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INTERCEPTED LETTER POINTS TO PLOT TO FREE CONVICTS HERE

Fakir Harry Clark Writes Sherwood Upchurch to Bribe Guard

SUPT. HOLDING UNEARTHS CONSPIRACY

STEWART GRIFFIN AND GUARD HORTON WERE DISCHARGED

County Commissioners Hold Investigation—Clark Wrote Upchurch to Bribe Messenger Who Came for His Mail—Convict Ellison Leads a Guard \$50 Then Raleigh Lawyer Makes the Borrower Pay Him the Money.

The discovery on the person of the steward at county convict camp No. 1 of a letter written by Harry Clark, alias Fred Morris, revealed what the county authorities believe was a bold and desperate scheme for friends of Clark in Raleigh to bribe Steward A. M. Griffin and permit the escape of one or more convicts.

This letter was addressed to J. Sherwood Upchurch. The facts were brought out by County Superintendent H. G. Holding at a special meeting of the county commissioners today. Sensational as the unearthing of this plot was the statement of Superintendent Holding developed evidence pointing towards another plan for escape in which a Raleigh lawyer, whose name was not brought out, seems to have been informed.

A Guard Got \$50. "Did you ever know of a guard being paid by, or securing money, from a prisoner?" asked County Attorney H. W. Norris of Superintendent Holding.

Then Superintendent Holding briefly stated the facts: "Yes, a former guard, C. P. Horton, not now employed by the county, got \$50 from a prisoner, W. D. Ellison. Horton said that he borrowed the money."

This information came to Superintendent Holding by a lawyer in Raleigh asking him if Horton was employed by the county. When Superintendent Holding told him that he was at that time the lawyer said that Horton had borrowed a sum from his client, Ellison, who is serving a term on the roads.

"Did Horton pay back the money?" asked Attorney Norris. "The lawyer got part of it, I don't know whether Horton has paid it all," said the superintendent. This disclosure that the prisoner's attorney had gotten the money paid to a guard presumably for the purpose of aiding the convict raised a laugh in the commissioners' room.

Clark's Letter to Upchurch. When the county commissioners met in special session at noon every member of the board was present. Superintendent H. G. Holding and ex-Steward A. M. Griffin were also in the room. Superintendent Holding said that he had a matter to lay before the body. Then he drew from his pocket a letter written by Harry Clark, the fakir who was acquitted of the murder of Charles G. Smith in the union depot here but sentenced to 18 months on the roads for carrying a pistol, and directed to Alderman J. Sherwood Upchurch of this city. The letter was written on Mr. Upchurch's paper and had his letter head at the top. It read as follows:

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 8-4.

Friend Upchurch: Just a few lines to let you know that I have been layed up with sore back in camp and am not working at present; most likely will lay in all this week. That party I sent up for my mail is my man. He is not going to stay here long and all needed is for you to do little thing. He's right and I am sure will be only too glad to do business. So, friend, he's coming up for my mail again. That is only for

What I'm sending him. What I want you to do is to get right down to business and about the 15th take me out all right as all he has to do is to write back soon. He's got charge of camp all day and there is no one there in day time so you can imagine how good such is to do business as he is not for money and don't care a cent about his job, so Upchurch, for Christ sake get right down to business next time he comes up to see you. I can easily explain more if you will take drive out some Sunday, so trust you will get this letter and hope you are doing good.

Your friend,
HARRY CLARK.

Evidence of a Plot.

Superintendent Holding then made this statement of facts: Clark is one of the prisoners at camp No. 1, near the Falls, and I. M. Bailey is supervisor there. Thursday, February 1, Stewart A. M. Griffin of this camp came to Raleigh and upon his return he said that Sherwood Upchurch wanted to come out next Sunday and see Clark. Superintendent Holding said that he could not permit Mr. Upchurch to see Clark except in the presence of himself and a guard. Upchurch did not come Sunday. Next Tuesday while at work Clark dropped his tools and said that his back had given out; he was sick. Superintendent Holding examined him but could find nothing the matter. However, Clark was placed in the quarters and treated there. Wednesday afternoon Supervisor Bailey returned unexpectedly to the camp and found Steward Griffin talking with Clark. That morning Superintendent Holding had questioned Griffin about Clark and finding that Griffin did not have a pistol had loaned him his weapon. However, Griffin, while violating the rules in talking with a prisoner, had left his pistol in the other room. That afternoon Clark was changed from a double to a single bed and Griffin had suggested to the night guard stopping the peep hole used by the guard above Clark's bed. Thursday morning Griffin had asked Griffin to leave a saw for him as he needed it to do some repairs. About noon Thursday Clark talked to Griffin. A guard went to him but he said that he wanted to see Griffin. He gave Griffin a letter to mail. Supervisor Bailey shortly afterwards went up stairs and there he asked Griffin if he had letters to mail. Griffin said no, and took them out. Griffin remarked that one was sealed and on opening it found that it was the letter from Clark to Upchurch. The letter and the facts were given Superintendent H. G. Holding. He dismissed Griffin and laid the whole matter before County Attorney H. W. Norris. Mr. Sherwood Upchurch met the superintendent, the county attorney and Griffin and read the letter in their presence. He denied any knowledge of a plot for Clark's escape. He said that he was a friend of Clark, and that he went to New York in his interest prior to the murder trial here.

