

Raphael W. Bryan

(7 Nov 1851 – 22 Jan 1914)

Bryan. On Thursday, January 22, 1914 at 1:05 p.m., Raphael W., beloved husband of the late Annie E. Bryan. Funeral from his late residence, 1024 South Carolina avenue southeast, on Saturday, January 24, at 9 a.m.; thence to St. Peter's Church, where mass will be said at 9:30 o'clock. Relatives and friends invited to attend.

The Evening Star, January 23, 1914, p. 22

Raphael W. Bryan Dead

Was Former Police Sergeant, Retiring About Two Years Ago



Raphael W. Bryan, a former police sergeant, died at his home, 1024 South Carolina avenue southeast, yesterday afternoon. About two years ago he was retired from the force on account of ill health and had been sick since that time.

Bryan was a native of Southeast Washington, and most of his police duty during the thirty-five years he was connected with the force was performed in that section. He was in charge of the police squad at the White House for about ten years. He is survived by two sons and a daughter. His wife died several years ago, it is stated, and only recently a married daughter died. Funeral services will be held at St. Peter's Church, 2d and C streets southeast, tomorrow morning.

The Evening Star, December 31, 1905, part 2, p. 1

Guardians of President's Home

Sergt. Raphael Bryan, the senior sergeant in charge of the White House squad, is the second oldest sergeant, in point of service, on the police force, dividing the honor with Sergt. Slattery of the tenth precinct. In his long service of over twenty years as a sergeant he has always been active and energetic and was selected to take charge of the White House squad seven years ago. The assignment was regarded as a proper recognition of his services to the department. Sergt. Bryan was born on November 7, 1851, in this city, and has spent his life here.

After attending the public schools here he joined the navy in 1863 and was put aboard the U.S.S. Augusta. That boat was employed in the North Atlantic blockading squadron during the civil war and was used to convoy mail steamers and to protect them from privateers. Many an exciting time was known to the men on that ship in that service. In 1871 he was sent to the flagship Congress, under Commodore Green. Their first cruise was to Samina bay, where they did efficient service in a threatening time. After his return he was sent to the navy yard and later during the trouble with Cuba served as paymaster's yeoman aboard the U.S.S. Tallapoosa. He received his discharge about six months later. He is a member of the George G. Meade Post, No. 5, of the G.A.R., and has been prominent in its sessions.

He was appointed to the police force July 20, 1875, and he was first sent to the Bloodfield beat in the fourth precinct. He made many arrests in importance. At that time he made the arrest of a man

named Braxton and two others for breaking into a millinery store on 1st street southwest and cleaning it out of its stock. The property was nearly all recovered through the officer's work. He was shortly afterward sent to the fifth precinct and there he made an excellent record, which finally resulted in promotion.