

Leonard W. McKenney

(- 15 Feb 1862)

The Evening Star, February 17, 1862

Suicide

Leonard W. McKenney, a printer, committed suicide in this city on Saturday night, between 11 and 12 o'clock, by cutting his throat. The deceased was about twenty-eight years of age at the time of his death. He formerly resided in Eaton Rapids, Mich., where he has or had a wife and child, as appears from letters found among his effects. He came to this city about the commencement of the present session of Congress, and has worked most of the time since at his business of printing in this city, and then with Messrs. Towers and Boyle was engaged in the publication of the Daily Virginia Chronicle at Alexandria. The Alexandria firm was dissolved about a week since, and McKenney, who had made many friends here by his amiable disposition, returned to this city, and engaged board at the public house of Mr. Robert Rainey, on D street near Seventh, and it was in his room at this house that he committed the fatal act. For some days past his spirits appear to have been so much depressed as to affect him with symptoms of insanity.

Before retiring to his room on Saturday evening he bade goodbye to a favorite little daughter of the landlord, and to others. After he had been in his room a short time his roommates were awakened by a slight noise, and on procuring a light found that he had cut his throat with a pen knife, and the bed and floor were covered with blood.

A coroner's inquest was held by Justice Johnson yesterday morning, a verdict rendered in accordance with the above facts. The late insanity of deceased was testified to, and it was also in evidence that he was a man of very temperate habits.

He was a member of the Columbia Typographical Society and the Masonic fraternity, and will be buried this afternoon at 3 o'clock.