Griffin Gives His Version.

Steward Griffin made a statement to the board. He explained that when he was found talking with Clark it was because the latter was sick and he was looking after him. He had no need for a pistol then because Clark was sickened. He explained that he did not have Clark moved from the double couch. That order was given, he supposed by Night Guard Gordon Bailey. He asked to have the peep hole over Clark's couch stopped up because it was never used; it was so high that the guard could not reach it.

"If there had been a conspiracy between Clark and me," said Griffin, "would I have read that letter Clark wrote to Supervisor Bailey? I could easily have slipped it in the mail. If I wanted to, I know that Clark is a desperate man and will do anything to escape, even commit murder, and I can see that that letter is an effort to put it on me." He said that it was the duty of the guards to read the prisoners' letters before they were mailed. He was passing Clark's couch when the latter handed him the letter to Upchurch and he never noticed at the time that it was sealed, which was contrary to the rules. When he did observe it he remarked on the fact to Mr. Bailey. The only discrepancy between Griffin's statement and that of Supervisor Bailey was that the latter said he saw a letter passed through a hole to Griffin so he requested that the letters given him to mail be shown to him.

Letter to Mamie Bell.

Here it developed that Clark had

(Continued on Page Five.)

ESCAPED FROM THE WAKE JAIL

Jarrell Sawed His Way Out This Morning

MURDERER OF W. C. KING

Jarrell Sent Here Long Warren for Safe Keeping—His Fellow Prisoner Hicks, the Alleged Principal in the King Murder, Refused to Accept Freedom.

Just before day break this morning Burton Jarrell, the negro convicted of the murder of W. C. King in Warren county and lodged here for safe keeping, made his escape from the Wake county jail.

After having eight solid steel bars this negro, whose appeal was argued only last Tuesday in the supreme court, gained the jail yard, easily scaled the stockade and his escape was not discovered until Jailer O. L. Parham entered the prison this morning.

The escape, sensational as it is, is made the more so from the fact that Garfield Hicks, the alleged principal in the murder of Mr. King on the public road near Littenston, was confined in the same cell with Jarrell and had the same opportunity to gain his freedom. He preferred to remain in jail.

Although Hicks was tried at the same time as Jarrell the jury disagreed (Continued on Page Seven.)

A. C. L. STOCK ISSUE

Directors Recommended \$10,000,000 More

To Be Offered to Stockholders at Par at Rate of Ten Per Cent. on Their Holdings—Big Purchase of Equipment Authorized—Meet March 8.

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, Feb. 15.—The directors of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company recommended the issue of \$10,000,000 of new stock to be offered to stockholders at par at the rate of ten per cent. of their holdings.

THE FRYING PAN

LIGHTSHIP SAFE

(By the Associated Press.)

Wilmington, N. C., Feb. 15.—The Frying Pan lightship, which broke from her moorings during the storm Monday night, is now off Cape Fear bar in tow of the buoy tender Wistar.

BALKED AT CIVIL SERVICE.

(By the Associated Press.)

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 15.—The Pennsylvania legislature today completed the business for which it was called in extra session and adjourned finally. All of the reform legislation enumerated by the governor in his official call was enacted, with the exception of civil service for the state officers.

WELL KNOWN NEWSPAPER MAN DIED TODAY.

(By the Associated Press.)

Dallas, Texas, Feb. 15.—Thomas W. Dealey, a director of A. H. Belo & Company, publishers of the Galveston Daily News, died at Mineral Wells, Texas, today. Until January 29 Mr. Dealey had been secretary and treasurer of the News, which position he occupied for twenty-five years. He was born in England in 1859.

