Thaddeus Frank Small

(- 7 Apr 1904)

The Evening Star, April 7, 1904

Found Dead in His Room

Corporal of Marines Believed to Have Committed Suicide

A man whose body was identified as that of James T. Small, a corporal of marines, was found dead in a room at 1226 Pennsylvania avenue northwest this morning about 9:30 o'clock. On the floor beside his bed was an empty bottle on which was a label showing it had contained laudanum. When Corporal Small engaged the room last night he retired without going through the formality of registering, and nothing was known of his identity until a marine was called from the barracks. He promptly identified the body and said that Corporal Small was a member of the squad of marines on duty on the Mayflower.

The room in which the corporal died had three occupants last night. Those who spent the night there besides Small were Frederick F. Schwab and Robert L. Eubank. When these men arose and were ready to leave the room they made an unsuccessful effort to arouse the marine. Concluding he was a heavy sleeper they withdrew from the room and thought no more about him until they heard he was dead. He was alive when they saw him, they declared, and his body was warm, when the police were summoned to the hotel.

In the pocket of the dead man's coat was a letter, in which he stated it to be his intention to end his life. It was said at the navy yard this afternoon that the only man named Small on the Mayflower was Thaddeus Small. He enlisted from Philadelphia, and gave Atlantic City as his home. The letter found on him was addressed to a friend in New York.