

Train Robbery Alibis for Kid Curry's Kin?

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In the immediate aftermath of the Wild Bunch's famous Union Pacific train holdup near Wilcox, Wyoming, on June 2, 1899, a controversy arose over the identities and actual number of robbers who took part.¹ This article does not address the known involvement of Harvey "Kid Curry" Logan, "Flat Nose" George Currie, and Harry Longabaugh, the Sundance Kid, rather it attempts to answer the question of whether Kid Curry's brother Lonie Logan and cousin Robert E. "Bob" Lee participated in the robbery, since there are some historians who insist that one or both were on the scene in spite of the impressive evidence against it. The following presents a detailed chronology of their actions and whereabouts leading up to, during, and after the time of the holdup, resulting in plausible alibis for their alleged participation in one of the most daring Wyoming train robberies.

"One of the boldest railway holdups that has occurred in many years took place at 2:15 o'clock this morning [June 2, 1899,] on the Union Pacific road, a half mile west of Wilcox station ... The first section of the Overland flyer was flagged just east of the first bridge west of Wilcox by a band of six railroad agents."² Wearing shoulder-length masks, the two men who flagged the train jumped up into the engine cab and told engineer William R. "Grindstone" Jones that they wanted him to pull across the bridge and stop. The bridge was then dynamited to delay pursuit from the second section of the Flyer rumored to contain soldiers. The engineer was ordered to uncouple the locomotive and tender, with the baggage, express, and mail cars, from the rest of the train and pull ahead a mile or so.

Joined by a third bandit, the robbers forced the postal clerks from the mail cars, and blew open the express car door with dynamite after the messenger refused them ingress. More than enough dynamite was used to open the two

express company safes, blowing out the roof and sides of the express car. At least \$34,000 was gathered up, part of the loot included a package of incomplete (unsigned) currency valued at \$3,400 from the United States Treasury Department, destined for the First National Bank of Portland, Oregon. This package of bills had the lower right hand corners blown off, and in fact all of the stolen currency sustained some degree of powder burns from the heavy dynamite charges. The passengers were not molested, and, allowing for a dazed express messenger, no one was hurt except for engineer Jones, who sustained a cut hand from flying debris and a scalp wound from being pistol-whipped by one of the robbers.³

Several posses from around the state were organized, resulting in a long and determined chase for the train robbers, who were later identified as members of the Hole-in-the-Wall gang or Wild Bunch. When one of the posses got particularly close to the bandits, Converse County Sheriff Josiah Hazen was ambushed and killed. Eventually the robbers' trail was lost and the hunt was called off.

The newspaper reports from the start relied heavily on the testimony of engineer Jones, who placed the number of robbers at the scene at six. However, no other train crewman, the express messenger, or any of the postal clerks said they saw more than three. And even Jones later admitted that he did not see all six men at once.⁴ Although the *Laramie Daily Boomerang* supported Jones' claim of six men involved, the June 3 issue mentioned that "Some men who have been on the ground, declare that there were but three robbers." In addition, another report commented that the trail the posse followed from the holdup site showed the tracks of only three horses.⁵

There were a number of conjectures concerning the identities of the perpetrators of the holdup. It was first thought that railroad graders could have done the job, or that it may have been Butch Cassidy and the Hole-in-the-Wall gang.⁶ "Some of this gang are said to have been returning from the South where they wintered," stated the newspapers, "and this was their spring opening."⁷ The railroad grader theory was soon disposed of when it was discovered that the brand of dynamite used in the robbery was different than what the



The Overland Flyer express car following the dynamite blast June 2, 1899
(Robert G. McCubbin Collection)

graders used. Two former Black Hills stage robbers, Jack Nolan and his “old chum” Bill Bevans, possibly joined by Cassidy’s gang, were also suspected.⁸

