

Frederick F. Owens

(- 2 Sep 1909)

Owens. Suddenly on Thursday, September 2, 1909, at 5 p.m., Frederick F. Owens, beloved son of Lillie B. Owens and the late James F. Owens and beloved husband of Mary E. Owens (nee Dunn), aged 24 years.

Dearest Freddie, thou hast left us;
We thy loss most deeply feel.
But 'tis God who hast bereft us;
He can all our sorrows heal.

By His Devoted Mother, Sisters and Brothers

Funeral from his late residence, 904 B street southwest, Saturday, September 4, at 2 o'clock. Relatives and friends invited to attend. Interment in Congressional cemetery.

The Evening Star, September 2, 1909, p. 3

Found Dead, Gas Jets Open

Police Believe That Fred Owens Committed Suicide

Nothing in His Conduct Last Night When He Went to Bed to Indicate Intention to End His Life

Frederick Owens, twenty-four years of age, who was employed as driver of a team for the Chapin-Sacks Company, was found dead in bed this morning at his home, 904 B street southwest. His death had been caused by inhaling illuminating gas, two jets in his room having been found open. His relatives seem to think that his death was the result of an accident. Willard Owens, brother of the deceased, went to the latter's room this morning to see him and was astonished at detecting the odor of gas.

Repeated calls for the brother elicited no response, and it was found necessary to break open the door. The body was still warm, and a call was sent to the Emergency Hospital for a physician, but life had been extinct for about four hours.

Policemen went to the house and made an investigation. They learned that the young man returned home, last night about 12 o'clock, and at that time there was nothing about his conduct to indicate despondency. Other members of the family saw him, but he said nothing to them to indicate that he had any notion of taking his life.

The police concluded that Owens had turned on the gas with suicidal intent, and so informed Acting Coroner Glazebrook. A further investigation will be made by Dr. Glazebrook before a certificate of death is issued. Owens was married about three months ago, and his wife is visiting friends at Old Point Comfort.

A message was sent to the widow this afternoon telling her of her husband's death, and she is expected here tomorrow morning. Arrangements for the funeral will not be completed until Mrs. Owens reaches home. It is probable that the body will be sent to King George county, Va., for interment.