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### WHO STOLD THE BONEY. From Harry Hazell's Yankee Blade.]

I have learned, in the course of my legal experience, that circumstantial evidence alone is a dangerous theory upon which to base conviction in criminal cases. I have known several cases in which the innocent have been grossly wronged through this means, very plausible instance, I remember, being in substance as follows.-

A pale, scared boy, some fourteen years old, was brought into the Municipal Court, in a neighboring city, one morning, evidently in great tribulation, who was arraigned upon a Sewing Machine ulation, who was arraigned upon a charge of theft in his employer's

"What is your name?" asked the judge, quietly. "Johnny Ciggs," said the boy, hum

"Where do you live?" "Down't North End, sir."

"Now, Mr. Clark, what is this case?" said the judge, with some in-

"The old story, your honor," plied the clerk, familiarly. "Thieving. He's stolen a pocket-book, and won't give any account of it."

"Where are the witnesses?" "Here, your honor. The loser of the morey, and the boy's late em.

ployer."

"Has he no counsel—no friend in court?" "I haven,t seen any, your honor; and he don't look as if he were over-

burdened in that way," replied the clerk sarcastically. "Proceed with the evidence."

The child's employer took the stand first and stated the case. He was a well dressed man, but

had hard features—a worldly-minded, selfish-appearing person-and thus

"A stranger came into my store our honor, to make a purchase. He paid me thirty do.lars, ordered his goods sent home, and went out, but returned in a short time for his pocks and was certain he had left it on the counter carelessly. This boy, Johns ny, yonder, had been with me but a few weeks, and I noticed that he hurried away out of the shop immediately, and I did not see him for three days afterwards. There was nobody W. R. FORBIS & BROTHER in the store at the time but Johnny and me. The money was gone, and I didn't steal it. He has been able to give no account of it, or, rather, refused to do so, and there can be no doubt that he is the thief. I took him out of the street and set him to work, out of charity, and this is the return he makes me. He was a poor vags

rant and had deceived me.

"Is that all, sir? ' "Yes, your honor." The owner of the lost money then ated that the merchant's testimony was correct. He had lost seventy dollars in the manner described-that he saw no one in the store but this place. sir. I never stole nothin', sir boy and his master, and the lad had disappeared on his immediate return upon the counter, near where this ed in the same occupation. Johnny was engaged putting up the court room was close, and it was a goods. He had no shadow of soult warm day. Perhaps it was perspirathat he had purloined it and had got tion, anybody, and he noticed that the boy surely here no case for conviction.

seemed uneasy and restless during his don't believe this boy knows a

heard the testimony of your former employer, and this person who lost his money, and the case is very much against you. Do you wish to say ything, or to explain, ch?"

nything, or to explain, eh?"

The little fellow was so alarmed at the apparent severity of his honor, though he was just and a good judge, culprit at all, as I knew from a long acquaintance with his grave but sterling character-the boy was so confused that he said-

"No, sir, I can't." "It is a kind of case," said his hon-"that is getting lamentable comon among us, and we must do our

spectfully suggest that the evidence against the boy, though very plansi-ble and connected, is but circumstan-

"Very dangerously so," suggested the Court, civilly.

"I admit that, your honor " I said. frankly. "And though it is hardly within the ordinary rule of courts, at this late stage of the business, I pray he court to allow me, on this trembling, frightened boy's behalf, to ask the last witness in this case a few brief questions."

And I had the loser of the mone upon the stand again directly "You say you missed your pockets

"Certainly; there is no objection

book after leaving the store, sir?" I "Yes, sir-with seventy dollars in

"Your are certain you didn't take it out when you went?"

"No, sir, I did not." "You might have done so. "But I didn't, sir,"

"You couldn't have dropped hen, in your hurry as you went." "I didn't have it. I left it on the the shop-boys told me of it yestercounter, near where this boy was put- day." ting up goods, and I've no question

that he took is.". "You came back; how soon?" "Within fifteen minutes or so,"

"And the boy was gone?" "Yes, sir, and the pocket-book," dded the witness sharply. "That's all, sir," I-remarked.