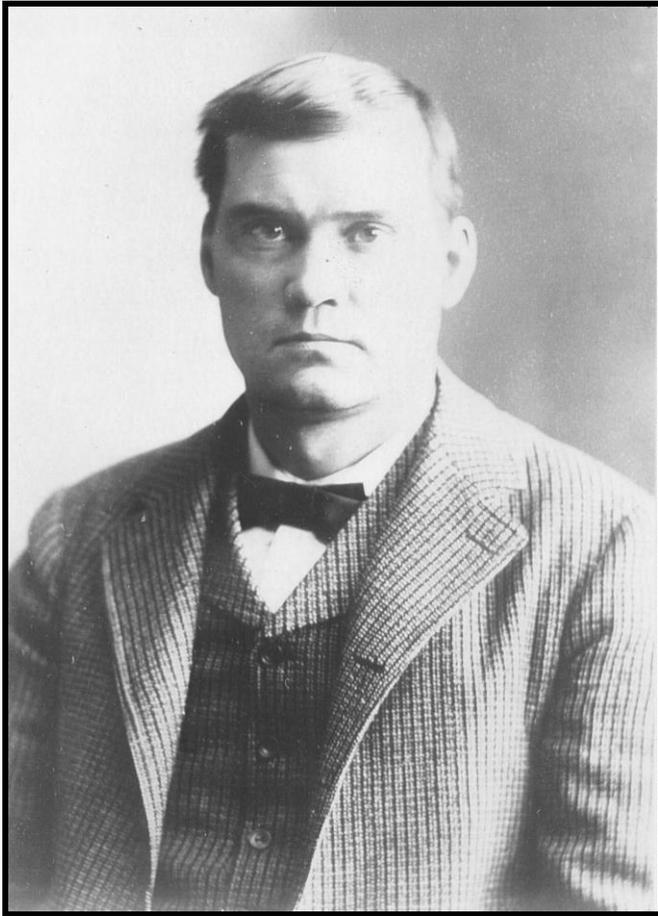
Three days after the robbery, the *Boomerang* announced that “It is unquestionably the Hole-in-the-Wall gang.” An article the next day related that the posse from Laramie, having been first on the scene of the holdup, reported there was evidence of but three men in camp on the Union Pacific near Wilcox. Still reporting that there were “probably” six robbers, the June 7 *Boomerang* declared that marks on the saddles of some captured robbers’ horses pointed to three of the men being Tom O’Day, Bob Taylor, and Manuel Manetta (possibly Armenta), or one could have been a Casper gambler named Cavanaugh.⁹

The first report to suggest that the robbers were headed by George Currie and possibly accompanied by the two Roberts brothers was on June 9. The “Roberts brothers” were actually aliases used by Harvey Logan and Harry Longabaugh. The newspapers continued to report

there were six bandits; however Ed Dickinson, the General Manager of the Union Pacific, stated that he believed there were only three men involved in the robbery. After a few days, for reasons not stated, the idea that Tom O’Day, Bob Taylor, and Manuel Manetta, or Cavanaugh, were part of the robbery was abandoned. George Currie and the two Roberts brothers were at this point considered the most likely culprits and were charged with the crime. Also, it was again reported that the Union Pacific officials and other officers thought that there were only three men in the gang who did the work.¹⁰

Early reward posters designated six bandits, providing descriptions but not the identities of any of them. The first claims that Lonie Curry and Bob Lee were wanted for participating in the robbery, were indicated in a January 12, 1900, Union Pacific reward notice, and a February 23, 1900, Pinkerton reward poster. Both stated that Lonie Curry, his brother Harvey Curry, alias Kid Curry, and their cousin Bob Lee, were three of the Wilcox train robbers.¹¹ Kid Curry’s role in the

famous robbery is well documented; but what about Lonie and Lee?



Bob Lee, Alias Bob Curry
(Robert G. McCubbin Collection)

The time previous to, during, and for nearly four months after the Union Pacific train robbery near Wilcox, Wyoming, Kid Curry's brother Lonie Logan (who was also known by the name of Curry) was living with his family in Landusky, Montana, but spending much of his time in Harlem working and tending to his business interests. An article in the June 5, 1900, *Harlem Enterprise* titled "THE NOTED CURRY GANG," reported Lonie's travels through north-central Montana beginning on May 12, 1899, purportedly obtained from his traveling companions and people they met. The travelogue begins on that day with Lonie driving a team to Lewistown, accompanied by a Miss Hattie Nichols, for the purpose of buying the Shufelt quartz mill for operation in the Little Rockies mining district.¹² The couple also attended a dance at the nearby

town of Giltedge. They remained in town on the 13th, and then drove all the next day before stopping at Oscar Stevens' ranch on the Rocky Point road. After taking supper, they continued on toward Rocky Point, arriving there on the 15th. There they met Mrs. Dan Tressler, an aunt of Hattie Nichols', and also a Mrs. Jack Ellis.¹³ Lucy Tressler was separated from her husband at this time, and was living with James "Jim" Thornhill, a good friend of the Curry brothers.

