

Prof. Benjamin H. Benton

(– 10 Jun 1883)

The Evening Star, June 14, 1883

The Body of Prof. Benton Found

Yesterday, the Star published an account of the finding of the decomposing remains of a white man on the Virginia side of the river by a colored boy. Beside the body was a silver mounted cane on which was engraved the words "Prof. B.H.B., March 30, 1873." The body was about 100 yards from the Falls Church road. It proved to be the remains of Prof. Benjamin Hyde Benton, a teacher of mathematics, who, as reported in The Star about two weeks ago, disappeared from his home, No. 520 11th street southeast, on the 21st inst. Fears were expressed by his family that he might have committed suicide, as he had several times stated that his dead body would be found sometime on the Virginia shore. The day before he left home a bottle of laudanum was taken from him, and that night he refused to eat his supper, stating that he had eaten all he ever would. He was suffering from some mental aberration. An inquest will be held by the Alexandria authorities.