

MR. PULSIFER'S SAD DEATH.

LITTLE DOUBT THAT HE TOOK HIS OWN LIFE.

BOSTON, Oct. 22.—Royal M. Pulsifer was buried to-day with the utmost privacy, only the members of the family being present. His sad death has for the time become an absorbing topic of discussion, and many are the rumors afloat concerning the manner in which it was brought about. No one doubts that Mr. Pulsifer took his own life, but the truth is known only to a very few, possibly to not more than half a dozen people. The very fact that those who do know absolutely decline to commit themselves or to discuss the matter in any but the most general way confirms the belief in suicide. Through sympathy for the family and esteem for Mr. Pulsifer himself, the Boston papers with one exception have accepted the *Herald's* version of the matter, and refrained from all attempts to verify the rumors.

Mr. E. M. Whiting, the private secretary of Mr. Pulsifer, attributes the death to trouble of the heart, aggravated by mental disturbance. The employe who found the dead man in the guest room at Islington states that he found Mr. Pulsifer on the bed, apparently sound asleep. He had got into bed without undressing, and had drawn the clothes over him, and looked, says the man, as calm and natural as if in life. There were no signs of emotion or suffering apparent. He states that he called Dr. Woodman and stood by while this physician and the medical examiner examined the body, and heard them say that Mr. Pulsifer died suddenly—almost as soon as he laid down—and from a natural cause. This man's story would indicate that there was no truth in the report that Mr. Pulsifer shot himself through the heart, but it strengthens the theory that death was the result of an opiate taken with suicidal intent. Mr. Pulsifer's habits of life were not such as to lead him to retire without undressing.

This death recalls the peculiar history of Islington, and the unhappy fate of all who have lived at this beautiful spot. Islington is the most charming place on the Charles River. In a bend of the river E. D. Winslow built the residence in which Mr. Pulsifer died, when he (Winslow) was engaged in those swindling schemes by which he victimized so many solid men of Boston. After his flight the property came into the hands of Mr. Pulsifer. A short distance away was the country residence of Benyon, the defaulting President of the Pacific Bank, who died in Canada not long ago. The nearest house in another direction was also occupied by a man whose crooked ways recently rendered a trip abroad advisable. Now Mr. Pulsifer has passed away just in time to avoid the most disastrous financial wreck since the death of William Gray by his own hand. There is no doubt about Mr. Pulsifer's financial distress, and equally no doubt that he was always the victim and never the one to do wrong to others. Just how deeply he was involved in the Pacific Bank swindle only those immediately interested will ever know. His unfortunate investments at Hotel Pemberton and in the Nantucket Railroad have long been the surprise of shrewd business men, and the same might be said of his singular readiness to invest in railroad and business enterprises in Georgia when so many substantial investments were ready to his hand. He was President of the Marietta and North Georgia Railroad, and was probably the largest stockholder.

The latest scheme in which he was induced to invest is a conduit system by which he and his associates expected to obtain a monopoly of Boston's streets for laying underground wires. It is said that he had a large sum tied up in this, with very slight prospect of ever obtaining the right of way or monopoly by which alone there would be a possibility of reaping dividends. Mr. Pulsifer's paper has been refused by the banks of late, and it is reported among the many rumors afloat that a note for \$125,000 went to protest on the last day that he was seen alive. Another story is to the effect that a writ had been placed in the hands of a Sheriff, and that it was that official who first discovered the death. These are only samples of the many things that are said and that cannot be traced to authentic sources or even denied, owing to the efforts to suppress all details of the sad occurrence.

The Board of Aldermen to-night passed over the Mayor's veto by a vote of 8 to 4 the order granting Henry E. Cobb, Royal M. Pulsifer, Henry E. Chapman, and their assigns leave to open up the city streets for the purpose of laying conduits for electric wires.