

Catherine Ellen Duffy

(- 28 Mar 1905)

Duffy. Suddenly on Tuesday, March 28, 1905 at 1356 Princeton street n.e., Nellie Duffy, beloved daughter of Michael and Ella Duffy. Notice of funeral hereafter.

The Evening Star, March 28, 1905

Committed Suicide

Sight of a Funeral Causes Desperation

The sight of a funeral yesterday afternoon in the vicinity of her home, 1335 I street northwest, preyed upon the mind of Catherine Ellen Duffy to such an extent that she committed suicide by taking laudanum. When the young woman saw the carriages on the street she made a remark to a member of her family that indicated she contemplated something out of the ordinary.

"You never can tell who will be the next," she said.

No attention was paid to the remark of the young woman at the time, but this morning her relatives recalled what she had said and realized what she meant. Miss Duffy was a daughter of T.V. Duffy, a grainer. She was twenty years old and was always considered as being demented. After making the remark stated, the young woman went to Price's drug store at 13th and H streets and purchased an ounce of laudanum.

"My little brother cut his eye," was the excuse she gave for making the purchase.

She was given the poison and no further attention was paid to the transaction. At an early hour this morning members of the family discovered that the young woman was sick and when they found she was unconscious they sent for Dr. Johnson Elict. The doctor found symptoms of opium poisoning and proceeded to wash her stomach. Her condition was so serious that he was unable to save her life and she died about 5:30 o'clock. Coroner Nevitt was notified and the facts were so plain that he gave a certificate of death from opium poisoning. The coroner was satisfied that the young woman was demented and so stated in the certificate.