Lonie and Hattie stayed overnight at Rocky Point and the following afternoon drove to Alex Black's place, Mrs. Tressler accompanying them. Lonie was apparently there to transact some kind of business with Mrs. Black. They spent the night of May 17 at the Black ranch. Setting out the next morning Lonie arrived at Jim Thornhill's ranch with Mrs. Tressler and her niece. A few days later, on May 23, Lonie left the team he had made the trip with and borrowed a small bay bronco belonging to Thornhill. Telling Hattie Nichols he was going to Harlem, he started out. On his way to Harlem and near the Fort Belknap Indian agency his horse broke down and he came into town on the stage.¹⁴

It was purely speculation when the newspaper then stated, in an attempt to connect Lonie with the Wilcox train robbery, that "He [Lonie] stayed in Harlem until May 27, at which time he left for Shelby Junction, from which point he departed via the Narrow Gauge railroad, joining the hold-up gang in Wyoming a few days later." No witnesses were cited, Miss Nichols and Mrs. Tressler having remained at Thornhill's ranch, and there was no corroborating testimony at Bob Lee's trial. Also, there is a problem with this statement in that the *Harlem Enterprise's* own issue of June 3, 1899, reported that "Loney Curry, of Landusky, was in town several days this week,"¹⁵ making it impossible for Lonie to have been at the scene of the Wilcox holdup on June 2.

It was again speculation when the June 5, 1900, *Enterprise* reported that after the robbery, "The robbers then separated, 'Lonie' Logan, or Currie [Curry], R. E. Lee, or Bob Curry and Luske, or Dalton making for the Burlington railroad by way of the Hole-in-the-Wall country." Not until the last paragraph of the article does it claim that Luske and John Dalton were aliases for Will Roberts. Was this the same Will Roberts

who was a fringe Wild Bunch member?¹⁶ This connection was alluded to in a May 28 dispatch from Thompsons, Utah, that reported the killing of Grand County Sheriff Jesse M. Tyler and Sam Jenkins (on May 26) by the “Dilly gang,” while pursuing a band of outlaws, at a place called Hill Creek near Thompsons. It said the gang consisted of Tom Dille, Joe (or Jim) Rose, and (Will) “Kid” Roberts, “the latter of whom is supposed to be the John Dalton, or Luske, who went with R. E. Lee, alias Bob Curry, from Black Hawk, Col., to French Bar, Montana.”¹⁷ Dille was a close rustling associate of prominent Wild Bunch leader “Flat Nose” George Currie (no relation to the Logan/Curry brothers), and there are various sources that refer to Currie working with Rose and Roberts as well. (Currie had been killed by a posse which included Sheriff Tyler on April 17 previous.)

It was reported that after the robbery, Lonie, Lee, and Luske arrived in Helena, Montana, about the 15th of June. Lee and Luske separated from Lonie, the former two going to French Bar, a placer mining camp on the Missouri River seventeen miles from Helena, where they remained until the latter part of August.¹⁸ Defense witness testimony at Bob Lee’s trial in May 1900 overwhelmingly showed that Lee and Luske traveled to Helena directly from Black Hawk, Colorado, where they had been placer mining.¹⁹ Lonie probably came from Harlem or possibly Landusky to briefly meet with his cousin in Helena. Lee and Luske soon left for Washington Gulch west of Helena with a placer miner named Carl Halverson. Upon arrival, the three secured employment with John Hickler and his brother-in-law W. H. Snudden. While there, Lee was known as Bob Harris and Luske as John Dalton. They quit on September 22 and started prospecting on their own.²⁰

To continue with Lonie’s travels, the *Enterprise* stated that according to “the books of Mr. Caldwell” on June 16 Lonie arrived at Thornhill’s ranch on horseback. (The newspaper story did not expand on the identity or occupation of Mr. Caldwell.) He switched to his buckskin team and drove to Giltedge, accompanied by Hattie Nichols, arriving there on June 19. They remained in town for two days, departing on the 21st for Lewistown, where Lonie dropped Hattie

off at her home. The newspaper made much of these dates (even though the incidents described occurred well after the time of the robbery) and added, “besides there is other indisputable evidence to establish these facts ... The people of Fergus county who so aided in weaving the strong chain of evidence against Curry that, had he been taken alive, he would certainly have been convicted, are to be commended in their efforts to assist justice.”²¹

In addition to the June 3, 1899, *Harlem Enterprise* disputing this “evidence” by pointing out that Lonie was in Harlem during the time of the train robbery, Mrs. Alex Black claimed that the dates entered in her record book showed that Lonie Curry, in company with Hattie Nichols, was at her ranch on June 5 on his way to Thornhill’s. Presumably this was to resume his business with her that he had initiated in mid-May. The newspaper, in an attempt to explain this away, condescendingly stated, “This is certainly a lapse of memory on her part which the very best people are sometimes afflicted with. There is no reason to doubt the veracity of Miss Nichols or Mrs. Tressler, who remember every business transaction that Curry had with Mrs. Black at the time as well as the occurrences above mentioned.”²² On the other hand, who would know better than Mrs. Black who believed it was important to keep a record of her business transactions in a book?

