LEE COLLINS, FATHER OF VICTIM, RELATES HIS STORY

LEE COLLINS PUT ON STAND IN QUIZ

Father of Cave Victim Says He Is Satisfied With Rescue Efforts.

HE UPHOLDS GERALD

(By Staff Correspondent.)

CAVE CITY, Ky., Feb. 11.—Lee Collins' testimony in the inquiry today was as follows.

Q.—How old are you, Mr. Collins?

A.—If I live over the 26th of next May I will be 67 years old. Born in 1858.

Q.—Where have you lived?

A.—I lived several years in Missouri.

Q.—Where were you born?

A.—In Franklin, Ky.

Q.—When did you move to Barren County?

A.—When I was about 22 years old; I come on a visit here to my mother's people.

Q.—When were you married?

A.—I cannot recollect.

Q.—Who did you marry?

A.—Martha Burnett.

Q.—Where did her people live?

A.—Lived on Green River.

Q.—Is she dead?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—How many children have you?

A.—Five boys and two girls. The oldest boy, John, died of typhoid fever; the next one was Floyd Collins; the next one was a girl, Annie; then my son who came here from Kewanee when he heard of this. I can't recollect their ages. Then another son, Marshall; then Homer, the youngest.

In Vicinity Forty Years.

Q—HOW long have you lived in Barren County — near Sand Cave?

A.—I lived on the farm forty years. The farm is in Hart County.

Q—Do you know when Floyd went into the cave?

A.—He has been about three weeks trying to get a hole to get into the cave?

Q.—When did you first learn of the fact that Floyd was hung up in the cave?

A.—One of the fellows, Ed Estes, who employed Floyd, run in my yard and told me. I have lost sleep until I cannot think.

Q.—Did Estes have him employed?

A.—Yes, sir; Jesse Lee, Cox B. Doyle and Ed Estes had him employed.

Q.—Did they have him employed for an interest in the cave?

A.—For one-half of what they got out of it. Mr. Doyle notified me that he had never signed a contract with Floyd, as it was not exactly drawn up to suit him, but would later on.

Q.—Who signed the contract, do you know?

A.—Estes and Cox.

Q.—You don't know whether or not Mr. Doyle signed it?

A.—Floyd said "no."

Q.—Did you have any interest in Crystal Cave?

A.—Yes. I deeded Floyd Collins half for exploring it.

Q.—There is a difference in the formation of this cave—or hole as you call it? There is a difference between that and Crystal Cave, Mammoth Cave or Onyx Cave? There is a difference in their formation?

A.—Yes, sir.

Not for a Day.

Q—How long after Floyd left to explore the cave had it been before you saw Floyd?

A.—I had never seen Floyd for a day and night. Estes went down and called in and Floyd told him if he had a hammer, chisel an dpinchbar, he could free himself.

Q.—Is Mr. Gerald interested in a business way with you?

A.—Not to amount to anything. Mr. Gerald took an option in the cave to set it for me.

Q.—Did Mr. Gerald have a signed contract to sell Floyd's half interest?

A.—Gerald and Sam Caldwell came over the first day of January and ask me to renew the contract for a period of six months. I only renewed my part for six months, until after the first of April. Floyd did not.

Q.—Was this option allowing and giving Mr. Gerald the right to sell your interest at a certain specified figure?

A.—Drew up a contract for a period of time for some much. Floyd was too high and Gerald would not try any further.

Hit By Thunderbolt.

Q.—When did you arrive at the cave?

A.—I cannot recollect. When Ed Estes drove up—I believe that was on a Saturday morning—something like a thunderbolt struck me and I said "Ed now what?"

He said, "Floyd is hung in a hole."

"I said, "I think you boys who have him in there should get him out and not get my other boys over there and get them hung up."

Q.—How old is Floyd?

A.—Thirty-seven years old, if I am not mistaken.

Q.—Did your boy go?

A.—Yes, sir; he ran to the stable to get the mule and left right away. I had the "flu" and was not able to do anything. I just brought my girl from Hopkinsville from the asylum. My wife was afraid as she didn't know when she would take another fit.

Q.—You expected that he would get hung up?

A.—Yes, sir, I told him so.

