

## Frederick Weil

( - 1 Nov 1894)

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*The Evening Star, November 2, 1894*

### **Double Tragedy**

### **Fred Weil Shoots His Mistress and Kills Himself**

### **Promising Life Thrown Away**

### **Jealousy and Crime in a Division Dive**

### **Died Instantly**

House No. 309 13th street, in the "Division," was the scene of a double tragedy last evening about 8 o'clock, the crime resulting from the imagined unfaithfulness of a negress, who is the inmate of the alleged disreputable house known as "Mahogany Hall." The man whose jealousy was aroused by this colored girl was a marine whose name is Frederick Weil. This poor man was born in Russia, coming here from St. Petersburg a number of years ago. In 1889 he enlisted in the United States navy and was sent here from Mare Island yard in California. Two months ago his five-years' enlistment expired, and he received \$300 due him and re-enlisted. The colored girl who figured in the love affair is known in the "Division" as "Annie Grandy," although her real name is said to be Melton. She had lived at a place called Hertford, in North Carolina, and had friends in Richmond. She had also lived in Fall River and Boston. Annie is only about twenty years old. She is good-looking, and is fairly well educated. She lived here in respectable circles some months before she got in bad company and went to live in a handsomely furnished house, where she could dress well and figure in the midnight orgies, which are characteristic of such places. In this house she probably felt that she would be free from arrest and incarceration, and that although the law was being continually violated she would have police protection, as well as similar places in New York, no matter whether it was paid protection or whether it was the result of the police overlooking the violation of law, for it is only once in a long time that these places are raided and the disreputable inmates disturbed.

### *He Loved Her*

Here in this elegantly furnished house this damsel met Fred. Weil, and the poor man actually fell in love with her. He told her that he was a clerk and spent enough money among the colored inmates to make them believe that he had told the truth. This was calculated to make such a woman love anyone, and she loved him in this way for the money she could get out of him. Weil's money was spent recklessly, and now his \$300 is about gone and he is dead. His love for the woman became so great that he found himself going lower each day, and when he realized that he was so deeply in her power that he could not tear himself away he asked the naval authorities to transfer him to some distant station. To add to all this trouble he soon became convinced that the girl loved another marine, one of his companions, and this only added fuel to the flames and made the Russian desperate. He had squandered his money on her, and had told her the truth of his station in life, and then for her to divide her affections with another marine was more than he could bear.

### *Double Tragedy*

Being satisfied that Annie was receiving the attentions of the other marine and seeing no prospect of being sent away in the near future Frederick Weil determined that he would send her to eternity and then he would follow her. He made the effort with a pistol, but he was first to leave this world. Last evening was the time he selected to commit the double tragedy. Early in the evening he went to the "Division," expecting to meet his rival. It was about 8 o'clock when he saw the front door of the house

open and the other marine walk out. He said nothing to his soldier friend, made no attempt to injure him, but walked directly to the house and was soon in the room of the woman who was the cause of his downfall. Here he remained a few minutes and in this short while he called her attention to the fact of her being untrue to him.

Annie wanted to explain, but Fred. had no time to listen to explanations, and when the woman's back was toward him he drew his revolver and shot her in the head near the base of the brain. The shock was so great that she fell to the floor and the marine, satisfied that he had accomplished this part of his murderous mission, put the barrel of the weapon to his mouth and pulled the trigger. The weapon did its work.

Women in the house were attracted to the room by hearing the pistol shots, and when the door had been broken open they saw the forms of the two wounded ones on the floor. The man was about dead and the woman, attempting to get up, anxiously inquired, "Do you think I'll die?"

The police were on hand soon after the shooting and sent the man's body to the morgue. The woman was sent to the Emergency Hospital.

#### *She May Recover*

The Grandy woman, who was shot last night by Marine Weil, who afterward committed suicide, may recover. The physicians at the Emergency Hospital said at 2:30 this afternoon, that the patient had rested very easily all day, and, though they cannot now form any certain judgment, they think she may get well.

#### *Coroner's Inquest*

Coroner Hammett held an inquest this afternoon over the body of the dead marine and the jury heard the testimony of several witnesses who told of the circumstances connected with the double tragedy. The jury rendered a verdict that Weil came to his death by his own hands. The body was turned over to the officers of the marine barracks for burial.