

ARRESTED IN WASHINGTON.

John C. Davis, a Former Wilmington Man Arrested for Obtaining Money Under False Pretences. Amount May Reach \$100,000.

Charlotte Observer.

Washington, May 8.—There were sensational developments today in the case of John C. Davis, a member of the local bar, who was arrested last night on the charge of having obtained money under false pretences. The amount, which Davis is alleged to have misappropriated in the transactions with his clients, mostly women, was thought at first to have been small but to-day notes, aggregating \$50,000, said to have been given by Davis, were exhibited to United States District Attorney Baker, and it is rumored that the amount finally may reach \$100,000.

Martin C. Davis, a brother of John and secretary of a local building and loan association, was arrested to-day on a charge of conspiracy. The largest amount alleged to have been secured from any one person by John C. Davis was \$18,000, advanced by a woman client, who received five or six notes therefor, the next largest amount being \$13,000. When a search was made today of the safe in Davis' elegant suite of offices, nothing was found but a few deeds.

John C. was arrested on complaint made by Miss Nettie McKeown, of Cincinnati, who declares that she lost \$1,500. Davis said today that he had been in the State hospital for the insane at Raleigh, N. C., between six and seven years and that he had been in a private sanatorium in the city, but that his mind was "as bright as a dollar."

"While I was in North Carolina I gave more than \$50,000 to the erection of churches," he said.

District Attorney Baker fixed bail for John C. Davis at \$20,000 and for his brother at \$10,000.

Raleigh, N. C., May 8.—John C. Davis, of Washington, D. C., who is under arrest in that city, created a sensation in this State in the early nineties, resulting in his incarceration in the State insane asylum here from May 24, 1892, to November 30, 1897. He was a lawyer in Wilmington, and a prominent and a zealous member of the Methodist Church. He furnished the money to build a Methodist church and placed in it costly chimes. He spent money freely. Then came complaints from clients involving money matters, said to aggregate about \$30,000. He was arrested and the case was a noted one in the judicial annals of the State. His counsel set up the plea of insanity. The jury found the accused insane. He was then sent to the insane asylum here. Upon his release some years later he went to Washington and in many ways since tried to make a reparation in some of those from whom he was charged with fraudulently obtaining money. During the past few years he has been sending occasional remittances to those with whom he had dealings in Wilmington.

While a resident of Wilmington Davis was known as a great worker in the church and often gave handsome sums to the various churches and charitable institutions of the city. Out of his own pocket he purchased chimes and an organ for the Fifth Street Methodist church. His law business was in a flourishing condition, most of his clients being widows and orphans. Under the pretense of investigating their funds he got control of many large sums, all of which he squandered

with a lavish hand. In a short while complaints began to pour in from every direction, and in this way his crookedness leaked out. The amount of misappropriated funds ran up to thousands of dollars.

By his religious zeal and great liberality in all church enterprises especially by the congregation to which he belonged John Davis won the confidence of a great many of the Wilmington people, and when his exposure came it was a terrible shock to his host of friends, though there were some who had begun to doubt his integrity some time before the exposure was made. Some few stood by him to the last, claiming that he was insane on the subject of giving to religious purposes.

It developed on his trial that he had little money of his own. His practice as a lawyer was not large and the many donations he made to his church were from the moneys he had fraudulently secured from others under promise of profitable investment. Many of the presents he made the church were bought on credit, and when exposure came the congregation found itself owning a very handsome church, but, to the members' surprise, heavily burdened with debts which Davis had contracted in the building and furnishing the church, one of the latter items being a costly chime of bells. On his trial Davis pleaded insanity and the jury sustained the plea, though few people acquainted with him and the details of his fraudulent transactions accepted the verdict as correct.

Another Victim Unloaded Gun.

Wadesboro, May 11.—Information reached here yesterday of the accidental killing of Arch Oliver, a young man 19 years old in the southern part of the county. The accident occurred Saturday evening, when Oliver was on his way home after a day of hunting. He stopped to talk with a 10 year old boy, Willis Thurman, Thurman was examining Oliver's gun. Thurman asked if the gun was loaded and when Oliver told him it was not, he pulled the trigger and the load struck Oliver in the face, killing him instantly. It was a very sad accident and both families are grief stricken.

Standard Oil Co.

Chester, S. C., May 11.—The Standard Oil Company is planning to make Chester a distributing point for gasoline, Mr. H. W. Hafner, who handles the Standard Oil Company's oil, will likewise have charge of the gasoline business.

Shoots Father.

News and Observer.

Greenville, N. C., May 10.—In the northern part of Pitt county, there was a quarterly meeting at a negro church, attended by a large number of colored people. "Bud" Gray, a young white man living in that township, also went to the meeting. His father, N. L. Gray, learning that the young man had gone there, went after him and reprimanded him for being at such a place, and also accused him of being there for the purpose of selling liquor to the negroes.