NO HINT OF VIOLENCE IN BOYCOTT REPORTS

State Department Learns It Is Confined to Trade Limits

BRITISH GUNBOATS SENT TO CANTON

Officers of the Boats Say There Was a Hint of an Uprising in the Sunning District—Tell Also of Anti-Dynastic Movement in Canton as Well as Anti-Foreign Agitation, and the Drilling of Hunan Benches.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 15.—From the many reports received by the state department from its representatives in the east relative to the anti-American boycott, its extent, the prospects of its continuance and the amount of injury it has inflicted on American trade, two selected at random from the north and the south have been made public. In neither is there any hint of violence, workers of the boycott organization, has done its best to keep the issue confined strictly to trade limits.

The report from North China brings the history of events up to the close of 1905. At that time the boycott movement had been "nearly all talk" in the principal cities near the correspondent who adds:

"The student class as the willing workers of the boycott organization, has done its best to keep the issue alive and to some extent has succeeded, much against the wishes of the merchants, who have had enough and never want to see another boycott. But this talk and deprivation of agitation has not been sufficient to any great extent in the business affairs related to American products. There has been timidity in buying and in some instances cancellation of orders under the spur of threats, but despite details from some Americans it is well known to the majority that such conduct on the part of Chinese buyers has not been the rule. This statement, however, does not apply to the product of the Standard Oil Company, which has been opposed in many places outside of the principal cities of North China. As to that condition, it can only be said that thorough investigation will prove that trade competition has as much to do with it as Chinese antagonism. That underhanded methods have been employed against the Standard Oil Company and the British-American Tobacco Company is becoming plainer every day. At present the attack on these two companies is apparently centered in and around Hankow, where obscene circulars have appeared, and also many evidences of unfriendly intent. But at Soochow, Chinkiang, Chungchow, Wuhu, Kiu-kiang, and many other places tributary to and on the Yangtze there has also been more or less antagonism of the boycott, but under the lash of the guilds they must give a half hearted acquiescence at least. If the officials so desire they can squelch the recrudescence of the movement in this section, and by so doing will gain the support of the merchants. But again there is the new powerful student class, which under the teaching of foreign educated Chinese and perhaps others not friendly to American interests where they conflict with their own, has developed an influence recognized by officials, guilds, merchants and nobles."

From South China, and in fact clear down to the Straits Settlements comes the report that there is no improvement in the boycott situation; that trade is badly affected in most lines and there is little of no business outside the small European trade. An American sewing machine company reports that Chinese are afraid to go into its places, "although some would like to buy, but dare not have a machine in their possession. Still the authorities claim there is no organization here."

The report concludes: "If the boycott is called off tomorrow it will take many years to remove the ill effect from the injury already done. At Penang American firms could not move any American goods in their go downs, and Chinese refused to take the goods which they had already ordered."

Reports from England.

San Francisco, Calif., Feb. 15.—The officers of the Boats bring the news of the dispatch of two British gunboats to Canton just before their departure from the orient. The vessels were (Continued on Second Page.)

WHAT MINERS ARE DEMANDING TODAY

A BIG FREIGHT STEAMER ASHORE

Devonian, of Liverpool on Massachusetts Coast

LITTLE DAMAGE DONE

Carried 2,000 Tons of General Cargo, Mainly Machinery and Cotton—Registers 6,823 Tons—Only Four Passengers on Board—Almost High and Dry at Low Tide.

(By the Associated Press.)

Scituate, Mass., Feb. 15.—Overrunning her distance in a heavy snow storm the Leyland Line passenger and freight steamer Devonian which sailed from Liverpool on February 5, with four passengers and a crew of eighty-two struck on the ledge at this place about 1 o'clock this morning. The officers of the Devonian Lodge lighthouse before entering Boston harbor but missed it by four miles and brought up on the rocks. At daylight she was lying among the rocks and about five hundred feet from the shore. A volunteer crew headed by Captain Stanley of the Third Hill life saving station, his own men being off duty, rowed out to the steamer. Captain Ridley of the Devonian informed the life savers that his steamer was tight and in little danger though hard on the ledge and he asked that tags be summoned from Boston. The volunteers returned to the beach to telephone for the tug assistance. Later they went back again to be near the Devonian in case of emergency. The passengers were not taken off then. During the forenoon the snow storm changed to rain. There was no immediate danger of the ship breaking up. The Devonian is one of the largest and newest trans-Atlantic liners.

The Devonian carried about 2,000 tons of general cargo, consisting principally of machinery, Egyptian cotton and yarn. She registered 6,823 tons, and was built at Belfast, Ireland, in 1900, and her home ports is Liverpool. She is 552 feet long, 59 feet in width and 36 feet in depth.

