

## Leon Emil Dessez

(12 Apr 1858 – 25 Dec 1918)

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*The Evening Star, March 16, 1889, p. 12*

### **Real Estate Gossip**

#### **Fine Building Going Up In All Parts of the City**

#### **A Large Flat Building To Be Erected on I, Near 16<sup>th</sup> Street –**

#### **Improvements To Vice President Morton' House –**

#### **Other Matters of Interest**

An extensive building enterprise has just been begun by Mr. W.C. Hill. He owns the vacant lot on the north side of I street, between Vermont avenue and 16<sup>th</sup> street, where an asphalt tennis court has been located for some years. He proposes to erect upon this site a large and handsome apartment house. It will be seven stories high, and will cover more ground than the Normandie, which is located on the block above. The main building will have a depth of 90 feet, but there will be a wing extending back 142 feet. The frontage of this tall building will be 53 feet. Stone brick and terra-cotta will be used in the construction. The lower stories will be of stone and upper of brick and terra cotta. Bay windows will relieve the otherwise plain lines of the front and at the same time add to the attractiveness of the interior. There is an alley on the side, where there will be numerous windows. The suites will be conveniently arranged and will be entirely shut off from the main hall. There will be a café and a large dining-room on the first floor, and the building is so arranged that it can be used as a family hotel. The architect is Leon Dessez. The interior finish of the building, and in fact its entire construction, will be of a superior character suitable to the location.

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*The Washington Post, March 17, 1897, p. 1*

### **Leon Dessez Badly Injured**

#### **Well-Known Architect May Die as the Result of a Fall from His Bicycle**

Leon Dessez, the well-known architect, whose office is at 1421 F street northwest, is lying at the Emergency Hospital in a precarious condition, the result of a fall from his bicycle.

Mr. Dessez was riding along H street, near Fourteenth street northeast, yesterday afternoon, when bystanders saw him suddenly lurch forward and fall to the ground, striking his head with much force against the curbing.

He was picked up unconscious and taken to the Emergency Hospital. The surgeons have made several examinations and are of the opinion that his skull is fractured at the base. If this should prove true no operation can be performed and it is quite likely Mr. Dessez will die.

Mr. Paul Dessez, a brother of the injured man, was notified, and remained at the bedside of his brother all last night. From him it was learned that his brother was subject to sudden attacks of heart failure, and it is surmised that one of these caused the fall.

Mr. Dessez is one of the best-known architects in the city. Many of the handsome residences of the northwest are evidences of his artistic planning. He also planned the improvements to the building which is now the Hotel Raleigh.

Up to a late hour he had not regained consciousness.

*The Evening Star, March 18, 1897, p. 3*

### **Leon Dessez Will Recover**

Leon Dessez who was injured by a fall from his bicycle on Tuesday last, was removed yesterday afternoon from Emergency Hospital to Garfield where he is resting comfortably and no doubts are entertained as to his recovery.

*The Evening Star, March 20, 1897, p. 7*

**Leon E. Dessez Recovering**

Leon E. Dessez who was so badly injured by falling from his wheel last Tuesday is much better and the physicians at Garfield Hospital are confident of his speedy recovery.

*The Washington Post, April 2, 1897, p. 10*

**Mr. Dessez Leaves the Hospital**

Leon E. Dessez, the architect who was dangerously injured March 16 by a fall from his bicycle, has recovered sufficiently to be removed from Garfield Hospital to his home at Chevy Chase. His physician expects to have him out in a few days.

*The Washington Post, October 25, 1908, p. 2*

**School 156, to be known as the Thomas B. Bryan School**, in B street southeast, is being plastered. It is being built by W.E. Mooney, from plans by Leon Dessez. It is of the Tudor gothic style, is of red brick, with limestone trimmings, is practically fireproof, and will contain twelve classrooms and a large assembly hall. The cost of the building will be about \$85,000.

**Dessez.** On Wednesday, December 25, 1918 at his residence, 3815 Jenifer st., Leon E. Dessez, beloved husband of Bessie Semmes Dessez and eldest son of the late Leon and Minna Dessez. Funeral private.