Lonie bought a half interest in George L. Bowles’ Club Saloon in Harlem on July 5, changing the name to Bowles & Curry. He may have used at least part of the \$2,000 he received from the sale of 160 acres of land the previous September 1898. He had acquired the tract in Chouteau County through the Desert Land Act.²³ Also, about this time or soon after, Lonie received an unspecified amount of the mutilated unsigned First National Bank of Portland notes taken from the Wilcox train robbery. This, according to a deposition Bob Lee gave from prison on May 5, 1900, was sent by a man he knew as Frank Scramble (an alias of Harry Longabaugh, the Sundance Kid) to Lonie in payment for the horses he had furnished in Montana, after his brother Harvey and Scramble had escaped from the Deadwood, South Dakota jail. These two had been captured and arrested for the June 28, 1897

Belle Fourche, S.D. bank robbery. The money was sent from somewhere near Galveston, Texas in summer 1899.²⁴



**Harry Longabaugh, alias “The Sundance Kid,”
alias “Frank Scramble” with Ethel Place
(Robert G. McCubbin Collection)**

Lonie Curry moved his family to Harlem on September 30, 1899, renting a house there. In late October he left Harlem in a livery rig to meet his cousin at Washington Gulch. Lonie arrived drunk and offered a large amount of money to anyone who would drive him to the Lee and Dalton claim. He returned with Lee to Harlem on November 5, and introduced him as his brother R. E. “Bob” Curry. Lonie Curry paid for drinks all around at the Bowles & Curry Saloon with a mutilated \$100 bill from the Wilcox loot. This was the first time any of the currency was spent in Harlem. Lonie began negotiations with Bowles for his interest, and on November 25 consummated the deal, with Bob as his partner. They changed the name of their joint business to the Club Saloon, Curry Bros., proprietors.²⁵ On November 23 Lee sent

\$500 of the unsigned First National Bank of Portland notes to the Stockmen’s National Bank at Fort Benton for redemption.²⁶

When Lonie and Lee left Washington Gulch for Harlem, Luske/Dalton remained a month longer when he, too, departed, going to Spokane, Washington. From there he wrote two letters, one in January and the other in March 1900, to his former employer W. H. Snudden at Washington Gulch.²⁷ With no record of further correspondence, it could be assumed that Luske/Dalton left Spokane and eventually arrived in eastern Utah as Will “Kid” Roberts, before George Currie’s death in mid-April.²⁸



**Charles Siringo (left) named the man on the right
W. B. Sayers on the back of the original of this
photo (Robert G. McCubbin Collection)**

In early January 1900, two Pinkerton detectives were sent to Harlem to investigate after some of the stolen Wilcox money had been traced to there. (One of these detectives was W. B. Sayers, the man who Charles A. Siringo referred to in his autobiographies as W. O. Sayles.) Learning of the detectives’ presence in town, Lonie and Lee hastily sold their saloon business and fled to Cripple Creek, Colorado arriving there on January 25. Lonie left his cousin on February 17 for the home of his aunt Elizabeth Lee (Bob Lee’s mother) in Dodson, Missouri arriving four days later.²⁹ On the morning of February 28 Lonie was gunned down while resisting arrest outside his aunt’s home by a posse of Kansas City police detectives and Pinkerton agents. Although he was armed, Lonie did not fire a shot.³⁰ Later that same

day, Lee was arrested in Cripple Creek and eventually taken to Cheyenne, Wyoming to await trial in federal court.³¹ At the time of his arrest a large white-handled 45-calibre Colts revolver was taken from him, and a newspaper clipping of an account of the train robbery at Wilcox was found in his pockets. Not a cent of money was found on his person.³²