And the gentleman sat down. had not made much progress as vet. but I next asked the lad to stand up. when I spoke to him kindly, and said

"Johnny, why did you livery that night as soon as the gentleman left, as he says you did?"

"'Cause mother was dreadful s'ck," he said tearfully; "and me and my little brother, Neddy, was all that she had to take care of her. \* An' I went straight home and didn't know nothet-book, which he missed directly, in about no money of that man's, no wav."

"You went home because your mother was ick. How long has she been ill?" "A good while, sir."

"But why didn't you return to your lavs just then?" "Mother's dead, sir," said the boy,

"When did she die?" "That night, sir. An' I stald away cause I had to go to her funeral with

Neddy, and he is all alone now "And you know nothing of this lost

pocket, book ?" "I have never seen it in all my life sir: an' I don't steal nothin'-never, for poor mother allers said I must be honest, ef I starved; and God would know it, of nobody else found it out an' 'at wicked boys go to the bad

And here the little fellow burst in-He was very possitive he had not While-I confess it-I was wiping taken his wallet with him, but re- my own eyes briefly, I observed that membered just where he had left it his honor was actually busily engag-

away with it during his brief absence, "Your honor," I said, after a mo for he had not been seen about his ment of silence and clearing of the business for three days afterwards by throat, "the prosecution here have stay there. He could not afford to more of this lost money than you or I lose this money, and thought such young rogues should be made an ex fession; be has had no chance to spend it; nobody testifies that he ever had "Now, my bey," said the judge, it, save on suspicion; and I cannot thave you anything to say? you have think your houor will imprison this heard the testimony of your former child, who las so touchingly though innocently explained himself, upon cial evidence. He says he is parentciai evidence. He says no as parent-less, and I think your honor will not doubt this assertion. The dead moth-er, whose form he has just seen laid under the sod, was piriuly a good true woman, and Johnny has not been taught at home to be a thief, evidently. I crave the lenicucy of the court in this it de behalf, and I ask that Johnny may be discharged, since there is no direct evidence against

Corrections for one year."

And the judge rose to adjourn his ment of the boy's accusers.

I shook the poor fellow's "May it please your honor," I said took bim out of the court room with espectfully "will you allow me, be-ore this sentence is officially recorded, or address the court briefly?"

me, told him who I was, at his own request, and saw him running down the street as fast as little legs could "No, your honor. I have never fair was very gratifying to me, for I seen any of these parties until this our. But this lad doesn't lock like But the most agreeable part of the

\*Good morniu, Mr. 8—. You was kind enough to help me out, in the court, t'other day, sir."

"Yes, I remember you. Come the fire, Johany." "Thank you, sir. It's poot y

"Very. Where's vour overcoat?"

"A what, sir?" "Your coat-outside jacket,"

"Bless you, sir, I haint got none But I don't mind it. I'm used to it, sir. I only come to thank you, sir, an' to say that it's all right about the pocket-book, The man's found it." "Where? How?" I asked, with deep interest.

"Well, I did it up, in my hurry get off that night, in one of his big bundles that he bought. He didn't find it for a week, cos he didn't open the parcel at home that it got worked into, somehow, I dou't know how. But he went and told my master about it-who turned me off, you know for stealin' it, when I didn't know nothing about it-and one of

I congratulated the lad, and then induced him to give me his history. He was now an orphan-an intellient but uneducated boy, and one who had been bred in poverty, but honesfly. His good mother's counsels and teachings had had a salutary effect upon his mind, and an influence which was lasting, I conceived. He was out of work, and wanted employment. I recommended him to a neighbor, and secured him a good place subsequently. He was always very grateful to me for the service I had so accidently rendered him in court, and he proved a thoroughly honest and good servant in the years that follows

ed that little jucident. This event is one which confirms m in my opinion that it is unsate to convict upon circumstancial evidence only however strong that evidence may

