

Maude Kelly (- 27 Apr 1909)

Kelly. On Tuesday, April 27, 1909, at the Emergency Hospital, Mrs. Maude Kelly. Funeral from Joseph A. Repetti's parlors, 317 Pennsylvania avenue southeast, Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Interment at Congressional cemetery.

The Evening Star, April 26, 1909, p. 1

Shoots Self With Revolver

Mrs. Maud Kelly Uses Weapon While In The Street Surgeons at the Emergency Hospital Say the Patient Is in a Critical Condition

A woman giving her name as Mrs. Maud Kelly, employed as a maid at the Metropolitan Hotel, shot herself in the abdomen with a revolver about 8:15 o'clock this morning while near the intersection of 7th street and Pennsylvania avenue. Surgeons at the Emergency Hospital, where she was taken, do not expect her to recover.

Luther Cooper of 3737 Prospect avenue, who was standing nearby, told the police of the first precinct he noticed the woman step on the lawn of the parking on the south side of the avenue, west of 7th street, and draw something from her coat. Before he realized what was happening the woman had fired the revolver. She fell in a heap on the grass. Cooper with a number of others, ran to her assistance. The ambulance was summoned.

The woman had taken the revolver from a pasteboard box. The weapon was picked up by Cooper, who turned it over to Detective Kleindienst of the first precinct. The woman's pocketbook, which contained \$1.06, several car tickets and a key, a pair of tan gloves and a hair comb, were found on the ground alongside her.

Buys Pistol in Nearby Store

Detectives Mullen and Warren were detailed by Capt. Boardman to make an investigation, and they learned that the woman had purchased the revolver at a hardware store a few minutes before she shot herself. She gave her name at the store as Mrs. E.L. Barnes of 711 M street northwest.

At the Metropolitan Hotel it was stated that Mrs. Kelly had been employed there for the past three weeks, but had not been seen since Thursday night. Her trunk and wearing apparel were found in her room at the hotel. She was formerly employed at the Hotel Gordon, 916 16th street, but it is stated had left there about six weeks ago. She is said to have been married since she left the Gordon Hotel, but the police have been unable to locate her husband.

The surgeons at the hospital say the patient has not made a statement regarding the shooting. Because of her serious condition the detectives have not been allowed to converse with her.

The Evening Star, April 27, 1909, p. 20

Mrs. Annie Kelly Dies

Woman Who Shot Herself While on Street Passes Away

Mrs. Annie Kelly, who shot herself in the stomach yesterday morning while in the vicinity of Pennsylvania avenue and 7th street, died at the Emergency Hospital shortly after 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Detectives Warren and Mullen made an investigation. It was reported yesterday that the

woman had recently married a young man employed at the Capitol, but the latter denied that such was the case. He knew the woman, he said, and had been told by her that she was a "brass widow." Her maiden name, he explained, was Annie Fishburn, although she had been known as Maud Fishburn and Maud Kelly.

The patient was recognized yesterday afternoon at the hospital as the woman who made a desperate effort to kill herself June 25, 1906, at 508 street northwest. At that time she shot herself three times in the chest and was treated at the Emergency Hospital. It is stated that her husband is named John Kelly, but that she had not lived with him recently.

The patient suffered intense pain after inflicting the wound, and begged that she be given relief. She was conscious and able to give her name and tell the hospital nurses that she had been employed at the Metropolitan Hotel.

The police sent a message last evening to Mrs. Emma Haines, Arkansas City, Ark., sister of the deceased, telling her of the occurrence. Coroner Nevitt viewed the body at the hospital this morning and gave a certificate showing that death had resulted from a self-inflicted wound.

The Evening Star, June 26, 1906

Attempt at Suicide

Miss Annie Kelley Shoots Herself Through the Body Conveyed to Hospital Where Surgeons Report Her To Be In Serious Condition

Brooding over the loss of her husband, and, it is alleged, being unable to make ends meet financially, Mrs. Annie Kelley, twenty-five years of age, made an effort to end her life last night about 10:30 o'clock by shooting herself through the body. Three shots were fired, but only one of them took effect. After falling to the floor and realizing what she had done she called: "For God's sake come and help me." Her appeals were responded to by boarders in her house, and she was removed to the Emergency Hospital.

Three weeks ago, it is stated, Mr. and Mrs. Kelley separated, the latter taking boarders and roomers at her home, 508 K street northwest, and the former renting a room in another section. Mrs. Kelley thought she would make a success at keeping a boarding house, but yesterday she realized, she said to her friends that her venture had proved a failure. She was without funds, and she resolved to end her life.

After her husband left her, it is stated, she became despondent. She talked to friends of his absence, and a written statement found in her room last night indicates that she had seen a clairvoyant or had a spiritualistic séance for the purpose of gaining information about her future.

The Written Questions

Written upon a piece of thin paper were these questions:

"Will this man come back to me and when?"

"Is he in the city?"

"Will I stay at the place where I am?"

"Would you tell me if he wants to see me?"

In a book in the room was found a sheet of note paper upon which was written:

"I cannot stand this no longer. I am broken hearted. If there was a just God, would he let me suffer like I have. O, I think he will forgive me for this rash act. O, what will my sister think? Tell her I have gone with my mother. I have nothing on earth now."

"I am in trouble. God will see me out of this misery. Good-by."

"I am so nervous."

Conveyed to Hospital

Mrs. Kelley was in the dining room in the basement at her home when she shot herself. The tree reports were heard by occupants of the rooms and several of them made an investigation. John Goebell, one of the roomers, hurried to a telephone and summoned the police and an ambulance. He then went to the room where the wounded woman lay.

"Did you do this?" he asked her.

She responded in the affirmative and told him that she was tired of living. When she reached the hospital she was asked a similar question, but she was too weak to answer. She gave a nod, however, to indicate that she had done the shooting. Her condition was regarded by the physicians at the hospital this morning as being critical, but it was stated she has a slight chance to recover.

Denies Marriage

John Kelley, said to be Mrs. Kelley's husband, was found today by the detectives and questioned about the occurrences of last night, and was taken to police headquarters. The young man is a carpenter by trade. He denied that he had ever been married to the woman who shot herself. In conversation with Capt. Boardman and the detectives he said that the woman's name is Maud Fishburn, and that she has relatives at Arkansas City, Kans. He also said that she came here from 920 West Carey Street, Richmond, Va. Her sister, Eva Haines, he stated, lives in Arkansas City.

Recently, it is stated, the young woman inserted an advertisement in the local papers which read: "Refined widow would like to meet gentleman of means who will render financial assistance; object, matrimony." After Kelley had been questioned by Capt. Boardman and the detectives he was sent to the sixth precinct station and given quarters in a witness room. It is likely he will be released late this afternoon.