

James Stewart

(- 29 Dec 1859)

The Evening Star, December 28, 1859

Melancholy Suicide

This morning, James Stewart, a young man, nineteen years of age, a son of Mrs. Stewart, who keeps a boarding house on Missouri avenue, between 4 1/2 and 8th streets, was found hanging by the neck in a shed on his mother's premises, dead, having committed suicide during the night. He was cut down by two gentlemen boarding with his mother and preparation is making for his interment. The deceased left nothing by which the act could be explained. He was associated with wild youths and sometimes they led him astray, into fits of intemperance, after which he always expressed the bitterest grief, and would promise his friends entire reformation. He had passed the holidays with moderation, did not appear to have been drinking to excess, and this, in connection with a recently expressed desire to amend, and leave the recently expressed desire to amend, and leave the city to be away from temptation, serves to increase the mystery of his death. His mother is the widow of a subordinate officer at the Capitol, whose melancholy suicide some years ago will be remembered by many citizens who knew him well. The mother and family of the deceased are deeply distressed by this afflicting affair, and receive the sympathy of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. The circumstances of his death were so palpable that an inquest was deemed unnecessary.

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Inquest

It was understood that no inquest would be held upon the body of the young man, James Stewart who committed suicide, the cause of his death being deemed sufficiently apparent. Subsequently, however, at the request of a member of the family of the deceased, a jury was summoned who brought in a verdict in accordance with the facts already stated.