

(2nd) Lieutenant Glenn Drayton

(War of 1812 Veteran Candidate for St. Paul's Episcopal Church Recognition)

Subject Name: Glenn Drayton

[Disambiguation: "Lieutt. Drayton,"⁽¹⁾ "2nd Lieut. Glenn Drayton"⁽²⁾ and "Glenn Drayton, Esq."⁽²⁾]

Subject Date of Birth: 1786⁽³⁾

Subject Place of Birth: Probably Charleston, South Carolina^(1,2)

Subject Date of Death: Saturday, September 3, 1814^(2,4) or Sunday, September 4, 1814⁽¹⁾

Subject Place of Death: "...in his lodgings in Portsmouth," Virginia⁽²⁾

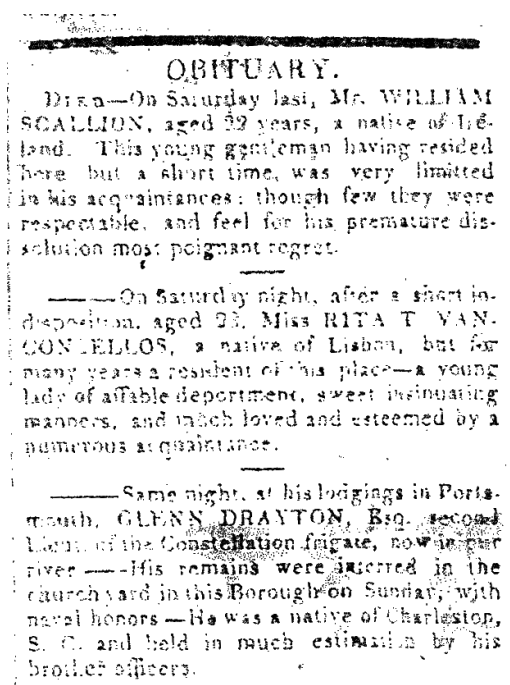
Subject Cause of Death: Unidentified illness of about 9 months⁽¹⁾

Subject Burial: "Church yard at Norfolk with the honors due his rank"⁽¹⁾ "Church yard in this Borough"⁽²⁾

"Norfolk Herald," Tuesday, September 6, 1814: "Second Lieutenant Glenn Drayton"

OBITUARY.

[Died] - Same [Saturday] night, at his lodgings in Portsmouth, GLENN DRAYTON, Esq. second Lieut. of the Constellation frigate, now in our river ---- His remains were interred in the church yard in this Borough on Sunday, with naval honors ---- He was a native of Charleston, S.C. and held in much estimation by his brother officers.



Subject Date of Marriage: None.

Spouse Name: None.

Spouse Date of Birth: None.

Spouse Date of Death: None.

¹ *The Naval War of 1812 - A Documentary History*, Vol. III, 1814-1815 for Chesapeake Bay, Northern Lakes and Pacific Ocean," Michael Crawford, pg 305.

² *Norfolk Herald*, September 6, 1814

³ *American Genealogical-Biographical Index*. Middletown, CT, USA: Godfrey Memorial Library, Vol. 46, pg. 8.

⁴ Obituary, *Norfolk Gazette and Public Ledger*, 1804-1816, pg. 374.

Spouse Place of Death: None.

Spouse Cause of Death: None.

Spouse Burial: None.

Subject War of 1812 Service:

Letter from Captain Charles Gordon of the *Constellation* to Secretary of the Navy Jones: (See below, exact photocopy from book.⁽¹⁾)

Notes: A native of Charleston, South Carolina, Glenn Drayton entered service as a Midshipman in the U.S. Navy on 20 June 1806⁽⁵⁾ and was promoted to Lieutenant while serving on the frigate *Constellation*. During the War of 1812, the *Constellation* was anchored in the Elizabeth River. He died at his lodgings in Portsmouth September 3 or 4, 1814, after nearly nine months of suffering, and was buried with naval honors.

Disposition: Approved. Plaque recommendation: "SECOND LIEUTENANT GLENN DRAYTON (U S NAVY)"

⁵ Edward W. Callahan, ed. *List of Officers of the Navy of the United States and the Marine Corps from 1775 to 1900*. New York: L. R. Hamersly, 1901.

THE NAVAL WAR OF 1812

A Documentary History

Volume III 1814-1815

Chesapeake Bay, Northern Lakes, and Pacific Ocean

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JANUARY 1814-MAY 1815

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As the Genl.² has not force to spare sufficient to throw up his contemplated east work for the protection of the yard; I will undertake to do it in due time you and Capt. Swift³ will assist me with such force as you may have— And in the event of the advance of the enemy on that point alone, part of my force would of course be unoccupied, which would enable me to man any Guns I wanted their— The express of yesterday from Mr Mumroc, officially announced the Departure of the British Army from Maryland, supposing, Baltimore Richmond, or Norfolk to be their next object, consequently we have no more to lose; If therefore you approve my proposition, I will commence tomorrow with all the force I can conveniently spare— Very respectfully Sir yr. obdt. servt.

Chas Gordon

S, DNA, RG45, Cl., 1814, Vol. 6, No. 11 (M125, Roll No. 39). Cassin enclosed his letter in his 16 September 1814 letter to Jones. See p. 307.

1. Forts Nelson and Norfolk were constructed in 1794 opposite each other on the Elizabeth River to defend Norfolk, Portsmouth, and the Gosport Navy Yard.

2. Brigadier General Robert B. Taylor, Virginia militia.

3. Thomas R. Swift was commissioned a captain in the Marine Corps on 18 June 1814.

CAPTAIN CHARLES GORDON TO SECRETARY OF THE NAVY JONES

Constelln. Norfolk 7th. Sept. 1814

Sir,

I am sorry to have to report to you the death of Lieut. Drayton— He has linger'd since last Jany. & died on Sunday last—¹ He was buried in the Church yard at Norfolk with the honors due his rank; The purser² is settling his acct. & collecting his effects, a statement of which will be forward'd to his friends in South Carolina—

While the numerous fleet of the Enemy are engaged in there war of destruction up the Bay, but one (ship of the line)³ is kept on the blockade at the Capes, It would therefore be gratifying to know if it is yr. intention I should embrace the first opportunity to proceede to sea— My Ship is again Victual'd for 5 months with a Crew of near 300 new recruits or, reenlistments, & the remainder of old hands who have 6, 8 & 12 months to serve— I have but 3 Commission'd Lieutts. with 3 other officers (of the next grade) in whom I can have confidence— All the others being very young & totally inexperienced, tho very promising officers—

In consequence of the long indisposition of Capt. Jarbell, & the probability of a formidable attack upon this place before his recovery, I have been under the necessity of placing Lieut. Neale (my 1st. in the Command of the *Hornet*) with one half of the Gun Boats under him and station'd off Crany Island— This leaves me with Lieutts. Saunders & Cassin (both young in Commission, & Mr. Stallings actg.) Midn. Davis my next eldest has charge of one division of Guns, And Mr. Hammersly has the Command of the *Franklin* (Tender) & is to join the Ship or the *Hornet* in the event of an Attack—⁴

My Muster rolls & report of the state & condition of the Force upon this station has been duly prepared agreeable to Yr. orders on that subject,⁵ But I have