John T. Hofmann

(- 29 May 1896)

The Evening Star, May 30, 1896

Suicide of John T. Hofman

Apparently Without Cause He Sent a Bullet Through His Brain

Without the slightest known motive for committing the rash act, John T. Hofman, a well-known saloonkeeper, of 400 9th street southeast, at 3:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon ended his life by sending a bullet from a 38-caliber revolver crashing through his brain. A few moments before the bloody occurrence, Mr. Hofman was engaged in conversation in the bar room with Mr. Edward De Caindry of the government printing office, who boards at the Hofman establishment. The subject under discussion was a summer outing and Mr. Hofman described the plans he had decided upon for the hot weather. Mr. De Caindry then took up a newspaper, and Mr. Hofman retired to an adjoining toilet room and almost immediately two shots rang out. Mr. DeCaindry and several members of the family hastened to the scene and found Mr. Hofman lying on the floor with the blood streaming from his mouth.

The deceased seemed to be in the best of spirits up to the time of his self-destruction. He leaves a wife and six children, one of whom, a daughter, is married. Mr. Hofman was forty-nine years of age. He was of large build and jovial disposition, and had conducted the restaurant and summer garden for a number of years past.

Coroner Hammett decided that the case was clearly a suicide, and the body was then turned over to an undertaker. Funeral services over the remains will be held Monday next.