William E. Biggs

(-21 Feb 1865)

Biggs. On the 21st instant, William E. Biggs, aged 35 years. His friends and acquaintances are invited to attend the funeral at 2 o'clock, Thursday afternoon, from his late residence, corner 11th and M streets east, Navy Yard, without further notice.

The Evening Star, February 22, 1865 Fatal Accident

Yesterday about 11 o'clock, a sad accident occurred in the machinist's department, whereby a workman named Edward Biggs lost his life. He was engaged in oiling the gearing of the machinery, standing on a ladder, and a portion of his clothing catching on the shaft, he was drawn rapidly around it several times, each time some portion of his body striking a beam. The machinery was stopped as soon as possible, when it was found that he had been horribly mangled, both legs broken, as also one arm, beside having his body bruised and his head fractured in several places. He was immediately taken to the dispensary of the yard where Assistant Surgeon O'Bannon amputated the right leg above the knee, and he was removed to his residence on 11th street east, where he died about 12 o'clock last night, retaining his senses until within an hour of his death. The deceased was about 38 years of age, and was a plasterer by trade. He had been at work in the machine shop but about 3 weeks. He leaves a family of a wife and four children, who were entirely dependent upon him for support