

# PROMINENT MAN SHOOTS HIMSELF THROUGH HEAD

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Fred Von Pein, a Leading Citizen,  
Suicided as Result  
of Worry.

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# INDUSTRIAL LEADER

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WELL KNOWN PIANO MAKER—ESTABLISHED  
ADDITION TO  
SOUTH SIDE.

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HEALTH HAD BEEN POOR

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Left No Word of His Reason—Deed  
Was Committed in Barn—Re-  
volver Used.

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By shooting himself through the head, Frederick Von Pein, a leading German citizen, ended his life about 10 o'clock this morning. Despondency was the only known reason.

Mr. Von Pein applied a revolver that was evidently purchased for the purpose, while cleaning a shed in the rear of his residence, at Eighth and South J streets. Death must have been instantaneous. He was found shortly before noon by Mrs. Von Pein, who wanted him to answer a telephone communication. He was then huddled where he had fallen from a wheel-barrow on which he probably planned self-destruction.

Mr. Von Pein was 52 years of age. He was born in Germany, coming to America when but a year old. He grew to manhood in Cincinnati. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Von Pein, came to Richmond about ten years ago. Both died here. He is survived by his wife, Lena, four daughters and one son. The children are Mrs. Frances Fienning, Misses Mattie, Jennie and Edna, and Alfred. Councilman Matt Von Pein is a brother. Three other brothers, John, of Chicago, George, of Indianapolis, and Edward, of Dayton, also survive.

Mr. Von Pein was a member of Herman lodge, I. O. O. F., and of the South Side Improvement Association. He was identified with Reid Memorial United Presbyterian church.

The funeral arrangements have not been completed. It is expected that services will be held Sunday afternoon.

For two months Mr. Von Pein had been in a state of nervous unrest. He complained of stomach affections, and for at least two days had been very melancholy. He did not intimate that he contemplated death, except on one occasion when he informed his son-in-law of his affairs. His suicide was a great shock to the hosts of friends and acquaintances, by whom he was held in high esteem.

Mr. Von Pein was generally recognized as one of the most progressive of the organization that has done so much for the south side. During the thirty years of his residence here, he was always identified with plans for improvement in the material welfare of the community. At his own heavy expense he laid out the addition opposite his home, constructing cement curbs, gutters and walks and otherwise offering inducements for the settlement of the locality. In many ways he contributed to the advancement of Richmond and his loss will be keenly felt by his fellow-workers.



For almost the entire period of his residence here he was a trusted and valued employe of Starr Piano company. He held one of the most responsible places in the manufacture of pianos, and his office commended itself both to his employers and his fellow-workers. Only last year did he sever his connection with the local factory. After a short sojourn in Buffalo, N. Y., he returned to Richmond and had been unable to work since, on account of his health.

Coroner Bramkamp was notified of the suicide and is holding an inquest this afternoon. So far as could be learned Mr. Von Pein left no notes or statements relative to his action or intent.

Evening Item. Thursday,  
April 4, 1907, page 1, column 4.

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The funeral of Fred Von Pein will take place tomorrow afternoon from the home, 715 South J street, at 2 o'clock. The Rev. S. R. Lyons will officiate. The burial will be in the Lutheran cemetery.

Evening Item. Saturday,  
April 6, 1907, page 3, column 2.