

Mary C. Glascoe (- 14 Oct 1877)

The Evening Star, October 26, 1877

A Mother Drowns Her Baby

In the Police Court, this morning, Mary Glascoe and Amy Glascoe were arraigned on the charge of murdering the infant child of Mary Glascoe. Both pleaded not guilty. Fanny Parker testified that she was at the house of the defendants on Sunday night, the 14th instant. While there her beau came to see her, and she left Mary's room and went down with him. About 10 o'clock she went up there again, and found May sick in the room, and heard a child cry. The door was fastened and no light in the room. She tried to get in to render any help necessary to Mary, but the latter would not permit her. At last she got the door open and offered to go for a doctor and her aunt, but Mary would not permit her to do so, as she didn't want anyone to know what was going on, and if her aunt knew it, she would tell everybody. Witness struck up a light and saw the child in a bucket of water crying. Mary's mother came in and wanted witness to go and lay down, and she wouldn't do it. She asked Mary and her mother what they meant to do, and they said never mind. She asked Mary if she intended to kill her own flesh and blood; she said she didn't care; she didn't want it. I saw Amy take a thick cape, when the child was crying in the bucket of water, and press it down over the child, and then she never heard it cry any more. Afterwards Mary's brother came and took the child away, and she heard no more of it. The witness was carefully cross-examined, but she did not weaken at all in her testimony. It was further developed that witness took the lamp and looked into the bucket before the child was smothered, and saw that it was a female full-grown child. Several other witnesses were heard, both for the government and for defendants, after which the court sent the case to the grand jury; no bonds.

The Evening Star, January 11, 1878

A Mother and Daughter on Trial for Murder

Amy Glascoe and Mary Glascoe, charged with murder, in having on the 14th of October last caused the death of the female child of the last-named were placed on trial—District Attorney Wells prosecuting, and H.H. Willard and A.B. Webb for the defendant. The defendants are a colored mother and daughter, the former being about 40 years of age, and the latter about half as old; the former is rather stout and the latter slim and sickly looking.

The following were selected as jurors: Delozier Davidson, Richard Fullalove, P.L. Brooke, John Riley, G.W. Sanford, Jesse Mann, E.H. Bates, James Reed*, John Goss, Owen O'Hare, F.F. Mix and W.H. Corkill.

Dennis Callahan, C.H. Bruce*, J.H. Russell, Robert Armstead*, were challenged by defendant, Henry Otterback and David Clark* were excused, having formed opinions. (Those marked* are colored.)

Mr. Wells in opening said that they expected to prove that on the 14th of October last the younger prisoner gave birth to a child and cast it into a pail, and when the child cried its grandmother, the older prisoner, covered it with a cloth and forced it to the bottom of the pail, where she held it until it was dead.

Mr. Willard, for the defense, said that they expected to prove that the accused were not guilty. The old woman had been the mother of eleven children, and all except two have died of consumption. They would show that they were honest people, and the younger one while out in service was taken sick and was obliged to come home and call in Dr. Herron on the 3d of October, and that she was not then with child. Subsequently she called Dr. Foreman, who treated her for a lung disease, and he would corroborate Dr. Herron. In the same course there were other families (two besides the prisoners), and

among the lodgers was Fanny Parker, who did Mary's work in the day and returned at night. The morning after Mary, it is said, gave birth to the child she went to the G street market and lugged home a full basket and a watermelon, and they expected to show that the girl did not have a child and that this story was started by a woman named Mary Hinson and member of the Society of Chaldeans, who appointed a committee to investigate, but they refused to ask questions of the physician, but waited until he left and then questioned them. They next sent another committee and the girl refused to be examined by them.

The Evening Star, January 12, 1878

The Trial of the Glasco Infanticide Case

Yesterday in the Criminal Court, Judge MacArthur, the trial of Amy and Mary Glasco for the murder of the child of the last named, on the 14th of October last, was continued. Louisa Hanson, Ann Williams, Lucy Mason, Virginia Belle Porter, and Officer M.K. Slater testified for the prosecution, giving the details of the commission of the crime. For the defense, Mary Tyler, Mary Warren, Henry Warren, and Mary Jones gave testimony going to show that the accused could not have been the mother of the child, and therefore did not commit the crime. The jurors were cautioned and dismissed until Monday, when the trial will be resumed.

The Evening Star, January 14, 1878

The Glasco Infanticide Case

This morning, in the Criminal Court, Judge MacArthur, the case of Amy and Mary Glasco, charged with having murdered the infant of the latter, on the 14th of October last, was resumed—District Attorney Wells prosecuting and Messrs. Willard and A.B. Webb for defendants. Margaret Thompson who lived next door to prisoners, testified that the prisoner, Mary, did not have a child at the referred to. Abraham Glasco testified to the same effect, and also denied certain statements by Fanny Parker, and testified that she swore in the Police Court that she was not present when the child was born and to other things, and also charged him with having carried the child away. Witness knew that his sister did not have a child about that time, and consequently he carried none away. Lucy Linsey testified that she heard Fanny Parker tell Louisa Hanson that she had had the Glascos arrested out of madness. Isaiah Washington testified that he was in the Police Court and heard Fanny Parker testify that she heard the cry before she entered the room.

The Evening Star, January 15, 1878

The Glasco Infanticide Case

Today in the Criminal Court, Judge MacArthur, the case of Amy and Mary Glasco, charged with the murder of the infant child of the latter on the 14th of October last, was resumed. The evidence having been closed yesterday, Mr. Wells made a short opening to the jury, and was followed by A.B. Webb for the defense, who spoke for two hours and a half. Mr. Willard, also for the defense is speaking this afternoon.

The Evening Star, January 16, 1878

The Glasco Infanticide Case Concluded

Yesterday the trial of Amy and Mary Glasco, for the murder of the infant child of the latter in October last, was concluded before Judge MacArthur, in the Criminal Court, the jury about 4 o'clock bringing in a verdict of "Not Guilty."