

WHITAKER HAD A VISION

'LOST BOND' THUS LOCATED.

Mother of Defendant With a Company of Departed Friends Visited Him, He Declares on Witness Stand, and Gave Valuable Information—Mr. Whittaker's Vision of the 'Lost Bond'—Cross-Examination Greatly Agitated Whittaker and He Occasionally Loses His Temper—Flat Refusal to Answer One of District Attorney's Questions—Trial Not Yet Near an End—Will Cost at Least \$20,000—Bank Cases Continued Again.

Special to The Observer.

Asheville, July 17.—Testimony relative to visions and visits from the spirit land was dragged into the Whittaker trial in United States District Court at the morning session today. It was during a continuance of the cross-examination of Rev. William G. Whittaker, the defendant, by District Attorney Holton that reference was made to a certain vision that Mr. Whittaker once had when his dead mother with a company of departed friends visited him one evening and gave valuable information concerning the location of a certain "lost bond." This "lost bond" has figured to some extent in the trial. It is supposed to be a bond that John Whittaker possessed and which has connection with the Whittaker estate.

Mr. Whittaker didn't state whether the "vision" took place just where the "lost bond" was located. That point was evidently overlooked by Mr. Holton for the defense didn't care to have an elaborate discussion of the matter. Just about the time the thing was getting interesting he interposed an objection to the bringing in of spirit land, saying that while he doubt the discussion between the district attorney and the witness relative to visions and dreams was interesting he didn't think that it was entitled to place in a trial in a United States court. The matter ended with this and Mr. Holton went on with the cross-examination on other lines.

DEFENDANT IS AGITATED.

Mr. Whittaker was not so calm and collected this morning as the district attorney's examination of him was yesterday. He appeared considerably agitated and at times answered with some show of heat and temper. He rounded the witness stand vigorously one time when in answering a question with some heat he declared that there is not an heir prosecuting me. It is the Bank of England and the postal authorities. Mr. Whittaker seems to bear considerable malice toward the Bank of England. When in reference to this institution his voice goes to a pretty high pitch and usually trembles with emotion. Stories which appeared several years ago in The Philadelphia North American in regard to the Whittaker estate and intended, it is understood, as an expose of the Whittaker claim were, Mr. Whittaker declared, malicious lies. He testified under oath this morning that one Wilson, who said that he was the author of some of these stories, had "told old man Ashe and others that the Bank of England had paid The North American to write up the story against the Whittaker fund."

Much of Mr. Whittaker's correspondence was introduced this morning by district attorney on cross-examination. In one letter written by Whittaker several years ago he told on "heir" that he had some great surprises in store for the heirs of the district attorney.

SHOUTS HIS DEFERENCE.

"I won't tell you," almost shouted the preacher. "That is private matter and I don't concern you."

Mr. Holton said that he wouldn't insist that the witness was at liberty to refuse to state what these great surprises were.

The cross-examination was continued during the entire morning session. Several times during the morning Mr. Holton objected to the method of cross-examination pursued by the district attorney. At one time he appealed to the court saying that he most seriously objected to the district attorney putting words into the witness' mouth which the witness had never said but that in the contrary had stated just the opposite.

It is now certain that the trial will not be concluded this week. It is expected that the rest of the week and all of Monday, if not a part of Tuesday, will be consumed in trying the remaining cases. It is said that both the defense and the prosecution have got some trump cards to play. The trial is one of the most expensive that has been held here in some time. It is estimated that it will cost some where in the neighborhood of \$20,000. In the event that the accused is convicted the maximum punishment under the law is 18 months in prison.

STILL ANOTHER CONTINUANCE.

As was expected the hearing of the First National Bank of Asheville cases was again continued this morning. The continuance today was by reason of the fact that the Whittaker trial is not concluded it was not deemed advisable by counsel with a continuance by the court to go into the hearing while the Whittaker case is still on. Judge Newman in opening court stated that after a conference with attorneys it had been agreed to continue the cases until next Tuesday. The North and South Carolina agents of the Equitable Life Assurance Society will meet here July 27th for a summer conference. The conference will last until August 3d. It is expected that there will be about seven-hundred agents in attendance. It is also expected that President Morton, of the Equitable, will be here at the time of the conference.

Lightning Strikes Moving Passenger Train.

