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Gaffney Certain Dellinger Is Long Lost Charlie Ross

After Visit to Denver, Shelby Man Reiterates Belief That Mystery Is Nearly Solved.

Another link has been forged in clearing up the possible identity of Julius Dellinger as the long-lost Charlie Ross.

Nearly a half century ago J. Frank Gaffney, aged Shelby man, knew a boy named "Coley" McHale, who lived in Gaffney, S. C. Wednesday Mr. Gaffney visited Denver, Lincoln county, and talked with Julius Dellinger, who he says was the boy "Coley" McHale, and furthermore gave it as his belief that "Coley" McHale, now known as Dellinger, is none other than the long lost Ross.

Several weeks ago The Star first published a story telling the world that Dellinger was probably the missing boy of the world's greatest mystery and little by little since that time links of evidence have been making the story more plausible.

Commenting on the visit of Gaffney to Denver a dispatch to the Charlotte Observer says:

The new substantiating evidence that came to light Wednesday resulted from a visit of J. Frank Gaffney, Mr. Gaffney, after 52 years, is positive that Dellinger is the same person who was brought to Gaffney, S. C., in the fall of 1874 by a man who was known as J. H. McHale, who was accompanied by a woman who was said at that time to be Mary Jane Hale.

Mr. Gaffney made affidavit before Lee B. Weathers, notary public of Shelby and editor of The Cleveland Star, that Julius C. Dellinger of Denver is none other than the curly-haired three-year-old child that was in the custody of McHale and the woman with him at Gaffney in 1874.

When shown a picture of the lost Charlie Ross published in 1874 after his abduction, Mr. Gaffney said, "As sure as there is a God in Heaven that picture is the same as the child brought to Gaffney by McHale and the woman with him and Mr. Dellinger here is that three-year-old child."

There is no mistaking Mr. Gaffney's sincerity as he talked with Dellinger about his recollections of the visit to Gaffney 52 years ago of the man McHale, the woman and child.

As Dellinger and Mr. Gaffney talked, Dellinger recalled incidents he said he remembered about being in Gaffney.

Reporters watched with interest as Dellinger, whose memory is prodigious, related incident after incident and asked Mr. Gaffney if he recalled them too. Mr. Gaffney exclaimed again and again as he was reminded of occurrences which had not passed through his mind in half a century.

One of these incidents was of McHale's slipping on the icy steps of a stairway that ran up the outside of a building at Gaffney and sliding to the ground.

Mr. Gaffney, in his affidavit, referred to his recollection that the boy one morning got his foot cut on an old saw.

"If you can show me your foot and show me a scar on it," said Gaffney to Dellinger, "it will be still further proof and strong evidence that you are the man who was the curly-headed boy in Gaffney in 1874."

Dellinger remembered the incident at once and supported the recollection with a wealth of incidents connected with it which Mr. Gaffney said he had forgotten in the lapse of 52 years. Mr. Dellinger at once pulled his shoe and displayed the scar, which Mr. Gaffney said was at precisely the spot on the foot as he remembered the injury to the boy's foot had been more than half a century ago.

"Even if I did not myself remember so well the incidents," Mr. Gaffney told reporters, "Mr. Dellinger's recalling of events I had long since forgotten would convince me beyond the shadow of a doubt that he is the boy who lived over the store of my father in Gaffney."

"My father took the New York World at that time and it was full of the kidnaping of Charlie Ross. The fact is, my father and I had decided to force McHale to tell something about himself, who he was, and who the woman and child were. It was in the days when the old Ku Klux organization was powerful and we were going to use the influence of this organization to force him to talk. Mayor Littlejohn, however, discouraged this and we did nothing about it."

"But McHale had heard, evidently, that there was talk and that the boy was suspected of being Charlie Ross. One night the child disappeared. We understood that a negro named Abe Smith had carried him off. Four days later, or rather four nights later, McHale and the woman disappeared, telling nobody where they had gone. In

Pet Dog Goes Mad and Bites Twelve People

Reports from what appears to be the worst "mad dog" affair in the history of this section of the state came in today from the No. 1 township community, where 12 people, seven in one family, were bitten by a dog, wild with rabies.