Q.—He had been hung before in a hole?

A.—Yes, sir, limestone rock became unjointed. He was in the habit of going in and coming out at midnight, sometimes going in at noon. I went to bed many a night when Floyd was just couling in. I told him that some of these days he would call "Wolf, wolf" and no one would pay any attention to him. He has been trying to explore caves since we explored Crystal Cave.

When I went to the hole over there they had sent for a drill. I met a man who said, "Mr. Collins, I believe that is all 'bosh' about them getting the drill. I would get on my horse and get one. I said, "I may meet them with one," and he said, "If we do, we will stop."

Hung About Cave.

Q.—YOU have been around the cave continuously?

A.—Been there nearly all the time—at Sand Cave.

Q.—You talked to nearly all the people, haven't you? Nearly everyone who has been around there? Have you any reason to believe from what you have heard that there is no one in that cave? Has anyone told you that there is no one in there?

A.—A man from Louisville said it was a "humbug;" that Floyd climbed on a ladder and went out.

Q.—You have never heard your neighbors say that it was a "humbug?" You know, Mr. Collins that your boy is down there.

A.—Certainly I do. I know absolutely that my boy is in there.

Q.—Could Floyd go out of the cave and back in, putting himself in the same position?

A.—He could not. He was three weeks trying to get in at the back end of Sand Cave. He struck a stick of dynamite, giving him time to come out and he said to Doyle, "I am afraid it is going to cave in."

Doyle said, "You will be buried alive. If you cannot get a hole any other way, you had better stay out."

That is what Doyle told me. He finally said, "I could not find any other entrance at all."

He went back and went down on a rope about seventy feet and scaled the wall. He had a rope about seventy feet long.

No Other Opening.

Q—IF there is any other opening in which you could reach him, you would know it?

A.—I know there is no other way In the knowledge of Floyd there was no other opening. He told my wife this. He said that he had two days of the most dangerous work of exploration. He called my wife and said, "I ha dan awful dream. A rock caught me and I was carried away by the angels."

She said, "You had better stay out. You are going to get killed."

Q.—Was there a great deal of disorder out there? What was the cause of it?

A.—A little too much drinking the first night.

Q.—Do you know the names of any persons?

A.—No.

Q.—Mr. Collins, you are more interested in saving your boy than anything else on earth and you are interested in giving just dues to those who have done good work and for that reason, should you know the names of the people who caused the disorder, would like to have the names of the persons?

A.—I do not know the names, but I could smell whisky.

Q.—You know Mr. Carmichael?

A.—I have gotten acquainted with him.

Q.—You know Mr. Posey?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—You know General Denhardt?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—You have been watching the sinking of the shaft. Are you satisfied, Mr. Collins, that everything is being done that is possible to save your boy?

A.—I think that God has conducted the whole work, and I think they have co-operated and worked hand-in-hand to do everything they could to get my boy out.

All Seemed Orderly.

Q—HAVE you noticed any disorder?

A.—No, sir, I haven't.

Q.—Have you noticed good order since the troops arrived?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Have you seen anyone drinking since the arrival of the troops?

A.—No, sir, neither have I smelled liquor.

Q.—Do you think that the proper course has been taken by the Governor of Kentucky?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Do you think the Mr. Carmichael is the proper man to have charge?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—What do you think of Mr. Carmichael?

A.—I think he is a perfect gentleman and understands his work. His men work like clock work.

Q.—Have you heard what was said by the people who have gone into this hole and the other people as well? Do you think it was proper that this shaft was sunk when it was?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—You were acquainted with the formation? Could your boy be taken out through the tunnel or is the shaft the correct way?

A.—The shaft is the correct way.

Q.—Mr. Collins, you state in your first statement "That was a death trap" before he went into it. You believe also that if they attempt to clear that passage again that it will fill up again. How long have you known that Sand Cave was there? This hole where Floyd is?

A.—I knew there was a cave down there and used to have to come through Green River. I have known it for the last several years.

O'Neil Tried It.

Q—DID you know of any other person who had gone in there?

A.—I learned that Mr. William O'Neil had tried the prospects o'it of a cave some time ago.

