

Julia M. Darne (- 25 May 1907)

The Evening Star, May 26, 1907, p. 2

Found Dying in Her Room

Mrs. Julia Darne Had Swallowed Carbolic Acid

Coroner Prepares Certificate That Death Was Due to Suicide, But Withholds Same

Mrs. Julia E. Darne, forty years of age, who boarded at the house of Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Kaiser, 607 21st street, died at the Emergency Hospital last night shortly before 12 o'clock, her death being due to carbolic acid poisoning. It is not known if she took the acid with suicidal intent, or if it was swallowed by mistake. Mr. and Mrs. Kaiser, incline to the latter opinion. They had never heard her say a word that would indicate that she had the slightest intention of ending her life, although she was somewhat despondent over the death of her daughter, who died two years ago.

Yesterday being the anniversary of the death of her daughter, Mrs. Darne gave the matter more thought than usual and she seemed somewhat nervous last night when she returned home from her work. She was employed at the glove counter of a department store and was a general favorite among the other employes there. It is stated that she formerly resided near Glymont, Charles county, Md. and that relatives live there now. Mr. and Mrs. Kaiser had become very much attached to the deceased. The latter had only a few friends in this city, it is stated, when she was admitted to the Kaiser household two years ago as a boarder, and she had come to be regarded as one of the family.

Heard Suspicious Noise

Mrs. Darne last night left her place of employment as soon as the store closed and went to her room. When she reached the house she found the members of the family in the parlor. They were enjoying music. During a lull in the entertainment a suspicious noise was heard on the upper floor. Mr. Kaiser went to the door of Mrs. Darne's room and knocked. He received no response, but heard heavy breathing. Fearing something was wrong he sent for Dr. Brecht. Upon the arrival of the physician the door was broken open and the woman was found lying upon the bed dying.

At the suggestion of Dr. Brecht the patient was removed to the Emergency Hospital, where death occurred about the time stated. Miss Anna Darne, the daughter who died, worked in the department store where her mother was employed up to the time of her death. The daughter, it is stated was a consumptive. Mrs. Darne felt the death of her daughter to such a great extent that at times she seemed to suffer from melancholia. She was at her place of employment all day yesterday, however, and nothing was said to the other clerks, so far as could be ascertained last night, about any desire on her part to end her life. At the store she was regarded as a model clerk.

The body was placed in the hospital morgue.

Views of the Coroner

Coroner Nevitt made a partial investigation and prepared a certificate to the effect that death was due to suicide, but he withheld the same pending further inquiry. He says he may conduct an inquest.

In the room occupied by Mrs. Darne was found a two-ounce vial that contained carbolic acid and a tumbler, from which the poison had evidently been swallowed. It is stated that since the death of her daughter two years ago, Mrs. Darne had lost several relatives at short intervals, which had added to her despondency.

Notification of Mrs. Darne's death was sent last night to her brother, C.W. Compton, 306 Vanderbilt avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y., and also to a friend, Mrs. Ella Anderson, at Rockville, Md.

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Interment of Remains

Funeral This Afternoon of Mrs. Julia E. Darne

Coroner Nevitt made an investigation of the death of Mrs. Julia E. Darne, who died at the Emergency Hospital Saturday night after she had swallowed about two ounces of carbolic acid, as stated in the Sunday Star, and gave a certificate of suicide. Friends of the deceased suggested that she had taken the acid by mistake, but the circumstances as related to the coroner indicated that she had taken the dose with suicidal intent.

The body of Mrs. Darne was removed to an undertaking establishment and prepared for burial. Services were conducted at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The interment was in Congressional cemetery.