As near as could be verified over the telephone by The Star, the dog bit seven members of the family of Mr. Kester Hamrick, well-known farmer of that section, and five members of the families of Love Ellis and Luther Humphries. The 12 are now taking the Pasteur treatment and are thought to be getting along nicely.

Mrs. L. I. Scruggs told The Star by long distance telephone today that the dog was a pet in the Hamrick family and that it became mad sometime during the past week-end. Members of the family merely thought the dog had "running fits" until after seven members of the family, all except Mr. Hamrick, including the baby and Mr. Hamrick were bitten and then it was decided that the dog must be mad and it was killed Monday. However, five members of the families of Ellis and Humphries were bitten before that time. The head of the dog was sent off for examination and the report revealed that the dog was infected with rabies.

Immediately after the dog was killed a "mad rock" in that section was secured and used on those bitten by the dog. The rock, it is said, failed to stick on some of those bitten. Later the 12 were taken to Gaffney, S. C., where they were treated by a physician. Since the examination revealed that the dog was really mad the Pasteur treatment has been used and 21 doses, it is said, will be given the 12.

No ill effect from the bites had shown up until yesterday, it was said. The Hamrick family lives in No. 1 township across the river and in one of the outlying rural districts near the South Carolina border line.

Over \$450,000 Taxes Paid In

Over \$450,000 in county taxes have been paid in for the past year, according to information from Sheriff H. A. Logan's office.

If it wasn't for the warm sun shine creeping in the windows the sheriff and his deputies would think it the fall of the year judging by the taxes pouring in.

An unusually big rush of tax collections during the latter part of April and the first part of this month swelled the total considerably, it is said. Total taxes on the books for the county run around \$475,000 showing that the major portion of the taxes have been paid.

DIXON WILL PLAY IN AND AROUND HERE

Dr. Thomas Dixon, author, playwright and orator, was in Shelby yesterday, shaking hands with his many friends and visiting Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Thacker, Mrs. Thacker being a sister. Dr. Thacker is here conducting a revival meeting at the Presbyterian church and Mrs. Thacker arrived yesterday to assist him in the service through this week and next week.

Dr. Dixon has come back to his native state to spend the remainder of his life. He is developing Wildacres, a resort near Little Switzerland where arts and sciences will be encouraged and promoted. He begins next week building a home for himself and family, a Dutch colonial design which not only provides living quarters but his study where he will continue his writings.

Shelby will probably see much of Dr. Dixon in the future. He enjoys coming to Shelby and will visit his native hearth often. He was en route to Gastonia where he was scheduled to speak last night and couldn't resist the temptation to spend as much of his time here as possible. He has just completed a speaking tour of the state and is much worn by the strain, but finishes his engagements this week and will retire at Wildacres.

First Baptist Program For Mother's Day

A special Mother's Day program will be rendered at the First Baptist Sunday School Sunday morning, beginning promptly at 9:45. There will be songs and recitations appropriate to the occasion that is celebrated and Supt. John P. Mull urges every mother and every child to be present. A special transportation committee will bring to the Sunday School and church all who have no conveyance.

Rev. Dr. Wall, the pastor, will preach a special Mother's Day sermon at the 11 o'clock hour and it is his wish that families sit together if possible at the service. Young ladies will distribute flowers to those who come, a white flower as an emblem of a dead mother and a red flower honoring a living mother.

Veterans Will Hear Dr. Thacker Monday

At the annual re-union of old soldiers to be held here Monday with a dinner at Cleveland Springs Hotel, Dr. Ernest Thacker of Virginia, who is holding a revival meeting here, will deliver a short address. The daughters of the Confederacy issue a cordial invitation to all old soldiers, their wives and widows to be on hand Monday morning at 10 o'clock. They are asked to assemble at the Confederate monument on the Court Square where conveyance will take them to Cleveland for the dinner and short program. Daughters who can furnish cars, are asked to have them at the monument a short time before ten o'clock.

Rev. W. O. Johnson of Richmond, Va., who was pastor of the Patterson Springs Baptist church when the structure was built three years ago, will be present and deliver the dedication sermon Sunday May 9th. Services begin at 10:30 o'clock and continue all day with dinner on the ground and a sermon in the afternoon at 2 o'clock by Rev. Rush Padgett of the Second Baptist church. The debt on the church was paid off the first Sunday in April so the notes will be burned at the dedication services on Sunday.