Americus, Ga., July 17.—Lightning struck a swiftly moving Central Railway passenger train near Americus this afternoon during a thunderstorm, tearing a hole through the roof of the baggage car and ripping it at almost the entire length. The train was making 35 miles an hour, probably when struck. The occupants of the car miraculously escaped injury.

JOINT DISCUSSION.

Chairman Logan Declines to Let Mr. Grant Meet Congressman Crawford—Reasons For Declining Fully Set Forth in Letter.

Special to The Observer.

Asheville, July 17.—Chairman W. E. Logan, of the Republican congressional executive committee for the tenth district, today gave out a copy of a letter which he yesterday addressed to Hon. William T. Crawford, the Democratic nominee for Congress from this district, declining to allow Mr. Grant, the Republican candidate, to meet Mr. Crawford in joint debate. The letter from Mr. Logan to Mr. Crawford was in reply to a letter which Mr. Grant received from Mr. Crawford in which the latter challenged the Republican nominee to a joint discussion. The letter follows: "Hon. W. T. Crawford, Waynesville, N. C."

"Dear Sir: Your letter of the 11th instant, to Mr. John G. Grant, asking him to join you in a joint discussion of the coming campaign, has been referred to me to answer. I am aware of the fact that it has been customary heretofore for the opposing candidates to canvass the district together. At a meeting of our congressional committee, held in this city on the 11th instant, and after a thorough discussion of the matter of a joint debate between the candidates for Congress and electors in this district, it was unanimously decided to decline all requests and challenges for a joint campaign between the Republican candidates and the Democratic candidates for the following reasons: "Joint campaigns between political opponents is an antiquated method of instructing the people on political questions, and has been almost entirely abandoned throughout the whole country, and we candidly believe has long outlived its usefulness, here, and should be eliminated as a feature of our political contests."

"So-called joint campaigns too frequently degenerate from political debates on living issues into mere salivations of wit and personal abuse or what is worse, appeals to passions and prejudices, creating bitterness, malice and hatred between neighbors and bringing political contests into disrepute among high-minded people. It is my belief that it would be almost impossible to canvass the district in a joint campaign as we think it should be canvassed. In a joint campaign comparatively few speeches can be made, and these only at central points—like county seats. Comparatively few people could hear the discussion. It is my belief that the people in the remote districts near our candidate for Congress, Hon. John G. Grant, discuss in a calm and dispassionate manner the issues of the day, become personally acquainted with him, and are able to intelligently conclude whether or not our party's principles and policies would be endorsed by the people and moreover no passions will be aroused, no prejudices and bitterness engendered—neighbor can still differ with neighbor without hatred or malice and peace and good will will prevail and intelligent policies will be considered and pursued."

FIRE THREATENS HAMLET.

Half-Dozen Buildings in Centre of the Town Destroyed—Great Danger of Explosion of Gas Tank, Causing Intense Alarm.

Hamlet, July 18, 3 a. m.—At 1 o'clock this morning the section of town known as Free-and-Easy, a negro settlement, was destroyed by fire. Five or six one-story frame structures occupied by negro residents, residences and stores, were completely destroyed. The buildings were owned by Mr. T. E. Boyd, who had a large amount of lumber stored in them, which was included in the property destroyed.

The gas plant of the city was not over thirty feet away and there intense excitement and fear prevailed lest it would at any moment explode, but fortunately it did not. Mr. E. N. Rhodes, general mercantile store, a large two-story structure, which was valued only as a miracle, it seemed. A large part of his goods was carried off and is now lying scattered all over the ground and there is considerable danger that some of it will be carried off by vandals.

The section is in the very heart of town and there was much excitement. It is not known how the blaze started, but it was probably from carelessness in the use of the gas. A number of blind tigers and gambling joints were located, it is thought, in some of the burned buildings.

DIDN'T SEND HEARST MESSAGE.

Gompers Denies That He Called William Randolph Askin Him to Support Bryan.

Philadelphia, July 17.—President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, said to a representative of the Associated Press tonight that he had absolutely no truth in the published reports that he had called William H. Hearst, a leader in the independence league, urging the latter to use his influence to prevent the withdrawal from nominating its own candidate for President and to urge the league to give its support to William J. Bryan because the Democratic convention incorporated in its platform planks urged by organized labor.

"I read in the newspapers," Mr. Gompers said, "that I am credited with asking Mr. Hearst to support Bryan, and that Mr. Hearst was made up to me through the press. Now, I did nothing of the kind. I don't know where the message Mr. Hearst claims to have received, came from. I didn't send it or any other message to Mr. Hearst."

