

James D. Gray (- 31 Jul 1900)

The Evening Star, August 1, 1900, p. 12

Took His Own Life

James D. Gray Committed Suicide at Local Hotel

James D. Gray, who committed suicide by drinking chloroform at the Chicago Hotel, on Pennsylvania avenue, yesterday afternoon, as stated in The Star, came here from Philadelphia Monday afternoon with his wife to attend to some business matters. His mission in Philadelphia, it is stated, was to meet his business partner, Samuel A. Williamson. Monday night, after reaching Washington, he rode out as far as Glen Echo with his wife. Yesterday morning he went to the Chicago Hotel, a short distance from where he had registered with his wife.

He talked with Mr. Connors, proprietor of the hotel, and about 3 o'clock in the afternoon informed Mr. Connors that he had but five minutes to live, and requested that his wife be summoned from Made's Hotel. Mrs. Gray was summoned, but her husband died before she reached him.

The deceased was a native of Erie county, Pa. He graduated as a physician from Johns Hopkins University, in Baltimore, but has not practiced his profession for some time. A number of years ago he moved to near Industry, W. Va., where he was interested in a number of business enterprises.

While Dr. Gray had visited this city on business a number of times, he was better known in Baltimore than he was here. In the Monumental City the doctor was a member of the order of Odd Fellows, and members of a local lodge called on the bereaved widow last night and tendered their assistance.

Acting Coroner Glazebrook gave a certificate of death after he had learned of the facts in the case, and the body was taken to the undertaking establishment of J.W. Lee and prepared for burial. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon. The body will be interred in Congressional Cemetery.