Young Gray resented this action of his father and also cursed him for making the accusation about liquor selling, whereupon the father slapped the son in the face. This angered the young man more and he went to his home and got a gun. On his way back with the gun he met his father in front of the latter's home and shot him at close range with a load of bird shot.

The elder Gray was struck with about eighty shot from the waist line downward, and some stray shot also struck a small son standing near, Mr. Gray's wound is a bad one, but he is reported today as resting as comfortably as could be expected.

Hains' Verdict Manslaughter.

By the Associated Press.

Flushing, N. Y., May 11.—After four hours' deliberation the jury in the case of Captain Peter C. Hains, U. S. A., charged with the murder of William E. Annis, on August 15, last, brought in a verdict of "guilty" of manslaughter in the first degree this afternoon. The maximum penalty is twenty years' imprisonment.

Captain Hains stood up and faced the jury, squaring his shoulders, head thrown back in military fashion, while Foreman Sundling recited the verdict. As he heard the decision of the jurors, Hains' face was as white as chalk. He stood for a few moments motionless, staring at the jury after he heard the verdict. One of his lawyers touched him and he quietly sat down. A few moments later, apparently little affected by the verdict, he walked from the court room with a steady stride and was taken back to the Queens county jail.

In striking contrast to the demeanor of the prisoner was the grief of his aged father, General Peter C. Hains, and his brother, Major John Power Hains. For a moment they sat as if dazed, then broke down and wept.

Special to the Lenoir News.

Charlotte, N. C. May—With the near approach of the Twentieth of May celebration, which will be held in this city May 18th, 19th, and 20th, Charlotte is completing all details for welcoming and entertaining the thousand of visitors who will be her guests on this historic event. Hotel and boarding house accommodations are being enlarged to such an extent that the enormous crowds will suffer no inconvenience whatever in being entertained. This city boasts of the best hotel facilities of any town in this section of the country.

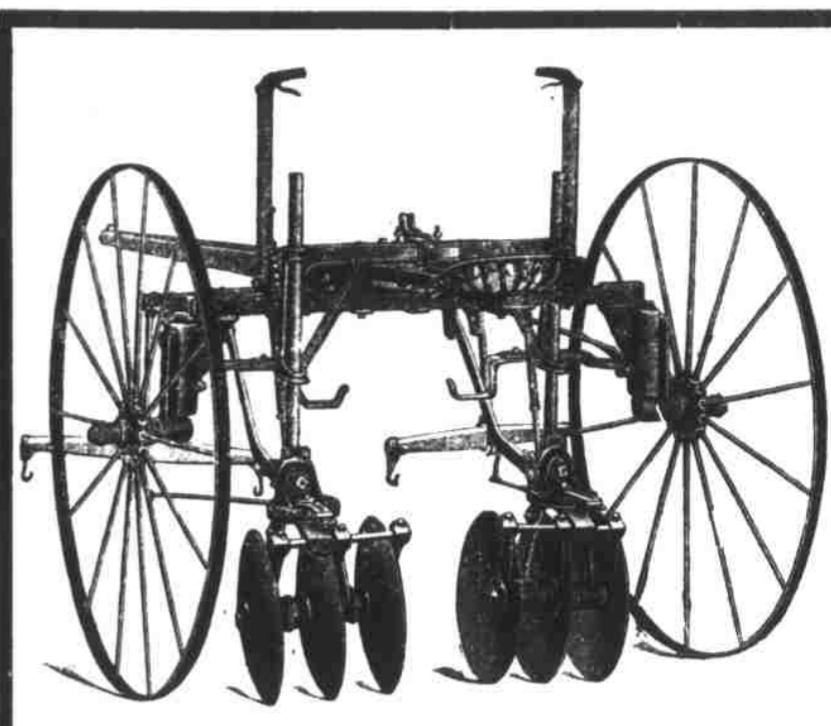
The several committees, who have in charge the celebration have about completed their work. The mammoth grandstand has been practically completed and the four large welcome arches on the principal streets of the city will be finished by the latter part of this week and within a few days the entire city will be decorated in flags, bunting and myriads of electric lights. One of the specially attractive features of the decorations will be the display made on Independence Square, in the business center of the city. Several of the United States flags (there will be 600 used in all) will cover this historic spot and strings of electric lights, numbering several thousand, will furnish a canopy at night giving the effect of a huge umbrella.

Bishop Galloway Dying.

Jackson, Miss., May 11.—At midnight practically all hope for the recovery of Bishop Charles B. Galloway, Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and one of the most distinguished churchmen of the South, has been abandoned, and his death, it is announced by the physicians in attendance, is a matter of but a few hours.

Bishop Galloway had been in ill health for some months suffering, it is stated, with Bright's disease, but with the return of spring he seemed to improve and his friends were hopeful that he would gain sufficient strength to pass through the heated season and hold the two Mississippi conferences to which he was assigned next winter.

On a recent trip to Asheville, however, where he attended a meeting of the College of Bishops, he contracted a cold which yesterday developed into pneumonia. His condition fast became critical and late today it was evident that he could not survive.



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