The Elks' Reunion Over. Dallas, Tex., July 17.—The Elks' reunion of 108 terminated today, the grand lodge adjourned to meet in Los Angeles on July 11th, 1909. Tonight fully two-thirds of the visitors have departed, some direct to their homes, while others will spend several days in visiting cities in Texas and the border town of Mexico.

HONOLULU HOST TO FLEET.

SAILORS PARADE THE CAPITAL.

Greatest Military Pageant Hawaiian Ever Witnessed When the Blue-Jackets and Marines From the Atlantic Battleships March Through the Streets—Ball Given at Night at Wikkli Beach in Honor of the Officers of the Fleet—The Nebraska Quarantined Because of Scarlet Fever—The Third Division of the Fleet Coaling at Lahaina.

Honolulu, July 17.—Comprising the greatest military pageant ever witnessed in this city, 3,200 men of the Atlantic battleship fleet paraded this morning, arousing enthusiastic cheers from the dense crowds which lined the way along which they passed. The line of march was along the principal streets of the city and every available post of vantage was occupied long before the parade began.

Before the march started the men were drawn up at the starting point and a committee of a hundred Hawaiian women passed along the ranks placing "haku" a lei, or chain of closely packed blossoms characteristic of the islands. It was a pretty ceremony, picturesque in the extreme, and officers and men joined in hearty appreciation of the efforts of the ladies.

This afternoon a formal reception to the officers of the fleet was tendered by the commander of the nation, Captain Keesee and Mrs. Keesee.

BALL TO OFFICERS.

To-night the officers of the fleet gathered at Wikkli Beach, where a ball was given by the citizens in their honor.

Governor Fear and Rear Admiral Sigsbee shared the duty of receiving the many guests. During the day the second division of the fleet at anchor just off the beach, played its searchlights on the pavilion.

During the great bayonet races the grounds were thronged with sailors greatly interested in the struggle going on, while a wild west show also drew many spectators.

The coaling of the third division of the fleet at Lahaina is proceeding rapidly. Almost the entire population of the island of Maui, on which Lahaina is situated, had gathered at that town to greet the fleet. To-night a ball, given by the great bayonet races that mark the site of the ancient fort at Lahaina, was given in favor of the officers and on Saturday night a dance for the men has been arranged for the same night. The third division of the fleet will sail for Auckland on Sunday.

NEBRASKA QUARANTINED.

The Nebraska is still in quarantine here, owing to the appearance of several new cases of scarlet fever during the voyage from the coast, and unless other arrangements are made, it is possible that she will go to Lahaina to coal.

MINEIS SHOOT AN OFFICER.

Deputy Marshal Gardner Fatally Wounded and a Dozen Other Deputies Shot by Union Miners at Jefferson, Ala.—Report of Another Skirmish—Troops Rushed to the Scene of the Trouble.

Birmingham, Ala., July 17.—Robert Gardner, a deputy marshal, was fatally wounded and at least a dozen miners were shot and wounded in the result of an attack today at Jefferson on a train bearing strike-breakers to Adamesville. The train was in charge of thirteen deputies. It is said the union miners wanted to include the strike-breakers to leave the train and threatened to kill them if they went to work.

Governor Comer has ordered a company of cavalry from Montgomery to the scene, and troops already on the ground are under arms, and will patrol the district to-night, preventing further disorders.

Deputy George Smith estimates that more than a dozen men were shot and wounded by both sides in the attack at Jefferson. According to Smith the engagement was opened when a train bearing fifty strike-breakers attempted to pass the train of the miners. Prior to this a number of union miners had made overtures to the strike-breakers to join their ranks, threatening at the same time to kill them in case they attempted to work the mines of the operators. In the emergency the deputies attempted to have the train run out of Jefferson under fire if necessary. An open switch, however, brought the train to a stop, and in this predicament the deputies and strike-breakers were fired upon. Bullets riddled the train and that many were not killed is due to the fact that they fell to the floor and remained there. Thirteen deputies returned the fire and they declare at least a dozen miners were either killed or seriously wounded. The engagement was stopped when the switch was closed, enabling the train to proceed.

At 3 o'clock to-night everything on the outskirts is comparatively peaceful, the military having reached Adamesville. There was a sharp brush at Adamesville this afternoon, three strike sympathizers being wounded and thirteen arrested. The soldiers are camped there to-night.