Q.—Due to the fact that Sand Cave is in the condition it is, is there any reason why other caves should not be safe?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—There is no danger for anyone to enter Crystal Cave, Mammoth Cave or any other colossal cave?

A.—No, sir. They are solid limestone caves. That is different.

Q.—Mr. Collins, if a surgeon could have removed Floyd's foot by amputation would you have been willing to have had that done?

A.—I would not want that done, but rather than have him where he is, would have allowed it.

Q.—Did you offer a reward for some physician?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—Who financed this rescue work to get Floyd out? Have you put up any money?

A.—No, sir. I did not have it to put up.

Q.—How has this report gotten out?

A.—Cannot tell you, my friend. "I trust and hope to God that you will all co-operate, go hand-in-hand and get this boy out," is all I did say.

Q.—Has anyone contributed any money?

A.—Not that I know of.

Q.—Has there been any chairman made to receive funds?

A.—No, sir, not that I know of. I told the Postmaster to give Mr. Sam Caldwell any donations received.

Q.—Has any money been received that way?

A.—I could not say.

Received Not a Cent.

Q—Have you received any money yourself?

A.—No, sir, not a cent.

Q.—Has Homer received any money?

A.—No that I know of.

Q.—Where did the money come from deposited in the bank at Horse Cave yesterday?

A.—Rector Johns wrote me a letter sending a check for $100 for me to use. That check was for my benefit. He lives in Louisville.

Q.—Where do you usually do your banking?

A.—Do not do any. Have not had anything to bank. A man who hasn't any could not make a deposit. I have had a girl in the asylum. She has broke me up.

Q.—You received that check from Mr. Johns? Did you deposit it?

A.—Yes, sir. That money was sent to me personally. I am unable to work.

Q.—Is Mr. Johns a relative of yours?

A.—No, sir. Have known him since a boy. Was raised with him.

Q.—Did anyone offer to take this boy out for a certain amount of money?

A.—Mr. Geralds and my boy explored for forty-eight hours at a time this fall and explored hour after hour. Homer went in to feed Floyd and Floyd asked if Johnnie was out there.

Some have it reported that Johnnie said, "If you will give me $2,000 I will get him out." John Gerald did not say that.

He just said, "I will go in and get him out. I will resuce!"

Satisfied With Gerald.

Q—YOU are perfectly satisfied with the work of Mr. Gerald?

A.—Yes, sir. I feel that he did all he could. He lay in the water and ice and came out cramped from the cold. I had to rub him. Only said there were enough sandwiches in the cave to feed the whole crowd. He said it was a shame.

Q. You don't know who left them there?

A. No, sir.

Q. You do not know of anyone who interferred with the work?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know a man named Matlack?

A. I saw him test a rock on the outside.

Q. What effect did it have on the rock? Would you want that flame to be within two feet of Floyd's body? Burn him alive? If he has to die you don't want him to burn to death?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did the test made on the rock by Matlack have any effect on it?

A. No, sir.

Q. You did not approve of that burning stone business?

A. I did not open my mouth as I thought they were doing all they could for Floyd.

Q. If Floyd had to die, you would not want him to burn to death and are glad they did not use that method? Did you stay long enough to see them finish the test? Whether or not they broke the rock?

A. No, sir.

Q. What was the conversation between Hester and your son Marshall?

A. Marshall said "If you will go to my brother and give me a true report, I will give you $250. Give a true report, dead or alive." Hooper (a man from Tennessee) said he was dead.

$250 Offer Puzzles.

Q What become of Hester when he came out? Why did they offer him $250 when other people were going in all the time?

A. I don't know.

Q. When did that happen?

A. About the second or third day.

Q. You don't know what became of Hester?

A. No, sir.

Q. Is he interested in any cave other than Mammoth Cave?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. You were satisfied, Mr. Collins, that these people who were there three or four days, tried to get him out, though they held that it was impossible?

A. Yes, sir. My youngest boy cried and wanted me to go into the hole. He gave me some of his jaw and said I did not care.

JILLSON TELLS OF CAVE MAKE-UP

Tomb of Collins Is In Region Containing 3,000 Sink Holes, He Says.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 11.—The topographical and geological features of the Sand Cave region, where Floyd Collins is trapped, were outlined today by Willard R. Jillson, State geologist, who said the cave is miles northeast of Cave City, in northwestern Barren, about 500 yards northeast of the Mammoth Cave Road.