Eve, The First Modernist is Mrs. Thacker's Sunday Subject

Brilliant Member of the Dixon Family, Author and Lecturer Comes To Help Husband In Meeting

Mrs. Addie Dixon Thacker.



"Eve, the First Modernist" will be the subject of a lecture by Mrs. Addie Dixon Thacker, brilliant member of the Rev. Thomas Dixon family, which will be delivered Sunday at the First Baptist Church at 3:30 o'clock. This will be the first effort here of Mrs. Thacker to help her husband in a revival meeting which he has been conducting at the Presbyterian church this week. Mrs. Thacker came in yesterday and will remain for the remainder of the meeting to lend her services to Christian work. The meeting at the First Baptist church Sunday afternoon will be a mass meeting for men and women of the city and community. Mrs. Thacker is a fundamentalist. She sees no conflict between science and the Bible. Her subject treats of the present tremendous controversy now on all over the country and throughout the civilized world between modernists and Fundamentalists and undoubtedly both the church auditorium and the Sunday school room will be filled to hear this distinguished native of Cleveland on this much discussed subject.

Other Sunday Service At the same hour, 3:30 p. m. there will be a great community song service in the Presbyterian church for all the young people of the city and community, 15 years of age and under. Prof. Harry Thomas who is doing such wonderful singing in the revival, will have charge of the music; and Dr. J. Ernest Thacker of Norfolk, Va. will deliver a short address on "Preparedness." It is expected that all the young people from all schools, and Sunday Schools of Shelby and Cleveland county will be present and that this will be one of the most thrilling and inspiring community song and praise services ever held in Shelby.

The Thacker-Thomas meetings in progress at the Presbyterian church and to continue through May 16th, are inter-denominational in character and the people of every denomination are co-operating in them to the praise and glory of God and to the blessing of the entire community. Dr. Thacker preached one of his strongest sermons last night on the subject "Revival or Sin." The church was filled to capacity. Sunday morning at 11 o'clock he speaks on "The Insufficiency of Self" and at 7:45 p. m. on "The King and His Three Mightiest Men."

Amazed at Shelby's Growth Mrs. Thacker, daughter of one of the most notable pioneer Baptist preachers this state has ever produced, is fond of her native town and county. She is amazed at Shelby's wonderful growth and evidences of prosperity on every hand. Driving about the streets yesterday she recalled scenes familiar to her childhood days, but the Dixon home was gone and a lot which her father once sold at \$1,500 is today priced at \$30,000. Mrs. Thacker has a most charming

DURHAM DELIVERS PIEDMONT ADDRESS

Last of Medal Awards—15 Receive Diplomas—Opreta Last Night With Musical Recital

"A Crisis in Religion" was the subject of Hon. Stonewall J. Durham of Gastonia, who delivered the annual literary address at the closing of Piedmont High School on Wednesday morning. On Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, 15 diplomas were awarded to the graduates from the literary department and a diploma was delivered to the graduate in music. These diplomas were delivered by Prof. W. D. Bures who made one of the best speeches of his life. Prof. Lawton Blanton of the Lattimore school delivered medals to the following winners, Fletcher Sain, America Hendrick, Charles Forney, Docia Richards, Lucetta Herd.

Piedmont orators have won fame and honors beyond the confines of Cleveland county. Of the 16 fine gold medals given by Hon. Clyde R. Hoey for the best orator in an accredited high school of Cleveland county, Piedmont students have won nine of these trophies.