As the tide receded it left the liner about 500 feet from the shore and almost high and dry in a nest of rocks. The indications were that it would be necessary to remove part of her cargo in order to float her.

The passengers on the Devonian are J. W. D. Page, wife and daughter, and W. C. Gillbrand. The Devonian is valued at about \$1,500,000, and it is estimated that her cargo is valued at from \$150,000 to \$300,000.

WEDDING REHEARSAL

LATE THIS EVENING

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 14.—A rehearsal of the Roosevelt-Longworth wedding will take place at the white house late this evening. Every detail of the ceremony to be performed on Saturday next will be gone over to the end that there may be no hitch in the formal proceedings.

In addition to the bride and groom, President and Mrs. Roosevelt, the ushers and military attaches who will participate in the formal ceremony, will take part in the rehearsal.

CONDITION OF McCALL THE SAME.

(By the Associated Press.)

Lakewood, N. J., Feb. 15.—Little change in the condition of John A. McCall, former president of the New York Life Insurance Company, was reported by his physicians today.

"Mr. McCall," said Dr. Lindley, "passed a pretty comfortable night, and his condition is just the same as it was yesterday. I do not think he can be said to be in immediate danger."

It was reported later that shortly before daylight today Mr. McCall had a sinking spell, making the third of these attacks in the last three days. He rallied, however, and early this morning his condition was reported to be a trifle more encouraging than yesterday.

It is Said Both Sides Are in a Conciliatory Mood

OPERATORS WILL NOT RECOGNIZE UNION

It is Understood That if the Operators Are Reasonably Liberal and an Agreement is in Sight, the Union Will Not Press For Its Recognition—Operators in Turn Are Willing to Correct Grievances That Have Arisen Since the Commission's Award.

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, Feb. 15.—The conference between the coal miners and the union mine workers of the hard coal fields of Pennsylvania, at which efforts will be made to formulate an agreement between the employers and the men to go into effect April 1, when the award of the anthracite commission expires, is being held this afternoon. All the coal companies are represented, and the interests of the employees are being looked after by the special scale committee of thirty-six, which is made up of the mine workers' executive board of three anthracite districts. President Mitchell is chairman of this committee.

Among those who attend the meeting are: President George F. Beer of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company; W. H. Truesdale, president of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Company; T. F. Fowler, president of the New York, Ontario & Western Railroad; E. D. Underwood, president of the Erie Railroad; E. B. Thomson, president of the Lehigh Valley Railroad; David Wilson, president of the Delaware & Hudson Company. The independent operators are represented by Frank Pardee of Hazleton, Pa., and J. L. Calk of Pittston, Pa.; W. L. Connel of Scranton, Pa., an independent operator who is president of the anthracite board of conciliation, is also in attendance. The Pennsylvania Railway will not be directly represented, it not having been invited to the conference, but will abide by any action taken by the presidents of the other coal carrying railroads.

In case a technical discussion shall arise after the miners have formally made known their grievances the operators will call in officials of the various coal companies who have a practical knowledge of the mining conditions. Among them are A. L. Law, manager of the Temple Iron Company; General Manager Bryden of the Scranton Coal Company; W. A. May, superintendent of the Erie Railroad; Colonel R. A. Phillips of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad; C. C. Rose of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad; S. B. Warriner of the Lehigh Valley and W. J. Richards, general mining superintendent of the Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Company.

Messrs. Warner and Richards are members of the anthracite board of conciliation.

New York, Feb. 15.—The propositions to be presented to the mine operators by the union representatives today have not been made public, but more or less accurate reports of their nature have leaked out. It has been learned from various sources that among the proposals to be submitted are those for an eight hour day without any reduction in wages for all employees paid by the hour, day or week; a uniform wage scale in the three anthracite districts for the different classes of employees; adequate compensation for "dead work" performed by contract miners; reconstruction of the board of conciliation; an increase in wages of from 10 to 20 per cent for all company men; the adoption of a system by which coal shall be paid for by weight wherever practicable and the recognition of the union.

The miners and operators went into conference shortly before 2 o'clock. The meeting was held in the office of the trust trunk the association.

The conference adjourned shortly before 3 o'clock. A statement will be given out later. The operators received the demands of the miners and will reply after considering them.

Standard Oil Dividend.

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, Feb. 15.—The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, has declared a dividend of \$15 a share. The dividend declared at this time last year was at the same rate.