It is a region containing more than 3,000 sink holes and caves without number. There are no surface streams, 95 per cent of the drainage is underground and the water is carried into Green River.

A semi-matured dissected plateau, of narrow valleys, almost of all them containing sink holes, and narrow, meandering ridges, collapsed caverns produced the "sinking valleys" peculiar to the region.

The numerous caves are caused by meteoric waters developing large subterranean channels by solution of the limestone and by abrasion of sand carried in them.

Sand Cave apparently is a common cavern, but in its vicinity are Mammoth and Great Onyx Caves, Colossal Cavern, Great Crystal Cave, Hidden River Cave, Horse Cave, Center's Cave, Dorsey Cave, Salt Cave, White's Cave, Dixon Cave, Proctor Cave, Long Avenue Cave, Preston Cave, Highland Cave, Indian Cave Parlor Cave, Doyle's Cave of the Hundred Domes, Mammoth Onyx Cave, Diamond Cave and Cedar Cave, all well known.

He attributed the "squeeze" to the "crop of talus material between large bedded rocks of limestone, due to a high degree of saturation in the early spring and following the thawing of ground and consequent rains." He said the incident should cause no apprehension for safety in ordinary cave explorations, and the great caverns are perfectly safe throughout the well-established routes. The phenomenon is peculiar to superficial caverns.

The rocks belong to the subcarboniferous (Chester) series. The Golconda limestone and Cypress sandstones are found at the highest levels, underlain by Gasper, Ste Genevieve and St. Louis limestones, which comprise the Mammoth Cave group of calcareous sediments and attain a total thickness of 500 to 600 feet. The topography is broken with a maximum relief of 300 feet.

COMMERCE BOARD IN FULTON ELECTS

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Fulton, Ky., Feb. 11.—The Fulton Chamber of Commerce held its annual meeting last night in the Usona Hotel here with an attendance of more than 300. The night marked the end of an intensive membership campaign by the Blues, under the direction of G. G. Bard, and the Reds, under the direction of W. O. Shankle, rivals for the new year. This gives birth to the Chamber of Commerce a membership of about 375. Judge W. A. Berry and Elliot C. Mitchell of Paducah and Superintendent C. R. Young of Carbondale, Ill., were the principal speakers. The following new officers were elected: W. O. Shankle, president; Theodore Kramer, vice president; Joe D. Davis, secretary; S. A. Hegler, treasurer. As one of the activities for the new administration, the Chamber of Commerce is backing a hospital movement for Fulton and a committee was appointed to begin work on this project.

MATLACK AGAIN CALLED TO STAND

Has No Criticism of Cave Probe Except for Last Question, He Says.

REFUSES ONE ANSWER

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Cave City, Ky., Feb. 11.—Sam H. Matlack was recalled today and, after being sworn by Captain Chaney, responded as follows to interrogations by Colonel Stites:

Q.—Mr. Matlack, there has been a telegram received here from the Louisville Herald stating that there was some complaint that Sam Matlack was not shown the proper courtesy by the court. In your testimony have you any complaint to make?

A.—I have made absolutely no complaint to any one and the only complaint I would make would be to the last question that was put to me yesterday by this young man (indicating Captain Chaney). I could not answer that question and that was the only complaint that I have.

Q.—What was your objection to the question?

A.—That I could not answer it yes or no without having to admit being a coward and that I think is far from true.

Q.—In general terms, what was your objection?

A.—I have no objection whatever, except to the last question which was asked.

Q.—Do you think that these men who have been here and testified in this case are less to be believed than those who have gone down into the cave, and know the conditions and the efforts which have been made to get the man out of that hole? Is that right?

A.—No sir,

Said Statements Not True.

Q.—At the time you have stated you had accused and said some of the statements were not true, except possibly the man Estes.

A.—I did not mean that.

Q.—Then what do you think about it?

A.—My answer is that it was a misinterpretation.

Q.—When the question was asked you as to the possible reliability of different people who had testified, and which you testified that you could not believe, was that said or not?