Crisis in Religion While laboring under temporary infirmities, Hon. S. J. Durham of Gastonia sustained his high reputation as a thinker and orator. The address Wednesday morning was one of the finest ever spoken at Piedmont. He declared that traditional politics and traditional religion are losing the interest of the young people. "It should be our purpose," said he, "to find a way of meeting the viewpoint of these young people. Frankly, I am on their side." He went on to say that the young man from the college or university must forget what he has learned in the Science laboratory or in the psychology lecture room when he comes to the altar in the church; that too, a definite line is drawn between the secular and the spiritual. We are taught to look on religion as a thing apart; religion ought to be regarded as a part of life—a most vital part. Too many good church members are afraid that the adventures in science and philosophy will harm their traditional tenets. "Such was not the attitude of Jesus," said Mr. Durham. "He promised his followers that he would send them a Spirit which would lead them into all Truth." The speaker defined faith as a belief in the unseen based in things seen. He urged the young people to see and learn all

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UNIQUE ACCIDENT OCCURS NEAR CITY

One of the strangest accidents in local annals occurred on Thursday in the vicinity of Shelby when a big pine tree, being cut by a gang of men making a clearing for the Southern Bell Telephone company, which is stringing a toll line from Charlotte to Asheville, fell on an automobile on the public road, driven by Fred Mauney, son of Mr. J. G. Mauney, of Grover street, who had with him in the car Miss Grace Putnam of this city.

Young Mauney was slightly cut about the head, as a branch of the tree crashed through the top of the car. Otherwise neither of the passengers was injured. But the car was pretty severely torn up.

The accident occurred in Lovers Lane, on West Marion street, about four o'clock, Thursday afternoon. Mr. Mauney was driving through the Lane when suddenly, as he reports the circumstance, a man suddenly leaped into the road and shouted to him to stop. At the same time he saw a big pine tree careening across the road.

With great presence of mind young Mauney swerved the car to the left side of the road, which it is said probably was responsible for the saving of his and the young woman's life. The tree fell with a crash, the top limbs striking the automobile, demolishing the top, and the hood.

The tree is said to have been of such size that if the body of it had struck the car, it probably would have crushed it, killing the occupants.

The car was a new Dodge. Mr. Mauney, senior, discussing the accident Friday morning said the foreman on the clearing job told his son that he did not see the car in time to prevent the crash.

Clover Hill Memorial.

Memorial services will be held at Clover Hill Sunday. Services in the morning with decoration of graves. No afternoon program. The mission-ary scheduled to speak will not be on

City Asks Southern For Brick Station And Cement Bridge

Wow! Here Is A Warm Story

Shelby is a "cow town." It is not West where longhorns are not short horns and great open spaces are open. That's the way a New York writer sojourning in Hendersonville looks at us.

What's more the same writer sent Charlie Cordell, young local boxer, back home to "tend the crops" after a round of slugging with Jack Dempsey.

It carries more humor for Shelby readers than Will Rogers ever runched out of his type writer. You can't afford to miss it. Turn to an inside page and read what a United Press writer had to say of Cordell in a dispatch published in a New York paper.

Don't wait. Read it right now.

Grigg Accepts School Offer

Principal Of Shelby High School Declines To Accept Directing Office Of County Schools

J. Horace Grigg, in a statement made to The Star Thursday stated that he had decided to accept the offer tendered him to become superintendent of the Cleveland county school system.

Mr. Grigg, who is the efficient principal of the Shelby High school, was tendered the offer Monday by the county board of education in their regular meeting after the resignation of J. C. Newton, present superintendent, was accepted. The decision to accept the offer, Mr. Grigg says, was made Thursday, and with the county board the people of the county feel that a worthy successor to Mr. Newton has been secured. Mr. Newton, it will be remembered, leaves the county school office on June 1 to become the secretary of the Shelby Chamber of Commerce.

Takes Up Work June 1. Mr. Grigg will take up his new duties on June 1, he says. The Shelby High school does not close until four days later, June 5, but the majority of the school work there will be completed by that time and in addition to winding up his work there Mr. Grigg will take temporary charge of the county superintendent's office for the four days before he enters permanently on the work.

No indication has been given by the city school board or educational leaders as to who will succeed Prof. Grigg as principal of the high school next year.

Cotton Coops To Meet On Tuesday

Will Select County Delegates To District Meeting of Organization. Mr. George Blanton Director

The Cleveland county members of the North Carolina Cooperative Cotton Growers Association will hold their annual meeting in the courthouse here Tuesday morning, May 11, at 2 in the afternoon, it is announced.

