'll get off, because they'll say I'm crazy.'

Heard Lancton Make Threats

Ida King, colored, testified that she had lived in the Wren family nearly all her life and said she could understand the signs made by the invalid sister. Witness said she heard Lancton threaten to kill Mrs. Wren the day of the alleged assault. He also said in her hearing he would kill Mr. Wheatley. The prisoner said he would commit a double murder if he (Lancton) caught the widow talking to Wheatley. The invalid sister told witness by signs of the alleged assault. Lancton entered the room while the sister was telling her of the affair, and she pointed to him as the man who had committed the assault.

Emily King, an elderly colored woman, testified that Saturday night previous to the alleged assault she went to see Mrs. Wren and Lancton put her out of the house. She thought he was sober at that time. When she heard that Mrs. Wren was ill, Wednesday, she called at the house and found her in bed. The floors were locked and witness crawled through a window. When she got into the house she was told the sick women had been without food for two days and she made some tea for them. Thursday night a man from the office where Mrs. Wren worked called at the house and found that she was sick. He sent the doctor to see her. Lancton had boarded at the house about four months.

Friends for Many Years

Mrs. S.F. Yates, who had been a friend of the Wren family for many years, was called to tell something about the invalid sister. She said she could understand everything the invalid says by signs.

I have known Mrs. Wren for fully fifty years, she said.

Was Mrs. Wren that old? the coroner asked.

Yes sir, she answered.

Mrs. Wren, she said, came of a good family and had lived here all her life.

Mrs. Hetty Hillings testified that she had been an intimate friend of the deceased for many years. She called on her Sunday, March 11, and Mrs. Wren told her that Lancton was jealous of her and was causing her a great deal of annoyance. She told witness that Lancton had threatened to kill her if she did not marry him, and said she felt as if she would like to go away.

Result of the Autopsy

Deputy Coroner Glazebrook testified that he performed an autopsy, on the body of Mrs. Wren at the Columbian University Hospital yesterday afternoon. Witness found no bruises or scars about the body. Upon removing the skull cap he found a tremendous hemorrhage on the left side of the head. The clot had pushed the brain to one side. He thought the hemorrhage had taken place more than a week before he performed the autopsy. The woman's skull was an unusually thick one and was not fractured. He said the woman's death was unquestionably due to the hemorrhage of the brain. There were no evidences of injury on the outside of the head. The vessel that had been ruptured is one that is usually affected in cases of violence. Injury may have been inflicted without making a bruise, or, if there had been a bruise, it had had time to disappear.

This closed the testimony and the case was submitted.

The Evening Star, April 2, 1900, p. 7

Mrs. Wren Buried

Funeral services over the remains of Mrs. Bettie Ann Wren, whose death is attributed to injuries said to have been inflicted by James Lancton, were held yesterday afternoon in the chapel of Lee's undertaking establishment. Rev. Richard P. Williams, rector of Trinity P.E. Church, officiated, assisted by Rev. Ernest Fisher of Hagerstown.

The remains were placed in a vault, and the interment is to be made in Congressional cemetery tomorrow evening.

Wrenn, Lysander	d. 14 Dec 1902	74 yrs.	R131/206
Wrenn. On Sunday, December 14, 1902 at 3 p.m., Lysander Wrenn, 74th year Funeral from residence, 417 2nd street northwest on Tuesday, December 16 at 11 a.m.			

Wrenn, Martha L.	d. 27 Dec 1911	9 mos.	R2/179®
Wrenn. On Wednesday, December 27, 1911 at the family residence, 128 C street n.e., Martha Louise, infant daughter of Herbert and Ellen Wrenn, aged 9 months. Funeral from her late residence, Saturday, December 30 at 3 p.m. (Richmond and Fredericksburg, papers please copy).			

Wrenn, Melvina R.	d. 12 Sep 1898	78 yrs. 2 mos. 12 days	R71/126
Wrenn. Suddenly on Monday, September 12, 1898 at 11 o'clock p.m., Miss Malvina R. Wrenn aged 78 years 2 months and 12 days. Services at her late residence, 1013 8th street southwest, Thursday morning, September 15 at 10 o'clock. Friends and relatives are respectfully invited to attend.			

Wrenn, Rachel V.	d. 31 Aug 1907	27 yrs.	R19/131
Wrenn. Suddenly, on Saturday, August 31, 1907, at 2:30 p.m., Rachel V., beloved wife of Walter Wrenn and daughter of George C. and Katie M. Harris. Funeral from her late residence, 1534 North Capitol street, on Tuesday, September 3, at 1 o'clock.			

