

Frederick Rohleder (- 6 Sep 1872)

The Evening Star, September 9, 1872

A Man Shot Dead While Gunning For Ortolan

On Saturday last three residents of South Washington, named Frederick Rohleder, W.H. Deckman and Conrad Weitzell, crossed the river, near the Long Bridge, for the purpose of shooting ortolan in the marshes at Gravelly creek. They had a boat, in which Deckman and Weitzell remained to load the guns while Rohleder waded in the marsh and fired as the birds appeared. He had fired off one barrel of a gun, and handed it back to be reloaded. Deckman put in the charge, and in letting down the hammer of the reloaded barrel accidentally pulled the trigger of the other one, when the gun exploded and the entire charge entered the neck of Rohleder below the ear, inflicting a frightful wound, severing the carotid artery, from which Rohleder died almost instantly. The body was drawn into the boat by his terror-stricken associates, who conveyed it to the 1st precinct station, where he remained for a short time, and was subsequently removed to the residence of the mother of the deceased, on Virginia avenue. An inquest was held yesterday by Dr. Patterson, coroner, and a verdict of accidental death was rendered. Deckman and Weitzel, who had been retained in custody, were then discharged.