Governor Comer has placed the troops of the State in the hands of Sheriff Higdon and he will order out as many men as is deemed necessary. To-night a report was received at the sheriff's office that a battle had taken place at Blossburg and that numerous men had been killed or wounded. State troops will soon be en route to that place.

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A GOOD CITIZEN GONE.

In Death of Dr. James F. Griffith Salisbury Lost a Most Public-Spirited Man and the Dental Profession One of Its Most Prominent Members.

Special to The Observer.

Salisbury, July 17.—Dr. James F. Griffith died at his home here on Church street yesterday morning at 2 o'clock, after a brief illness. It has been known for sometime that he was in failing health due to a weak heart, but not even his family and closest friends were prepared for his gradual decline ushered in with a hard chill on last Monday.

The whole of Salisbury mourns his death and he will be greatly missed in the professional, social and civic life of the town, where he has lived a highly respected and useful citizen for the past thirty years.

Dr. Griffith was 57 years old, a native of Kernersville, but after receiving his degree of D. D. S. came to Salisbury for the practice of his profession, where he has ever since enjoyed the most successful practice, standing at the head of his profession.

He has always been a regular attendant on the conventions of the Association of North Carolina Dentists, and his talents and energy to elevate the profession, and probably no dentist in the State was better known or more highly esteemed by his professional associates.

The people of Salisbury owe to him a debt of gratitude that they will never be able to pay for his untiring efforts to raise the standard of the public school system here to its present state of efficiency.

He served on the school board for a number of terms and no one in recent years has had the interests of the school more at heart or worked harder for his success. He was not satisfied merely to meet with the board and discuss conditions with which he was not personally familiar, but rather preferred to visit the buildings in person and thoroughly acquaint himself with both the pedagogical methods and executive management before taking any action in the meetings of the board. He thus made himself thoroughly familiar with the whole public school system and his councils were always sought.

He was truly a public-spirited man, an ideal citizen, ever working in the interest of anything that he thought would be for the advancement of the town he loved.

Dr. Griffith was an enthusiastic Mason and from time to time held various offices in the Fulton Lodge, of which he was a member. He was married to Miss Mollie Klutz, and she and their only son, Francis, survive him.

The funeral was held this afternoon at 5 o'clock, in charge of the Masons, at the First Methodist church, of which he was a devout member and communicant. The interment was at Chestnut Hill Cemetery.

OPINIONS IN SIX CASES.

Circuit Court of Appeals at Asheville Hears One Case Argued and Gives Opinions in Six.

Special to The Observer.

Asheville, July 17.—At this morning's session of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals with Circuit Judges Goff and Pritchard and District Judges Waddill, Boyd and Dayton in attendance, one case was argued and six opinions were handed down in six cases.

Mr. S. W. Walker, of Martinsburg, W. Va., was admitted to practice in the court. The case argued was No. 840, John T. McGraw, appellant, vs. Abraham C. Mason, at the First Methodist church, of which he was a devout member and communicant. The interment was at Chestnut Hill Cemetery.

Opinions were handed down in the following cases: No. 898, L. D. Ellis, administratrix of W. C. Ellis, deceased, plaintiff in error, vs. Southern Railway company, defendant in error. In error to the Circuit Court at Charleston, S. C. Opinions by Judge Goff. Affirmed with costs.

No. 729, A. C. Dillingham, captain and commanding United States receiving ship Franklin, appellant, vs. Roney Rooker and William Rooker, appellees; appeal from the District Court at Norfolk, Va. Opinion by Judge Goff. Reversed.

No. 786, Henry Wink, defendant in error, vs. Nellie B. Hanks, plaintiff in error, in error to the Circuit Court at Richmond. Opinion by Judge Boyd. Reversed.

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versed with costs. No. 800, The United States of America, plaintiff in error, vs. William T. Ball, et al, defendants in error; in error to the Circuit Court at Wilkesboro. Opinion by Judge Fritchard. Affirmed.

No. 806, G. Fred Johnson, plaintiff in error, vs. Virginia-Carolina Lumber Company, defendant in error; in error to the Circuit Court at Norfolk, Va. Opinion by Judge Dayton. Affirmed with costs.

No. 807, A. R. Smith, plaintiff in error, vs. Virginia-Carolina Lumber Company, defendant in error; in error to the Circuit Court at Norfolk, Va. Opinion by Judge Dayton. Affirmed with costs.

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