### TOR SEEPERSON AT SCHOOL

In the winter of 1760 there resided at Williamsburg, in Virginia, a gay work? Why were you absent three young man of about eighteen, called by his intimate friends "Tom Jeffer son." He was the son of Peter Jefferson, a respectable planter, and was we cannot give only the points of born in 1743, at his father's estate of general interest in this brief sketch of "Shadwell," in Albermarle County, whence, after attending one of those rustic academies called "Old Field Schools," he had come to William

"angular and far from beautiful." His in his hair complexion was sunburned, his hair of a sandy red, and his eyes gray; flecked with hazel—an indication the glass, and many other little things. countenance went far to redeem him from the charge. The gray hazel eyes could fill with eloquent and winning light. The angular face, a little hard at first sight, became in moments of excitement a very mirror of the Gap about ton o'clock. Our way lessoved, That we carpestly an I thought or emotion of the brain or from this point seemed straight for-heart. The tall, thin frame, incapa. ward and no other; as tall mountains the people of the amendments to the ble apparently of graceful movement stood to the right and lett, confining constitution, proposed by the constitution of the same vention of 1875, and thus largely reduce the capture of the same vention of 1875, and thus largely reduce the capture of the ca when so old that he could scarcely tain city, was from "Beaux Catcher abled to establish a thorough and controlled with nervo and skill the twenty steps, we were placed in full benefit of all the citizens of the ost mettlesome thorough bred. His nners were easy and cordial. He lressed somewhat after the fashion of a beau-in flowered waistcoat, a silk coat, confined at the knee by fancifully worked garters, and used lowder. In after years the states man and President wore severe black, discarded powder and silk stockings, and became the apostle in all things— in costume as in political principles of a leveling democracy. At Wil-liamsburg, in 1760, he dressed in col-ors powdered, earlied his line lacedrowth of this evil. Mr. Clerk, I judge said something briefly to his ors powdered, carried his line laced subordinate, and immediately adjournment his beneath his arm, bowed low, paid of the court to the evident, astonish gallnut compliments to the fair sex. in the capital or the vicinity. the street as fast as little legs could carry for all that was in conflict with carry him, so in after this reversed carry for all that was in conflict with carry him, so in after this reversed carry for all that was in conflict with decision of his laws. The sesut of his subsequent social theories, laughouse of this case?"

There meres fair was very graffying to me, for 1 belies of the little capital, and was -John Esten Cooke, in Har, e's

# It is true we were not living to ram-

ble one hundred years ago, neither

mous in attaching this term to every thing that is done this year, we have concluded to call ours a Centennial Ramble. And, while every one seems ambitious to try to do something to which he can look as a momento of the developments of science and art in the course of a single century-while thousands are gazing, with intense interest and admiration, at the achieves ments of man, and the powers of invention, and are praising the devices of human ingenuity, which, at most, hand of time for a few years; while be felt; it had become absolutthousands have been thus engaged, we have aspired to celebrate the year, by turning our attention to our own native State; we have spent a few weeks in looking at the works of nature, which have stood for ages, and with a pathos and fervil yet stands, clothed in their primitive beauty and grandenr; we have been the silence continued; not a voice been feasting on all the beauty of of the room, a subdued mountain scenery; we have been and the old gentleman (the host, step tasting "Those pure and staluless waters" that sparkle, as they ripple over the shiny pebbles at their botoms; we have been admitting those vonderful files that shall stand while ations rise and fall, while generations live and die, while centuries come and go, and, perhaps, until Omnipotence speak them into nonentity; we have been revering that infinite wisdom and power which shaped all these things for the good of anima ed nature. But to our ramble more in it ought to be read caused me

inst, bound for the mountain fermi-ous of the W. N. C. R. R. Our course was up the right bank of the Catawba river. For forty-five miles we passed along the valley of this beautiful mountain stream. We nofixed many things that called forth our thoughts and attention; but, as on it the scal of divinits." our ramble, we will retain the minu. Adopted by the Bensevalle State tiæ of our observations, and promise that if the readers of the GLEANER. will call around some of these warm the United States for the last, sixteen Schools," he had come to William and Mary College to complete his ed ucation.

