

Hilliard Harley

The Savannah News; Tuesday 31 August 1861

ASSASSINATION OF DR. H.H. HARLEY -- Our community was shocked on Wednesday morning, upon the circulation of the fact of the cruel and dastardly assassination of the gentleman whose name heads this article.

From the findings of the empanelled jury we glean these particulars: Dr. H. was in charge of the business of Mr. Babcock, cutting and hauling cross ties for the Brunswick and Albany Railroad, with headquarters at College plantation, about two miles from Bethel. On Tuesday night, about ten o'clock while Dr. H was sitting in his cabin, an open log house, writing at his desk, with one or two others present, a gun was passed through the logs and discharged, the murderous fire terribly mutilating his head, his brains staining the walls of the house. He survived the fatal wound but a few brief moments.

As there are dozens of rumors as regards the probably cause of this assassination, and as it is probably that the affair will be thoroughly sifted, and, if possible, the guilty party or parties brought to punishment, we refrain from publishing any of the unpleasant rumors.

Dr. H. was a young man, lately a resident of Camden county, in this State, but a native of South Carolina, where he has a father, brothers, and sisters now residing. He served during the late war in the C.S.A. as assistant Surgeon, with Maxwell's Battery. Since the war he has been connected with the timber business in this vicinity.

His remains were brought to our city Thursday and interred with Masonic honors, by Ocean Lodge, of which he was a member. Brunswick Appeal.

=====

The Georgia Weekly Telegraph (Bibb County) Friday 1 October 1869; pg. 5 col. 3

A PROCLAMATION -- \$1000 REWARD -- GEORGIA -- By R.B. Bullock, Governor of said State.

WHEREAS, It has been officially communicated to this Department that on the night of the 24th August ultimo, Dr. H.H. Harley was shot and killed while engaged in writing, at his residence in the county of Glynn, in this State, by a party or parties unknown; and

WHEREAS, The Foreman of the Grand Jury of said county of Glynn certifies to me that no evidence sufficient to warrant the arrest of any party has come to the knowledge of said body, and that it is their desire as well as the desire of all good citizens of Glynn county to bring the murderer to justice; and

WHEREAS, The said Foreman of said Grand Jury, in accordance with a resolution of that body, suggests the offering of a suitable reward as a means of insuring the arrest of the assassin or assassins of the said Dr. H.H. Harley;

Now, therefore, in order to vindicate the majesty of the law and the sacredness of human life, and in order the more certainly to bring to speedy trial and punishment the guilty party or parties, I, Rufus B. Bullock, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of this State and the Militia thereof, have thought proper to issue this, my Proclamation, hereby offering reward of One Thousand Dollars for the apprehension and delivery of the person or persons engaged in the perpetration of this atrocious murder as hereinbefore recited, with evidence sufficient to convict, to the Sheriff of said county of Glynn;

And I do moreover charge and require all officers in this State, civil and military, to be vigilant in endeavoring to apprehend the said party or parties, in

order that they may be brought to trial and punishment. Given under my hand and the great Seal of the State, at the Capitol, in the city of Atlanta, this 28th day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the ninety-fourth.

RUFUS B. BULLOCK, Governor.

By the Governor: DAVID G. COTTING, Secretary of State.
sept30-d3twlt.