A.—No sir. I made this assertion. I made it before and will make it again, and that is, that before the military people got out there with the proper authority and someone should go into the cave and if the cave, the condition of the cave had been correctly reported, if I had been there, I believe I could have gotten him out, and where they said they had been down a certain distance in some cases I did not believe.

Q.—Was your testimony meant to be critical, or did you mean to criticize other people?

A.—I had made an effort to get into the cave and at least had gotten to go in to try to help and my criticism is of the people who had been claiming to make efforts to release him when I knew that it was not possible.

Q.—Did you mean to criticize the efforts of this fire lieutenant. I have forgotten his name?

A.—I meant no criticism.

Q.—This young man Miller, this newspaper man, did you mean to criticize him?

A.—I did not mean to criticize anyone who had been trying to rescue the man, but I wanted him to be a man about it.

Says mother dead, but has a step-

Q.—Do you mean that this fire lieutenant should not have recognition?

A—I meant no such thing. He had made a statement that he was trying to get him out in order to get certain merits, and I did not like any such thing, and if you will read that testimony heard yesterday you will find that I came down here not to increase a number of merits. But he stated that he came here to increase a number of merits, but when he got here he forgot it, and if there was any man who really worked to rescue this man, Lieutenant Burdon is that man.

Q.—Do you mean to criticise Mr. Gerald?

A.—Absolutely not. The only criticism I have to make is on account of this business which I testified about and which I want to go into the records of doing the work as a sort of hero.

Q.—Did you mean to say that he was a liar?

A.—I did not.

Q.—Was the word liar even used in connection with your name?

A.—No, sir. After this question was asked me by this young man and there has been some testimony introduced this morning which would indicate that I would be burning the man, I had no such intention of even scorching that man.

Q.—This question as to the reliability of these men, it was not your intention to criticise them?

Has No Criticism.

A—No, sir. I do not think that question has been asked just that way but it would make it appear impossible for me to do what I say I believe I could successfully do.

Q.—The question you was asked was about certain witnesses who had gone down into the cave, whether they were to be believed instead of one who had not gone in.

A.—I don't hardly think so. Some questions cannot be answered without an explanation.

Q.—Did any of the witnesses who talked to you about this acetyline torch, if he had wanted to go with you, were you willing for him to go.

A. He could have done so, yes, sir.

Q. There were some who just happened to be there and they did not believe that it would work?

A. That is correct and I would like for them to see a demonstration and if you will allow me, I will bring it here in this courtroom and can give you a demonstration right here.

A. But independent of that, it is too late to use it now?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. It would take up the time of this court and do no good?

A. It would, yes, sir. Absolutely.

Does Not Remember.

Q Do you remember whether or not I asked you the question if you had anything else to say?

A. I don't remember that.

Q. To refresh your recollection, after you had testified wasn't the question asked if you had anything else to say?

A. I made the statement that some people who had testified about the extent they had gone into the cave was not true if the condition of the cave was as they said it was.

'INEFFICIENCY' OF CAVE WORK TOLD

Arguments of Men In Rescue Parties Delayed Efforts, Preacher Believes.

TROOPS NEEDED, HE SAYS

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Cave City, Ky., Feb. 11.—Testimony given in the Collins inquiry today by Columbus Doyle, one of the men who helped in the work of attempting to rescue Floyd Collins from Sand Cave, follows:

Q.—Do you live in the vicinity of Sand Cave?

A.—Live near here. Well acquainted around Sand Cave.

Q.—After the accident at Sand Cave, when did you first go out?

A.—Sunday morning.

Q.—Will you please tell the court in your own way all that you know about this matter?

A.—Well, I am well acquainted with Floyd Collins. Have had him in my home quite often. He opened up a cave on my place and when he had this accident I felt under obligation to him to try to help him if I could. I went out on Sunday morning. I went to see his brothers and asked them to go with me and help me. Marshall and Homer had exhausted their energies in trying to help. We organized a party of four. Ish Lancaster was the leader. The second man was Tom Ward; I was the third man. There was a colored man fourth who later got in front of me. We went to work consecutively in front of each other. We went in there and did what we could. Only the first men went through this squeeze.

Q.—Who were the two who went through?

A.—Ish Lancaster and Tom Ward.

Went Back With Miller.

WE came upon a man and he said he had a talk with Fyold who said that Floyd said that he was cold. I sent across the field and got quilts, blankets and grass sacks in order that he might be made comfortable. Ish and Tom went in together and wrapped him up. You see I could not get through the squeeze. I did not deem it necessary as I saw that the covers were supplied. I went back with the little man Miller. As we went along he said that he would go in and do what he could. We went in and I went into the squeeze again.

Q.—Did you stay all day Sunday?

A.—I stayed until 2 or 2:30.

Q.—What was the hour, approximately, that you arrived?

A.—Somewhere around 9 o'clock.

Q.—Did anyone come there after you arrived there?

A.—No one except these parties I worked with, that I remember.

Q.—You went back the second time about 2 o'clock?

A.—I did not go all the way.

Q.—What time did you wrap him up?

A.—Sometime around 12 o'clock.

Q.—After the 12 o'clock trip did anyone else go in Sunday?

A.—I think so, I am not sure.

Q.—What time did you leave?

A.—About 2 o'clock.

Q.—Do you know the name of any person who stayed there after you left?

Names Four Workers.

R. HONAKER AND OSCAR LOGSDON. These gentlemen figured in the work. Homer Collins and Marshall Collins were there.

Q.—Did the Doctor go in?

A—NO, SIR. When we were wrapping him up Dr. Honaker was figuring out plans whereby we might rescue Floyd. On Monday morning, on arriving at the cave, Miller decided that they should make another trip. I was the third man.

Q. The question which was asked you last is the only one you object to?

A. Yes, sir. That is the one in which an answer could not be made, yes or no, without an explanation and that is not a fair question.

Q.—The question which you have been asked and which you say was not a fair question was where you were asked if you believed that everybody else should be less believed than one who knew nothing about it and you showed some resentment.

A.—Why, I did not mean to do that. I came here to help the man out and what I have said has been grossly misinterpreted.

Q.—You man to imply that these people had not told the truth about it?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—Who did you mean to say, or did you imply had lied about it?

Assails Mr. Horning.

A—MR. HORNING. Mr. Horning had said to two men down in that hole that he did not believe they could get the man out. That was his opinion but it was not true.

Q.—You do not mean to imply that he lied about what he said?

A.—Absolutely not.

Q.—And you think you have been treated absolutely courteous by the court?

A.—Yes, sir. I have gone to these people who were working there and asked them about the conditions in the cave.

A.—Continued—And I have to reaffirm the opinion that I had in regard to the measurements which they have taken and in regard to the surveyors' measurements and these I believe are true but down in the hole a man could not be 100 feet when it was only 100 feet deep. I think my veracity has been questioned in a direct way. I came here hunting for Mr. Funkhouser and he came to me last night to ask me a question, which, unfortunately he was unable to do at the time court adjourned, and I spent the night down here looking for Mr. Funkhouser. I finally found him and he asked me that question but I do not live here and am not in authority and I can only offer my willingness to prove what I say is true.

Q.—(By Stites). The members of this court and the purpose of it is to hear the witnesses who really can give us information, and we appreciate your having come here to testify. We don't want to do anything but ask questions which are pertinent to this case, and possibly questions have been asked which were incidentally not intended to be as criticism, but we are here to get information, and you say that it was only the last question which you objected to?

A.—Yes, sir. No man could answer that question.

Q.—But after they had made their statements and since you have testified about it, you do not mean that these men have purposely misrepresented the situation at all?

A.—No, sir. I came here to help get the man out, and not to block the work.

Capt. Chaney—I don't wish to withdraw the question.

Floyd Collins Had Premonition Of Trap In Dream, Father Says

"A Rock Caught Me and I Was Carried Away By the Angels," Was Description.

(By STAFF CORRESPONDENT.)

Cave City, Ky., Feb. 11.—"A rock caught me and I was carried away by the angels."

Floyd Collins had a premonition that he would be trapped in Sand Cave, it developed today, when Lee Collins, his 67-year-olds father, testified before the military court.

The elder Collins said that Floyd spoke of his premonition to his stepmother prior to the fateful Friday he was trapped, telling her that he had two days of dangerous work.

Collins referred to Floyd's dream in answer to the question:

If there is any other opening in which you could reach him, you would know it?

"I know there is no other way," Collins answered. "In the knowledge of Floyd there was no other opening. He told my wife this. He said that he had two days of the most dangerous work of exploration."

Floyd called his step-mother, the witness continued, and said:

"I had an awful dream. A rock caught he and I was carried away by the angels.

To which, according to Collins, Mrs. Collins replied:

"You had better stay out. You are going to get killed."

The second man was Marvin Jones. I went in until I got into the squeeze and I could not make it. Miller was the forst man. I hollered down to Floyd.

Q.—Did you hear him answer?

A.—I think I did. I could not carry on a conversation.

Q—Were you satisfied that it was his voice?

A.—I thought so. I stayed in there and little Miller handed me back the rope. I hollered to FFloyd and asked him how he was getting along. I came out then and as things were so confused we decided we were not doing much good and came home. I asked Miller if he was coming back and he said no that he would try again. On Friday I went back.

Q.—You did not go back from Monday until Friday?

A.—I helped to dig the dirt. I worked around the rest of the day, but did not go into the hole. Helped Mr. Carmichael on Monday. There were arguments as to who should do teh work and who shouldn't.

Q.—Who were those factions?

A.—I did not know.

Q.—Tell who you did know.

A.—These were strangers to me. There was some swearing around there.

Q.—Was there any drinking?

A.—I could not say.

Q.—Were you there on Monday night?

A.—Was there until about noon.

Q.—Did you see Mr. Gerald there on Monday?

Saw Gerald Friday.

A.—No, sir. I did not see him. I saw him there on Friday. I think it was Friday. I did not see hi mon Sunday or Monday.

Q.—What was the cause of the arguments?

A.—They argued what ought to be done and who was going to do it.

Q.—What did they say?

A.—They asserted they were going down and bring Floyd out. Just talked about it. A great many oaths were used.

Q.—You have been in this community probably all your life. You were out there on Sunday?. Heard Homer and Marshall Collins talking and you went in the cave yourself a couple of times—talked to Dr. Honaker and other people in charge? Is it not your opinion that they could bring Floyd out through the tunnel?

A.—I don't know whether they could or not, but don't believe that it could be done.

Q.—After the attempts that were made by his family and neighbors and by people that wanted to save him, what is your opinion is to the best policy?

A.—Sinking of a shaft.

Q.—That is what was done?

A.—Yes, sir, that is what was done.

Q.—You had been out several times since that shaft has been sunk. In your opinion is that work not and has it not been in competent hands?

A.—Certainly, I went back and did all I could.

Afraid to Return.

Q—WHY did you not go back sooner?

A.—Was afraid to.

Q.—Did you hear any threats?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—When was the time you did go back?

A.—I went back on Friday after Monday.

Q.—Was there good order? Was there any organization or work that did not seem to be in good order when you returned on Friday?

A.—There seemed to be good order.

Q.—The National troops arrived?

A.—Yes, sir. They were keeping good order.

Q.—You were down to the mouth of the cave?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Are you satisfied, Mr. Doyle, as a citizen of this county, and as a neighbor and friend, that everything is now being done to save the life of Floyd Collins?

A.—Had full confidence since they began there on Sunday. H bm bnim began the work. In fact, I preached there on Sunday. I went to the headquarters.

Q.—Mr. Doyle, you are a preacher, are you not?

A.—Yes, sir. I am a Baptist preacher.

Q.—Was there a large crowd down here on Sunday?

A.—Never saw a larger crowd here before.

Q.—When you were there on Monday did you hear anyone arguing the shaft proposition?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—Did you advocate the sinking of a shaft?

Advocated Sinking of Shaft.

A—I TOLD them if we could locate where Collins was we should it.

Q.—Did anyone take your suggestion?

A.—I could not tell.

Q.—They did not act on it?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—Did you see any "dead soldiers" there—or any drinking?

A.—The people acted so funny I could not tell.

Q.—Your best judgment was that they were?

A.—I think they were.

Q.—Who were the persons? Was it general or just a few?

A.—Just a few. But I could not say who they were.

Q.—Is it your opinion, Mr. Doyle, that the Governor of Kentucky took the proper course when he sent troops?

A.—Undoubtedly so.

Q.—Do you think it possible to have kept order on Sunday with the people anxious to see down in that hole?

A.—It could not have been done without troops I don't think. From the little crowd on Monday, don't know what you could have done.

Q.—How old are you?

A.—Forty-nine years.

Q.—How long have you been preaching?

A.—I have been preaching sixteen years.

Q.—You are a missionary Baptist?

A.—Yes sir.

Q.—Mr. Doyle, your services were not interrupted on Sunday?

A.—No sir.

Q.—You were given every consideration?

A.—Yes sir.

Q.—You mean this last Sunday?

A.—Yes sir.

Q.—There are no further questions, Mr. Doyle. Thank you for your testimony. You can stay with us and make any suggestions you might have to make.

GERALD TELLS OF RESCUE EFFORTS

Was On Friendly Terms With Collins. Military Probers Hear.

By Staff Correspondent The Courier-Journal

CAVE CITY, Ky., Feb. 11.—Johnnie Gerald testified in the military inquiry today as follows, after this statement by Captain Chaney, a member of the court:

I want to state that Mr. Gerald is represented by his attorney, C. H. Hatchett, and any statement that Mr. Gerald may make may be used against him and that he will not be required to answer any questions only under his attorney's advice, and that you are expected to make only such statements as you are willing to make under the advice of your attorney in this court.

Q.—Give your full name.

A.—John P. Gerald.

Q.—Where do you live?

A.—I live down here in town.

Q.—What age are you?

A.—Thirty-two.

Q.—Have you live in this vicinity all your life?

A.—Not all my life.

Q.—You were acquainted with Floyd Collins?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—How long have you been acquainted with him?

A.—Ever since I was a kid.

Q.—How old is he?

A.—He is some older than I am.

Q.—You have known him, you say, ever since he was a kid?

A.—No, sir. Ever since I was a kid.

Q.—Are you acquainted with the condition of the section at and near Sand Cave?

A.—Not especially. I used to live out there.

Did Not Know Cave.

Q Were you acquainted with Sand Cave?

A. No, sir.

Q. You have done a good deal of work in caves?

A. Well, a good deal, yes, sir.

Q. Did you have any business connection with Floyd Collins?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you have with his father?

A. Only an option of the cave was all.

Q. You have obtained an option on Crystal Cave?

A. Not at present.

Q. Had you had any before that time?

A. I have had an option in 1924.

Q. When did that option expire?

A. January 1, 1925.

A. Did the option include just that was owned by him up to that time?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you gotten a new option since then?

A. I just continued my option on Mr. Collins.

Q. Have you made any attempt to get an option on that part owned by Floyd Collins?

A. No, sir.

Q. What were your relations with Floyd Collins, pleasant or unpleasant?

A. Pleasant.

Q. Have you ever had any difficulties with him?

No, sir. Never in my life.

News of the Courts

SUITS FILED.

Circuit—Allen Fuels vs. Charles Veith; limited divorce. George Buckingham, attorney.

Equity—Roth Motor Company vs. E. H. Seiler; $250 for damage to automobile. Jouett & Shouse, attorneys.

Divorce—Katie Master vs. Charles Master; divorce. A. J. Brent, attorney.

Equity—Henry Johnson Paint Manufacturing Company vs. J. L. Richey Paint Company; $1,000 for contract. Booth, McDowell & Connor, attorneys.

Equity—Annie F. Cooper vs. H. D. Cooper, Jessie James A. Sneed, attorney.

Equity—Frances Anderson vs. John T. Anderson; $2,000 for personal injuries. S. A. Anderson, attorney.

Equity—Sallie A. Armas vs. Edward H. Sallee; $244.40 on note. E. B. Baker, attorney.

Equity—Ethel L. Pugh vs. Tommie Wilbur Pugh; divorce. Harold Sachs, attorney.

Equity—Amos Burnett vs. John J. Shumaker; $5,000 for personal injuries. Hogan & Muir, attorneys.

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