Bob Lee's United States Court trial took place in Cheyenne from May 24 to 28, 1900. He pleaded "not guilty" to three indictments, one for obstructing the United States Mails, and two for assault on mail clerks Robert O'Brien and W. G. Bruce. From the testimony it is evident that there were no prosecution witnesses who could place him at the Wilcox holdup. The only testimony concerning this was from engineer William R. Jones, and railroad postal clerks Robert Lawson and Robert O'Brien. They stated that although the defendant appeared to be the same height as one of the robbers, they could not identify him as one of them. Identification was also made difficult by the fact that all of the bandits wore shoulder-length masks. In addition, postal clerk James Skidmore testified that "One of the men had two revolvers, one of them nickel-plated and *he thinks* with a pearl handle." (Italics added.) Seemingly more certain in his recollections when Skidmore was later recalled, he "identified the revolver taken from the prisoner as being identical with the one held by one of the train robbers on the night of the robbery; knew this for the reason that the robber was but about two feet distant from him."³³

The *Cheyenne Daily Leader* reported the latter's testimony a bit differently: "Mail Clerk J. D. Skidmore testified that this pistol, which was within two feet of his face at the time of the robbery was either the same one as produced in evidence or one exactly like it."³⁴

There was plenty of evidence that Lee (and Lonie) had possessed and passed stolen banknotes, of which he had *not* been charged. It was proven that the defendant, when in Harlem, had sent five of the unsigned First National Bank of Portland notes taken from the Wilcox train robbery, to the Stockmen's National Bank at Fort Benton on November 23, 1899, for redemption. It was a tedious and time-consuming process, but the short of it was, the notes were sent to the Chicago correspondent of the latter bank which returned

them to Fort Benton. From there they were sent to the bank at Portland, as was the usual procedure, where they were recognized as part of the robbery proceeds.³⁵ The evidence for this was irrefutable. However, this evidence does not place Lonie Curry or Bob Lee at the scene of the Wilcox train robbery. In his deposition Lee was steadfast in his denial of their involvement.

The defense's opening statement "claimed that they will prove that on the date of the robbery, Lee, alias Curry, was engaged in his occupation as a miner at Black Hawk, Col., and that after that date he engaged in placer mining below that town together with his partner, and that he afterwards went to Montana where he followed his vocation as a miner, and that he sometime later came back to Cripple Creek where he was arrested by the United States authorities."³⁶ Several witnesses were produced who swore they had seen Bob Lee in Black Hawk, Colorado before, during, and after the time of the robbery, up to the time he and Luske met Lonie in Helena about the 15th of June 1899. It can be determined from their testimony that Lee and Luske took a room in Black Hawk on April 14, 1899, with Lee being seen virtually every day by one witness or another until about June 15 or 17, 1899.³⁷ The following is a list of some important defense witnesses and quotes from their testimony.

Harry Feehan: Resided last summer [1899] in Black Hawk, Col., a village thirty-seven miles from Denver. His mother kept a rooming house there and it was there that he became acquainted with Bob Lee April 18, 1899, when he was taking care of rooms. Bob Lee and Luske secured rooms at his mother's place and lived there four or five weeks, after which Bob went to a point four miles south of Black Hawk where he remained until the latter part of June, witness seeing him there every few days; defendant was there from May 15 to June 15.

Archie McDonald: A prospector and miner from Nevadaville; lived on clear creek in 1899 four miles east of Black Hawk. Knows Lee, they having worked together for two months. The witness said: "I met him at my cabin on Russell gulch in the latter part of April or the first of May. He had a placer mining machine for saving fine

gold. A week or so later he came and camped near us a couple of weeks and I saw him nearly every day for two months. On June 2 [the day of the Wilcox robbery] he went to Black Hawk where he stayed over night; left the place the latter part of June ... W. B. Luske was Lee's partner."

B. Shaw: Has lived for the past ten years on clear creek near Black Hawk and is a placer miner. Witness talked to [Lee] about placer ground and his machine for saving gold. Lee came there May 8 or 9 and stayed with him and within a quarter of a mile of his camp until the latter part of June. He saw Lee and Luske every day and loaned them tools, and Lee spoke of grubstaking him and Luske ... Lee stayed at Mrs. Feehan's until he moved to where he was [near Shaw's camp on Clear Creek].

Neil Burrows: Cigar merchant, stated that he had known the defendant three years meeting him first in Cripple Creek. He saw him in Black Hawk on April 15, 1899 and he afterwards went to clear creek to a placer mine, remaining there until the latter part of June. The witness identified two entries of ten and twenty cents charged against Lee on June 2 and 3, 1899, in a book ... Saw Lee at least three times a week from May 1 until the latter part of June.

Chas. Klein: A former cigar dealer at Black Hawk, said that he knows Lee was in Black Hawk last summer until June 17 ... Lee was in Black Hawk on June 2, going home that evening.

