

JULY 10, 1892.---SIXTEEN PA

ST. PAUL.

FOREPAUGH SUICIDE

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE MERCHANT EXPLAINED.

His Body Found in a Grove on Selby Avenue With a Bullet Hole in the Head—Melancholia the Cause.

Joseph L. Forepaugh, a retired merchant and highly respected citizen, committed suicide in a small grove on Selby avenue Friday night. Mr. Forepaugh left his residence on Summit avenue Friday morning at 9 o'clock. He was at his business office in the block which bears his name on East Fourth street until after 10 o'clock. About 10:30 one of his daughters saw him on a cable car going west between Nina and Farrington avenues. As her father usually left the car at Nina avenue to reach home she was somewhat surprised, but thought nothing more of the circumstance until later in the day. The absence of Mr. Forepaugh at luncheon did not cause any anxiety at his home and the employees at the office supposed he was at home. Early in the evening the family became alarmed and a search was commenced. No trace of him could be found, the last personable to give any account of him being his daughter, who saw him on the car in the morning. Word was sent to J. W. Shepard, who acts as agent for Mr. Forepaugh, acquainting him of the absence of his employer. He could give no information, but joined the members of the family and friends in making such search as was possible during the night.

**How the Body Was Found.**  
Early yesterday morning Mr. Shepard being informed that Mr. Forepaugh was last seen on a Selby avenue car, started to make a thorough search in that direction. He had carefully examined the territory on both sides of the avenue for a block, and was about to give up the search when he noticed a small lake or pond about 100 yards from Selby avenue, near Syndicate avenue. On reaching the water he found several boys there bathing. Explaining he was in search of a lost man, and giving the description of Mr. Forepaugh, one of the lads said he saw a man answering to the description near there Friday afternoon. The boy was certain he could not be mistaken in the description, because he and his companions, being in bathing at the time, imagined the man was a special police officer sent to arrest them. Mr. Shepard, assisted by the boys, formed a line and commenced a systematic search of the small grove at that point. About 100 feet from the pond the body was discovered by one of the lads. The body lay on the right side just in front of a large tree. A bullet hole in the head between the right ear and eye and a revolver grasped firmly in the right hand explained the cause of the death. Deputy Coroner Darling was notified and the body removed to Dampier's undertaking rooms.

**Melancholia.**  
No letters or papers giving any reason for the rough act were found, and the opinion was expressed by relatives and those most intimate with the deceased that while laboring under a fit of mental depression he took his life. Mr. Forepaugh had not been feeling well for several years, being subject to dyspeptic trouble. While not so ill as to be confined to his home, he had been much depressed in spirits and labored under the impression that financial misfortune would overtake him. He had an attack of melancholia about a year ago, but after spending several months at the seashore with his family returned much improved.

Mr. Forepaugh did not carry a pistol and did not have one in the house, and it is supposed that when he was seen riding up town on the cable car he was returning from some gun store, as the weapon he used was a new one.

There was not the least foundation for the fears of financial disaster. Mr. Forepaugh's realty possessions including some of the most valuable residence and business property in the city. He owned the Forepaugh block at 94 East Fourth street, another block at the Seven Corners bearing his name, the handsome residence and grounds where he lived on Summit avenue, and 100 residence lots in another part of the city. His estate, it is expected, will probate fully \$300,000, and is practically unincumbered.

The remains are being prepared for burial at Dampier's undertaking rooms and will be taken to his late residence this morning, from which place the funeral services will be held Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock.