

James Cuthbert

(- 22 Oct 1854)

The Evening Star, October 21, 1854

Attempted Suicide

A young man, named J. Cuthbert, whose mother keeps a restaurant on Seventh street near I, yesterday afternoon, between the hours of 4 and 5 o'clock, attempted to commit self-slaughter. He was observed to be despondent and at the time named told his mother that he would go up and take a little sleep, and accordingly went upstairs into his room. About 9 1/2 o'clock, his mother became apprehensive that all was not right, and proceeded to his door, which being locked inside had to be forced open, and what was her horror at seeing her son weltering in his blood on the floor. Drs. Duhamet and Elliott were sent for, and quickly attend to the wound, stopping the hemorrhage, but leaving him quite weak. When they entered they found the blood gushing from the wound, and beside him lay a razor, the handle tied up with a handkerchief, so as to give a firmer hold, showing a deliberate intent to commit the act. The blood also flowed from his mouth, and altogether the unfortunate man presented a most shocking spectacle. This morning he was fast sinking, and it was feared that he could not survive. The cause of the rash act is credibly said to be the breaking up of his mother's business by the recent acts of the City Councils.

The Evening Star, October 23, 1854

Is No More

The unfortunate young man, Jas. Cuthbert, who lacerated his throat on Friday night, died on Saturday of his wounds, as was expected. A large number of sorrowing friends attended his funeral yesterday afternoon. Blair says:

To run away
From this world's ills, that at the very worst
Will soon blow o'er, thinking to mend ourselves,
By boldly venturing on a world unknown
And plunging headlong in the dark--'tis mad!
No frenzy half so desperate as this.