George Bogel: Stated he was the agent for Kohr's beer at Black Hawk. Recognized the prisoner as Lee. Saw him first in April or May. Said Lee was in Black Hawk on June 2nd. Remembers this as it was his little girl's birthday.

To this list can be added **G. J. Spencer**, "a St. Joseph, Mo. newspaper man ... interested in mining machinery and has known Lee for ten years. Lee boarded with him a year and worked for him in a mine in Sonora, Mexico of which he was the superintendent; also was interested with him in mining ventures in Arizona. He sent Lee a placer machine in Cripple Creek; identifies three letters, two from Black Hawk and one from

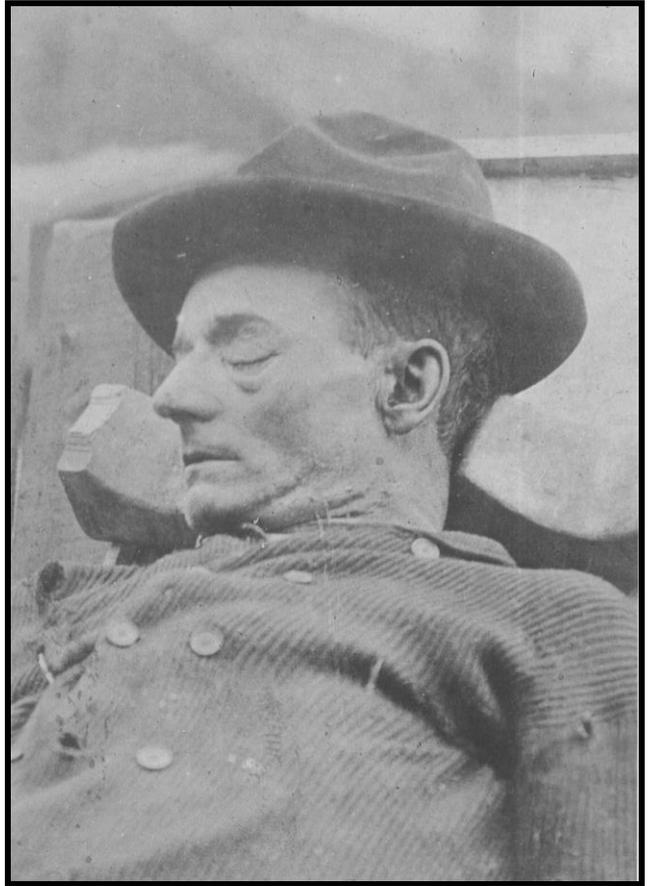
Helena, Mont. written him in June, 1899. Knows letters were written by Lee, being familiar with his writing after eight years of correspondence." The reporter covering the trial then stated, "This is the party who was interviewed by a St. Joseph paper and denied his acquaintance with a party in Cripple Creek called R. E. Lee." Nonetheless, Postmaster Sullivan of Cripple Creek identified postmarked letters addressed to Spencer, and the envelopes were later entered into evidence postmarked "Black Hawk, April 2nd, May 17th, June 11th, June 25th ... and Helena, Mont., July 7th."³⁸

Upon opening of court on Monday, May 28, 1900, "The Court allowed each side two hours for argument. Judge J. W. Lacey opened for [the] prosecution in a very forcible and convincing argument, the evidence being summed up in a methodical manner. He said that the alibi was concocted by the defense ... P. F. Burke, U. S. attorney, closed the case with a powerful argument in summing up. He said all pointed against Lee; pistols, money, aliases, fear of arrest, etc.

"R. W. Breackens for the defense confined his argument entirely to the strength of the alibi. He presented a very clear and strong line of reasoning and was followed by B. L. Woodson and J. M. Finn. The latter's argument was the feature of the day, the peroration being exceptionally eloquent ... The judge's [Judge Moses Hallett's] charge while lengthy was a model of impartiality ... The jury agreed on a verdict at 5 p.m., finding the prisoner guilty of mail robbery. He was sentenced to 10 years hard labor. At the first ballot the jury stood eight to four for conviction, then 10 to 2, requiring another ballot."³⁹ Lee served his time at the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins, Wyoming.