The Evening Star, September 3, 1907, p. 5

Funeral of Mrs. Wrenn

Mrs. Rachel V. Wrenn, who was stricken with apoplexy while walking on the street with her husband Saturday afternoon and died shortly afterward was buried this afternoon in the Congressional cemetery. Funeral services were held at 1 o'clock at her late home, 1534 North Capitol street, and were conducted by Rev. William J. Hauck, pastor of the United Brethren Church.

Mrs. Wrenn was the wife of Walter S. Wrenn and daughter of Capt. George C. Harris, chief doorkeeper at the government printing office. She was twenty-seven years of age and was born in this city and educated in the public schools here. Her husband, a nine-year-old daughter, two sisters, Mrs. Isabella Venable and Mrs. Florence Thomas; one brother, Joseph Harris, and her parents survive her.

Wrenn, Walter S.

d. 25 Sep 1912

55 yrs.

R19/131

Wrenn. Suddenly on Wednesday, September 25, 1912, Walter S. Wrenn of 1417 8th street n.w., beloved father of Elsie Wrenn, aged 55 years. Funeral from chapel of Frank Geier's Sons, No. 1113 7th street n.w. on Saturday, September 28 at 2:30 p.m. Interment at Congressional Cemetery.

The Evening Star, September 26, 1912, p. 1

His Death Mystery

No Clue to Injuries of Night Watchman Wrenn

Found Near Chevy Chase

Alden Smoot and Miss Eleanor Morgan Aid in Attempted Rescue

Coroner Will Hold Inquest

Dying Man Picked Up on Connecticut Avenue Far From Scene of His Work

An inquest is to be held by Coroner Nevitt at the District morgue tomorrow morning over the body of Walter S. Wren, a night watchman, of 1412 8th street northwest, who died at the Emergency Hospital last night, after he had been found badly injured, lying in the roadway on Connecticut avenue near Upton street.

Alden Smoot of 2630 Woodley place northwest, about 7 o'clock last night was driving his automobile north along Connecticut avenue when he noticed what appeared to be a body lying in the roadway near the car track. His car has only one seat and he had a companion with him. His first thought was to summon medical aid, and he drove on quickly to the Army and Navy Preparatory School and telephoned to the Emergency Hospital for an ambulance.

While he was at the telephone Miss Eleanor Morgan of Chevy Chase, came along in her automobile and seeing Wren, ordered her chauffeur to pick him up and place him in the car.

Fast Run to Hospital

Miss Morgan's car made a fast run to the hospital and Wren was immediately placed upon the operating table. His injuries were such, however, that the surgeons saw he had but a short time to live. Without regaining consciousness to tell how he received his injuries, he died about an hour after he was picked up.

The police were immediately notified of the finding of Wren and Inspector Boardman, chief of detectives, detailed Detectives Evans and O'Dea to make an investigation. It was a first thought that Wren had been run down by an automobile.

Detective Evans stated today, however, that his investigation led him to believe that Wren was struck by a car of the Chevy Chase line of the Capital Traction Company, about ten minutes before Mr. Smoot found him. It is thought that the watchman stood too near the car tracks and that the car, which extends quite a distance over either side of the track, "sideswiped" him.

Injuries Were Extensive

Wren's entire left side was injured. The left side of his head was cut, three ribs on that side crushed, his left arm and leg were also broken.

The detectives examined the car which passed the place a short time before Wren was found, but there were no marks on it. The motorman and conductor of the car declared that they did not see the man, if he was struck by their car.

Wren had been a night watchman for fifteen years, having for some time patrolled a section of 7th street above New York avenue northwest, which is in the second precinct. His wife died several years ago. They are survived by a sixteen-year-old daughter, Miss Ethel Wren. He left his home about 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon to go on duty. Just why he was out on Connecticut avenue is not known.

Arrangements for the funeral probably will not be completed until after the inquest tomorrow.

The Evening Star, September 27, 1912, p. 15

Killed By Accident

Jury Unable to Fix Responsibility for Walter Wrenn's Death

That he was accidentally struck by a moving vehicle, not identified, was the verdict of a coroner's jury at the morgue today which investigated the cause of the death of Walter S. Wren night watchman, who was found dying in the roadway of Connecticut avenue near Upton street Wednesday night.

The jury heard the testimony of a number of witnesses in the course of its investigation. The motorman and conductor of a street car that had passed the scene a few minutes before Wrenn's body was found were on the stand, but could throw no light on the cause of his injuries.

The verdict says that death was due to the crushing of bones of the chest and internal hemorrhage, believed to have been caused by Wrenn being "struck by some moving vehicle while he was walking along Connecticut avenue near Upton street."