

## Jacob Scheitlin

( - 9 Apr 1880)

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*The Evening Star, April 10, 1880*

### **Suicide by Drowning**

#### **He Died Because He Thought His Life a Failure**

Yesterday afternoon a colored man reported to the police station at Bening's that he had discovered the body of an unknown white man floating in shore on the north side of the Eastern Branch at a point known as the Devil's Elbow, just in the rear of the poorhouse which he had secured to a stake in the water. The police repaired to the place designated, but the tide being high the body was submerged and a further investigation was postponed until this morning, when it was loosed from the stake and brought ashore. The body was identified later in the day as that of Jacob Scheitlin, who was well-known in this community. He was a widower, his wife having died sometime since. Deceased was 54 years old and he leaves two young sons living. In his pockets were found a few pennies, match box and pocket knife; also a letter in which he states, "My wish is that I have Christian burial in some spot, only that after my death I do not come in contact with hypocritical and false-swearing people. My two boys, my spirit will always watch over you." etc. He speaks of his life having been a failure in consequence of bad connections and surroundings. The remains were taken to the dead-house connected with the almshouse, and Coroner Patterson was notified, who went down there, and after informing himself of all the facts gave a certificate of burial and the remains were turned over to his relatives.

*The Washington Post, April 12, 1880, p. 4*

### **City Talk and Chatter**

The body of Jacob Scheitlin was found in the Eastern Branch last Saturday morning. A note found on the body revealed the fact that he had committed suicide because the world was wicked.

*The Evening Star, May 9, 1877*

### **Locals**

Messrs. John Hitz, L.W. Guinand, Kaspar Kneesi, Adolph Gebner and Jacob Scheitlin have organized a society under the name of the Winkelreid Steftung, the object being to provide in an equitable manner, a fund for the benefit of widows, orphans, heirs and assigns, and have filed a certificate of incorporation.

[Note: Draughtsman, 29 Pennsylvania ave., Washington Directory, 1862. ]