

Gedney, Samuel

Gedney, Samuel A.

Born: 16 Oct 1831

Location: New York

Death: 1876*

Location:

Inscription: Capt. S. A. Gedney U. S. Navy

Section: W1G Row 5 Plot 8

Military Data:

U.S. Navy

Captain, Government Transport – "Island City"*

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Census Data:

1860 Census – New York – Westchester Co. – Mamaronek Twp.

Age: 32

Place of Birth: New York



***Note:** the information identifying Samuel Gedney's date of death came from the Carson Daily Index Newspaper, May 30, 1885 under "Roll of Honor at Cemetery Today" – he is listed as "Samuel A. Gedney, Captain Government Transport 'Island City". Died 1876."

I have been unable to locate an obituary that will substantiate this date.

Gedney – some thoughts on military service....

(totally unsubstantiated – just an opinion)

I believe that Sam Gedney was not actually in the Union Navy during the Civil War, but obviously captained one of the many transport steamers that were taken into United States government service, during the war, and used to transport troops, equipment, supplies, etc. It seems almost certain that he was employed by the U.S. government for this purpose, probably because he owned his own vessel. If this was the case then it is almost certain that he was actually employed by the U.S. Department of War, or perhaps even one of the other departments that may have required these vessels to be taken into service.

According to the volume titled *Dictionary of Transports and Combatant Vessels, Steam and Sail, Employed by the Union Army, 1861-1868*, compiled by Charles Dana Gibson and E. Kay Gibson, published 1995, by Ensign Press, Camden, Maine, there were four vessels of that name (*Island City*) employed by the U.S. government. One operated around South Carolina, Georgia and Florida during 1863-1865, another was chartered September 16, 1864 to May 22, 1865 (no area of operations shown), the third operated in expeditions against the Sioux, on the Missouri River, in 1864, and the last one was chartered in 1861, for an unknown period, and was used to transport Confederate prisoners from Boston to Fort Monroe, Virginia.

If Gedney was employed in government service for a lengthy period of time he may have claimed a pension after the war, and if so, there would be ample data shown in these documents, which can be obtained from the National Archives.

There is no Samuel Gedney listed in the volume, *List of Officers of the United States Navy, and of the Marine Corps, 1775-1900*, compiled by Edward Callahan, so I think the fact that he was actually employed by the U.S. government, Department of War, can be safely assumed to be correct.