Willie Smith

(-11 Sep 1903)

The Evening Star, September 11, 1903

Result of Accident

Willie Smith, thirteen years old, died at Providence Hospital this morning under circumstances which called for an investigation on the part of the coroner. It appears that the child's death was due to tetanus following an injury to his jaw inflicted by his brother, Clinton Smith, eleven years old. The injury was inflicted nearly two weeks ago while the boys were playing a game with sticks near their home on Huntoon place southwest. Willie received an injury to his right jaw which did not appear serious. Several days after he was hurt he was seen by a doctor at the Washington barracks, who told him his jaw was fractured. A physician was then called to the house and the injured boy was taken to the hospital. His condition was critical when he reached the hospital and the doctors were unable to prevent his death from lockjaw. Coroner Nevitt found that the blow was purely the result of an accident and gave a certificate accordingly.