Lee earned an early release for good behavior on February 13, 1907, and returned to Kansas City where he reportedly operated a saloon. He later became a construction superintendent for Jackson County, Missouri, before he died on December 17, 1912.⁴⁰

In 1902 Lee's cousin Harvey "Kid" Curry was indicted and found guilty of several counts of possessing and passing forged and unsigned banknotes from the Great Northern train robbery at Wagner, Montana. Given the circumstances it is difficult to understand why Lee had not been



THREE DEATH PHOTOS

**Top left – George Currie; top right – Harvey Logan
Bottom – Lonnie Logan (Robert G. McCubbin Collection)**

indicted and found guilty of similar charges instead of mail robbery. The prosecution's evidence placing him at the scene of the holdup was all circumstantial, the defense providing persuasive evidence that he was in Black Hawk, Colorado.⁴¹ And although Lonie's alibi was not as strong or impressive as his cousin's, a single sentence vindication in an issue of the *Harlem Enterprise*, a dated entry in Mrs. Alex Black's record book, and an absence of witnesses who could place him in Wyoming at the time, should be enough to question his presence at the scene of the Wilcox train robbery.

Endnotes:

¹ See Wayne Kindred, "The Wilcox Robbery: Who Did It?" WOLA *The Journal*, Spring 1999, 8-12; Mark T. Smokov, *He Rode with Butch and Sundance: The Story of Harvey "Kid Curry" Logan* (Denton, TX: University of North Texas Press, 2012), 99, 104, 352 n30.

² *Laramie Daily Boomerang*, June 2, 1899.

³ In addition to the *Boomerang*, several Wyoming newspapers covered the robbery extensively, for example: *Cheyenne Daily Sun-Leader*, June 2, 1899; *Carbon County Journal* (Rawlins), June 3, 1899; *Wyoming Derrick* (Casper weekly), June 8, 1899; *Natrona County Tribune* (Casper weekly), June 8, 1899; *Buffalo Bulletin* (weekly), June 8, 1899.

⁴ *Laramie Daily Boomerang*, June 2 and 3, 1899; *Cheyenne Daily Sun-Leader*, June 2 and 3, 1899; *Carbon County Journal* (Rawlins), June 3, 1899; *Harlem Enterprise*, May 29, 1900.

⁵ *Rawlins (Semi-Weekly) Republican*, June 3, 1899.

⁶ *Laramie Daily Boomerang*, June 2, 1899; *Cheyenne Daily Sun-Leader*, June 2 and 3, 1899.

⁷ *Laramie Daily Boomerang*, June 2, 1899; *Cheyenne Daily Sun-Leader*, June 3, 1899.

⁸ *Laramie Daily Boomerang*, June 2 and 3, 1899; *Cheyenne Daily Sun-Leader*, June 3, 1899; *Carbon County Journal* (Rawlins), June 3, 1899.

⁹ *Laramie Daily Boomerang*, June 5, 6, and 7, 1899.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, June 9, 10, and 12, 1899.

¹¹ Facsimile of Union Pacific and Pacific Express reward notice dated Omaha, Nebraska, January 12, 1900, in James D. Horan, and Paul Sann, *Pictorial History of the Wild West* (New York: Crown Publishers, Inc., 1972), 213; Facsimile of Pinkerton reward poster dated Denver, Colo., February 23, 1900, in James D. Horan, *The Authentic Wild West: The Gunfighters* (New York: Crown Publishers, Inc., 1976), 207.

¹² *Harlem Enterprise*, June 5, 1900; Lonie's negotiations for buying the Shufelt quartz mill was first reported in the *Harlem Enterprise*, May 27, 1899, quoting the *Lewistown Democrat*.

¹³ *Harlem Enterprise*, June 5, 1900. Just before Lonie was killed near Kansas City, Missouri, his wife Elfie Logan found work as a servant for the John "Jack" Ellis family in Landusky. See Shirley Gillespie, *Goin' to 'Dusky* (Chandler, AZ: Two Dogs Publishing, 2007), 68.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* According to Walter W. "Dube" Duvall, Mrs. Black eventually acquired at least one of the Curry homesteads, possibly John Curry's. See Walter W. Duvall, with Helen Duvall-Arthur, *Memories of a Filly Chaser* (Privately published, 1992), 291.

¹⁵ *Harlem Enterprise*, June 3, 1899.

¹⁶ *Harlem Enterprise*, June 5, 1900. The paper included a photo captioned as Will Roberts, but frustratingly the microfilm shows only a black space.

