

## Nellie Murphy

( - 23 Feb 1907)

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### **Suicide By Shooting**

#### **Mrs. Nellie Murphy Driven To Act By Illness**

"Forgive me, George. I can't stand it any longer. No one is to blame but myself. Nellie."

Mrs. Nellie Murphy ended her life yesterday afternoon by shooting herself through the heart after she had written the foregoing message to her husband and left it on the sideboard at her home, 241 Virginia avenue southwest. The deed was committed, it is thought, as the result of a disordered brain. Mrs. Murphy had been an epileptic for a number of years. Her condition, it is believed, was made worse Thursday night when she witnessed the fatal accident to Engineer Kates in front of her home. Shortly after the accident occurred she saw the mangled body of the engineer, and when she returned home she had a spasm. All night and all day Friday she walked the floor. Yesterday she was in no better condition, and her husband, who is a contracting painter, remained at home most of the day.

Early yesterday morning Mr. Murphy was awakened by hearing a loud noise in his dining room, and when he went to investigate he found his wife had attempted suicide by inhaling illuminating gas through a rubber tube attachment that was connected with the cooking stove. Later she made a feeble attempt to end her life by cutting her wrist with a razor.

During the day she managed to escape observation long enough to purchase a cheap revolver. She had the weapon concealed in the house without her husband's knowledge. Shortly before 2 o'clock in the afternoon the husband had occasion to leave the house for a short while, and before going he said to his wife: "Be a good girl while I'm gone." She promised she would and he went away satisfied.

#### *Makes Horrible Discovery*

When he returned to the house about thirty minutes later he was horrified to find his wife's remains on the floor of the room that was used as dining room and kitchen, and almost upon the very spot that she had fallen early in the morning when she had made an effort to end her life by inhaling gas. On the floor near her body was the weapon with which the deed had been committed. A policeman was summoned and took charge of the weapon and the note Mrs. Murphy had written. Dr. Nevitt, the coroner, went to the house and made an investigation. He gave the necessary certificate of death and the body was removed to the undertaking establishment of W.H. Scott & Co., 409 8th street southwest.

Mrs. Murphy was thirty-eight years of age, and she was Mr. Murphy's second wife. She came to this city more than fifteen years ago from Ames, Mass., where two of her sisters now reside. It is stated that the unfortunate woman made an effort to end her life several years ago by taking poison. Her funeral will probably take place Monday afternoon from an undertaking establishment.

The interment will be at Congressional cemetery.