In person he was not graceful. His figure was tall and thin, and his face according to an enthusuastic admirer, "angular and far from beautiful." His will call aronhol some of these warm the United States for the last sixteen evenings when we are idle, or some long night next whater, we will tell the government is all its departments, and by its disregard of constitutional limitations, by its unequal and oppressive taxation, by its unequal and oppressive taxation, by its category and makeful expenditures, by its unwited and seame on his shoul for an 1 n jug in his head; how we saw a little deat seen that young Mr. Tom Jefferson others were of a more serious was Resolved. That in this on

and many persons said he was ugly, On the morning of 2nd, we left the patriots to ignore all dead but the animated expression of his R. R. and started in the direction of disregard the projudices countenance went far to redeem thim Asheville a distance of 21 miles. We, by past events, and to and

view of the city, not a mile from where state,

Ve acatal ourselves for Resolved, That notwithstanding miles, and the great Alleghauy range, prejects so long labor What a place for ineditation! We of Beauf et and Wilmington with a were slow to leave so commanding a great west and for the completion position, such wholesome mountain air, and such a grand picture. We hope some day to cujoy it again. We went into the city which we found to pledge the continued use of be a live place. We saw the splends viet labor of the Santa milding of its kind in the state. Ashewille is destined to become an interesting place, when the converging Rails
roads are completed to its subcrbs,
the prospect of which is already infusing life and energy into her citizens. Next week we will talk about the evils of Re highest peaks in the state.

## June 22nd 1876.

Baltimore, a pious, urbane old tive gentleman of that city, hearing of his W. R. Cox, chair ir., C. M. Busber. S invited him to dinner, although al

## ways deprecating the stage and a'l

theatrical performances. A large company sat down at the table, and did many things that now have the on returning to the drawing room on . word centennial attached to them, of them asked Boots, as a special favhave any tangible existence; but, or to them all, to repeat the Lord's since the whole nation seems unants prayer. He signified his willingness to gratify them, and all eyes were fix+ ed upon him. He slowly and reverently arose from his chair trembling with the burden of two great concer tions. He had to realize the charactthis remarkable year in our country's er, attr butes and presence of the Alhistory-while nearly all are turning mighty Being he was to address. He their attention, and bending their was to transform himself into a poor, steps towards Philadelphia-while sinning, stumbling, benighted, needy many are spending their time and supplicant, offerin; homege, asking money to see the production of man, bread, pardon, light and guidane Says one of the company who present, "It was wondeful to watch the play of emotion which convulsed his countenance. He became death y pale, and his eyes turned tremblingly upward, wet with tears. As yet he can only withstand the corrd ing had not spoken. The silence could ful, until at last the spell was broken us if by an electric shock, as his rich toned voice sylabled forth, "Our Father, which art it Heaven," etc., which filled all hearts. He finis climbing the rugged mountains in heard, not a muscle moved in his rap western North Carolina; we have ping forward with streaming eyes and totteaing frame, seized Booth by the hand. "Sir," said be, in broken sobe, "you have afforded me a cleasure for which my whole future life will be grateful. I am an old man, and every day of my life from my boylood to We left Happy Home on the first verest study and labor for thirty; and I am fartf on being satisfied my render ng of that wonderful duction. I willy one person in thousand comprehends how, n beauty, tendercess and grandenr be condensed in a space so sim The prayer itself sufficiently Hustr

# THE PARTY PLATFORM

WHEREAS, The republican party of

one half hour to view the city, the valley of the Freuch Broad, that winds its way behind the city some two by cherish the the North Carolina id court house, just in course of -recs other judicious legislative aid as will secure the completion of the great

gance and corru