¹⁷ May 28, 1900, dispatch printed in *Harlem Enterprise*, May 29, 1900. If, as the dispatch said, Roberts was the same man as Bob Lee's mining partner, this close association with George Currie, Lonie Curry, and Bob Lee, leads to some interesting speculation. There are some authors (Pearl Baker and Doug Engebretson among them) who do not believe that Lonie Curry participated in the June 28, 1897, Belle Fourche, South Dakota, bank robbery with his brother Kid Curry and George Currie and at least two others. Could Baker be correct in her substitution of "Willie" Roberts for Lonie Curry in that holdup? Will Roberts' Pinkerton National Detective Agency file photo and description matches one of the two "Roberts brothers" on a wanted poster almost to a "T." To avoid confusion here, Kid Curry and supposedly his brother Lonie, were using the "Roberts brothers" as an alias at this time. (Later, at the time of the Wilcox robbery, it was definitely the Sundance Kid who was referred to as a Roberts brother instead of Lonie Curry.) See Pearl Baker, *The Wild Bunch at Robbers Roost* (New York: Abelard-Schuman, 1971), 97, and Doug Engebretson, *Empty Saddles, Forgotten Names: Outlaws of the Black Hills and Wyoming* (Aberdeen, SD: North Plains Press, 1982), 177. Engebretson believes Kid Curry was not one of the robbers, and his brother Lonie is conspicuous by not being mentioned at all.

¹⁸ *Harlem Enterprise*, June 5, 1900.

¹⁹ *Harlem Enterprise*, May 29, 1900.

²⁰ *Harlem Enterprise*, June 5, 1900.

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² *Ibid.*

²³ Facsimile of land transfer, in Jesse Cole Kenworth, *Storms of Life, In Search of Kid Curry* (Bozeman, MT: Self published, 1990), 98.

²⁴ Kindred, "The Wilcox Robbery," 9-10; Donna B. Ernst, *The Sundance Kid, the Life of Harry Alonzo Longabaugh* (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2009), 93. Cite William A. Pinkerton report to John C. Fraser, June 7, 1900, Frank Hadsell Papers.

²⁵ *Harlem Enterprise*, June 5, 1900.

²⁶ *Harlem Enterprise*, May 29, and June 5, 1900.

²⁷ *Harlem Enterprise*, June 5, 1900.

²⁸ Brown Waller, *Last of the Great Western Train Robbers* (New York: A.S. Barnes and Co., 1968), 146. Waller suggests Will Roberts may have been provisioning

George Currie, who was hiding from posses out scouring the country for him at this time. Waller is one of the few, if not the only author who accepts without question all contemporary references to Will Roberts as being the same man as Luske/Dalton.

²⁹ *Harlem Enterprise*, May 29, and June 5, 1900.

³⁰ *Kansas City Star*, February 28, 1900.

³¹ *Wyoming Derrick*, March 8, 1900.

³² *Harlem Enterprise*, June 5, 1900.

³³ *Harlem Enterprise*, May 29, 1900.

³⁴ *Cheyenne Daily Leader*, May 25, 1900.

³⁵ *Harlem Enterprise*, June 5, 1900.

³⁶ *Harlem Enterprise*, May 29, 1900.

³⁷ Smokov, *He Rode with Butch and Sundance*, 122.

³⁸ *Harlem Enterprise*, May 29, 1900. Although Bob Lee when arrested in Cripple Creek told the officers he had originally come to that town (in 1896) from Kansas City, the possibility that he may have been in Sonora, Mexico, and Arizona before this is intriguing. There is a complete lack of historical records and family history that would place his presence in the west before 1896 in Cripple Creek, Colorado. His name is conspicuously absent in Montana at the time the Currys were cowboys and when they were building their ranch on Rock Creek.

There is evidence that G. J. Spencer indeed knew the Logans and Lees. He wrote a letter dated February 16, 1902, to U. S. Marshal Frank Hadsell, informing him that Harvey Logan had confessed his part in the Wilcox robbery while visiting his Missouri relatives in early (January) 1900. See Kindred, "The Wilcox Robbery," 12 n26. Cites Frank Hadsell Papers, Wyoming State Archives, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

³⁹ *Ibid.* It would seem that the only way for the defense to "concoct" an alibi for Bob Lee, would be to buy testimony from quite a few witnesses, which would have been very expensive if not impracticable, not to say unlawful. Nevertheless, the *Harlem Enterprise* of May 15, 1900, reporting a dispatch from Cheyenne, Wyoming, stated, "That Lee has influential friends is shown by the manner in which his case is being conducted, and as he seems to have considerable money himself, the authorities will be fought to a finish."

⁴⁰ Jim Dullenty, "George Currie and the Curry Brothers," *NOLA Quarterly*, October 1979, 7. Cites Bertillion Book, Wyoming State Penitentiary, Rawlins, and death certificate for Robert E. Lee, Missouri Vital Records Bureau.

⁴¹ *Cheyenne Daily Leader*, May 28, 1900.

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