

Gertrude M. Perkins

(- 14 Jun 1915)

Perkins. Suddenly on Monday, June 14, 1915 at 7:50 p.m., Gertrude M., beloved daughter of Mrs. Rosa C. Garrett and the late James T. Perkins in the 30th year of her age. Funeral from the residence of her mother, 3277 Prospect avenue n.w. on Thursday, June 17 at 2 p.m. Interment private.

The Evening Star, June 15, 1915, p. 24

Woman Commits Suicide

Gertrude Perkins Dies in Hospital from Dose of Poison

Gertrude Perkins, thirty-one years old, who occupied an apartment at 933 G street northwest, committed suicide late yesterday afternoon by swallowing poison.

She was found shortly before 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon suffering from the effects of the poison. The ambulance of Emergency Hospital was called and she was removed to that institution, where she died three hours later.

Coroner Nevitt made an investigation. He learned from a friend of the woman that Miss Perkins had telephoned to her but a short time before she took the poison and complained of being ill.

The Washington Post, June 15, 1915, p. 2

Ends Her Life By Drug

"You Will Never See Me Alive," Young Woman Phones to Friend

Victim Had Been Suffering From Nervous Prostration--

Dies Four Hours Later at Hospital

Miss Gertrude Perkins, 27 years old, a seamstress and at one time a telephone operator, died at the Emergency Hospital last night at 7:45 o'clock from the effects of a dose of bichloride of mercury supposed to have been taken four hours before with suicidal intent. Coroner J. Ramsay Nevitt issued a certificate of suicide.

The young woman had a room at 933 G street northwest. She was suffering from an attack of nervous prostration and had not been out of her room all of yesterday. Early in the afternoon she called up a woman friend employed at the Union Station, saying that she was unwell and asking her friend to come to her room. Later she called up the same woman telling her that she had taken poison and would never see her alive again. A few minutes later the young woman told friends in the boarding house what she had done. She was then taken to the hospital.

The police say that a vial containing five tablets of bichloride of mercury was found in the woman's room. The hospital physicians believe she had taken the other twenty tablets of seven and one-half grains each that the vial had contained and the poison had been dissolved in hot water before it was taken, making it act quickly and explaining her quick death. The woman refused to explain, when taken to the hospital, why she had taken the poison. She was the daughter of Mrs. R.C. Garrett, of 3277 Prospect avenue, Georgetown. A brother, R.W. Perkins, also survives.