

## **P. Louis Rodier**

### **( – 5 Nov 1903)**

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**Rodier.** Suddenly on Thursday, November 5, 1903, P. Louis Rodier, beloved son of Mr. And Mrs. J.L. Rodier in the 23rd year Owing to illness of his mother the funeral service will be held at the home of his uncle, 75 Seaton street northwest, the time to be announced in tomorrow's Post.

*The Evening Star, November 6, 1903, p. 10*

#### **Young Man Commits Suicide**

##### **Unexplained Act of Louis Rodier at Riverdale, Md.**

A message was received by the police of the ninth precinct at an early hour this morning telling of the suicide, at Riverdale, Md., of P. Louis Rodier, whose parents live at 332 H street northeast. Rodier, who was a photographer, twenty-three years old, ended his life by shooting himself through the head. The deed was committed on the porch at the home of Mrs. McLeod, where, it is stated, Rodier had visited Mrs. Helmsen, her granddaughter. Magistrate Dahler was summoned to the house and he directed that the body be removed to the undertaking establishment of Mr. Gasch, in Bladensburg. An inquest will be held there tonight.

Persons interested in Rodier and the occupants of the house where the deed was committed declined to discuss the affair today. It is said that Rodier called at the house early in the evening and expressed a desire to see Miss Helmsen's brother, that he was told Mr. Helmsen would not return home until late and that he returned about 11 o'clock and, failing to gain admission, killed himself. Roier had been in business at Culpeper, Va., recently.

*The Evening Star, November 7, 1903, p. 8*

#### **Developed At Inquest**

##### **Reasons Assigned for Suicide of Philibert L. Rodier**

An inquest held over the body of Philibert Louis Rodier yesterday afternoon developed the circumstances under which the young man committed suicide at the door of the home of Miss Hazel Helmsen at Riverdale, Thursday night. A letter written by the young man before he left Culpeper, Va., where he was in business, was read to the jury. It was addressed to the press, and was as follows:

"Lost love is the cause of this mad act. I pick the home of the one I have loved as my place of self-destruction. While I am a little behind with my work, I have the brightest outlook I have ever had since in business for myself. The past year has been one of continual unhappiness and blues. Inhuman as I am I can't express my love for my mother and father. Both have treated me as a baby on account of my affliction, but their love can't console.

"This is all I have to say.

Respectfully,

"Philibert Louis Rodier."

The funeral of the young man took place this afternoon from the home of an uncle, 75 Seaton street northwest. On account of the illness of Mrs. Rodier the body was not taken to the family home on H street northeast.