The district meeting will be held here sometime during the following week at which time delegates from the 10 counties in the district will elect their director, who has much to do with the shaping of the policies and organization plans. The counties in the district are Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Polk and Rutherford. Mr. George Blanton, vice-president of the Shelby First National Bank and one of the county's leading farmers, is at present the district director.

Played Stork For 4400 New Babies

Dr. G. M. Gold leaves next week for visits in Western states, goes to take a much needed rest. During his 43 years of active practice he has played stork for between 4300 and 4400 babies, mostly in Cleveland county. His practice for many years was in the Polkville section and extended naturally over into the edge of Rutherford county, but the big majority of the 4400 children were born here in Cleveland. Dr. Gold has been going constantly in his practice with no let-up for vacation except one month last summer. Next week he and his daughter, Mrs. Dob Lattimer go west for a trip which will take them on a visit to his brother in Texas.

Will Make More Traffic Laws To Compel Observance of Newly Installed Traffic Signals

The Southern railway is asked to build a brick passenger station here to take place of the old wooden building which has stood for many years and also build a concrete bridge on West Sumter street near the city ball park. The city hears that the Southern contemplates the repair of the present wooden station, hence the request that no repairs be done but that a brick station be provided. Some two years ago the city ordered the widening of Sumter street west from Morgan. Property was purchased from the B. C. Houser lot to provide for a wider street and the baseball grand stand and fence have been moved. To make the bridge over the Southern conform to the width of the street, the Southern was asked to make it wider. Now comes the request that this bridge be built of cement to insure permanency and safety, for West Sumter street is rapidly becoming one of the most traveled streets in Shelby.

To Punish Traffic Violators

The city officials have determined that the traffic signals must be obeyed and have instructed the city attorney to draft an ordinance providing a fine each time a vehicle runs by either of the signals when the red word "Stop" is flashing. The ordinance will provide a fine for turning to the left at the northwest corner and the southwest corner of the square where the signs plainly read "No Left Turns." Vehicles may turn to the left other signals. Regardless of how the stop and go signals read, vehicles may turn right provided there is not a car ahead, but it will be a violation of the new ordinance for drivers in the rear of a car stopped still when the signal reads "stop" for either of the rear cars to go ahead of the front car to make the right turn.

Chief Hamrick has been instructed to place signs at the entrance of trade street from J. N. Dellinger's store to Doggett Brothers filling station, reading "No Parking Allowed." Vehicles will not be allowed to park in this cross street which is used so much in making turns since left turns are not permitted at the "bank" corners on LaFayette street.

An ordinance has been passed, mainly affecting plumbers which reads that all cutting into the pavement for water taps, etc. must not be done until permission is first gained from the city and that after the pavement is cut, the hole must not remain open more than 24 hours.

Petitions for Widening

A petition was presented by citizens asking that West Graham street be paved from McBrayer to Martin. Already a petition has been presented for the paving of West Graham from the Southern railroad passenger station to McBrayer, so now the property owners want this street extended when the next paving program is done this summer.

Six feet may be added to the width of East Marion street from a point about L. U. Arrowood's east East Marion and No. 20 highway to the old corporate limits at the entrance of Belvedere Park. J. W. Spangler, a resident living on this street recently carried around a petition for signatures of property owners and it has been liberally signed.

U. S. Army Instructor Headquarters Here

Sergt. B. M. Harrison, United States army instructor now on duty with National Guard troops, moved his headquarters to Shelby this week and will remain here for a month or so training the local unit of the national guard before they leave for their encampment at Camp Glenn. Sergt. Harrison comes here to Shelby from Albemarle.

The local unit, Company "K," leaves for camp about July 4, it is said, and several vacancies in the company roster will be filled with suitable recruits before that time.

CLEVELAND SPRINGS ESTATES WILL HAVE MODERN OFFICES

The executive offices of the Cleveland Springs Estates, in the new Royster building on South Washington streets, will be among the most up-to-date realty offices in the Western Carolina section.

Workmen are now engaged in giving the interior the restful appearance of a Spanish country club. Mr. Alfred P. Marshall, director of sales, says that the first section of the big development nearby Shelby will go on the market before many weeks. All preliminary work is being carried out now, including the preparation of advertising matter, bill boards, electric signs, pamphlets, and booklets.

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