

Charles R. Monroe

(- 17 Mar 1907)

Monroe. At Atlanta, Ga. on Sunday March 17, 1907, Charles B. Monroe. Funeral service will be held at his late residence, 914 North Carolina avenue southeast, Saturday March 23 at 3:30 o'clock p.m. Interment at Congressional cemetery.

The Evening Star, March 18, 1907, p. 16

His Friends Alarmed

Police Asked to Locate Charles R. Monroe

Relatives of Charles R. Monroe, part owner of a local brick business, are greatly alarmed over his disappearance. It is said he left his home, 914 North Carolina avenue northeast, last Friday morning, and nothing has since been heard of him. Some of his friends say the missing man had been troubled about money matters for several weeks. His financial troubles did not involve debts to others, it is stated, but were caused by his inability to collect money due him.

The missing man is fifty-four years of age, is six feet two inches in height and of slender build. He had a heavy mustache and short beard when he went away from home Friday morning. He wore a suite of dark clothes and a black slouch hat. During the past few weeks he had discussed his financial troubles with his relatives, and so greatly was he troubled that it was feared his mind would become unbalanced. There was nothing about his conduct Friday morning to indicate that he was suffering from any mental disorder, however, and when he left home his wife certainly expected he would return about the usual time.

When he failed to return home that night his wife became alarmed, but, hoping he would return later, she hesitated about calling upon the police for assistance. Saturday she consulted her brother-in-law, James Monroe, who was a partner in the brick business with her husband, and she then concluded she would ask the police to assist her in her efforts to find her missing husband. The brothers conducted the business of Monroe Brick Company, 20th and B streets southeast, James Monroe living in Maryland.

Charles Monroe has been in the brick business in the southeast section of the city for many years. He had the reputation of always doing business upon a thoroughly reliable basis. It is said that many thousands of dollars are owing him, and his inability to collect is believed to have had something to do with his disappearance. A photograph and description of the missing man were furnished inspector Boardman, and the police of the several precincts have been notified to be on the lookout for him.

There is no record at police headquarters that the missing man is ill, and it is known he is not in a local hospital for treatment. Inquiries among his friends failed to show that any of them had seen him since Friday morning, when he left home to go to the brick yard. Friends fear that he wandered away from the city and that something serious has happened to him.

The Evening Star, March 19, 1907, p. 8

Believed To Be Dead

Suspected That Chas. R. Monroe Shot Himself

Description of Missing Man Tallies With That of "C.R. Morgan," Who Committed Suicide

Relatives of Charles R. Monroe, the brick manufacturer who disappeared from his home, 914 North Carolina avenue, last Friday morning, as stated in yesterday's Star, express the confident belief that the missing man killed himself in a hotel in Atlanta, Ga., Sunday afternoon. A press dispatch from Atlanta yesterday, telling of the suicide of a man who had registered as "C.R. Morgan, Norfolk, Va.," attracted attention. Mr. James L. Schaaf and Mr. W.D. Abrams, brothers-in-law of the missing man, called upon Inspector Boardman and Lieut. Peck after reading the dispatch, and had the police officials communicate with the Atlanta authorities.

In response to a message sent to Atlanta, Chief of Police Jennings of Atlanta wired the police here that the description of the dead man tallies with that given of Monroe. Chief Jennings stated that the deceased was about the age of Monroe, fifty-four years, and that he was bald and had a heavy beard. The message stated that there was a gold hunting-case watch in the pocket of the dead man's clothing, and that he wore a thirty-second degree Masonic charm. It was also stated that the body had not been identified. Chief Jennings gave no particulars of the suicide, but press dispatches say he committed suicide in the Kimball House by shooting himself.

Initials in Signature the Same

In the absence of anything which would assist the Atlanta police to identify the body, the suggestion was made that the body was that of W.F. Walker, the absconding banker from New Britain, Conn., and the New Britain authorities were communicated with. The signature of the man on the hotel register contained the initials of Monroe, however, the name Morgan being probably substituted for Monroe. The two brothers-in-law of the missing brick manufacturer called at police headquarters this morning and again conferred with Lieut. Peck. Later they got into communication with the Atlanta authorities, and when they had concluded one of them remarked: "I'm afraid it's Monroe's body."

The overcoat, hat and shoes found in the room in the Kimball House bear the marks of the Washington dealers from whom Monroe purchased such articles. The only discrepancy was that the watch found on the dead man was a hunting-case timepiece, while the brothers-in-law said that Monroe carried an open-face watch. It is stated, however, that the number of watch in Atlanta tallies with that given by the jeweler from whom Monroe made his purchase. A photograph of the man who committed suicide is expected to reach here late this afternoon, and then the question of identity will be settled.

When Monroe left his home last Friday he said nothing to his wife about going away. Mrs. Monroe knew that her husband had been greatly worried over his failure to collect money due him, and some of the near relatives thought the worry had affected his mind. They say that at times he acted rather peculiarly, and they were not greatly surprised when they heard he had disappeared, but they were shocked today when they learned of the probability of suicide.

Reasons for Belief in Suicide

On account of the unsatisfactory condition of the business here, Monroe had thought of going to Atlanta or Birmingham to start in the brick business. His friends now believe that he went to Atlanta for the purpose of finding a business opportunity, and that after reaching there he felt that he was not strong enough to begin business negotiations with strangers.

Mr. Monroe it is stated, entered suits against persons who had dealt with his firm, and one case was settled in his favor shortly before he disappeared. He was from near Fort Foote, Prince George county, Md., but had lived in this city many years. Should there be a positive identification of the body when the photograph reaches here this afternoon, his relatives will direct that the remains be shipped here for interment.

It is stated that about \$200 in cash was taken from the pockets of the dead man's clothing.

The Evening Star, March 20, 1907, p. 16

Picture Identified

Dead Man in Atlanta Proves To Be C.R. Monroe

Maj. Sylvester received a message from the chief of police of Atlanta, Ga., this morning, inclosing a photograph of the man who committed suicide there Sunday night, as heretofore stated in The Star, and it was identified as a likeness of Charles R. Monroe, the missing brick manufacturer. Mrs. Monroe was told of the identification of the photograph, and was greatly affected by the sad news. While she had feared the body in Atlanta was that of her husband, she still had hope that it would be otherwise, and the shock was very severe. The body is at an undertaking establishment in Atlanta, and the undertaker has been notified to forward it to this city. It is believed it will reach here tomorrow night. The funeral will probably take place from the late home of the deceased, 914 North Carolina avenue southeast.

The Evening Star, March 21, 1907, p. 3

Monroe's Remains to Be Interred Here

Arrangements have been made to bring the body of Charles R. Monroe, who committed suicide in the Kimball House at Atlanta, Ga., last Sunday, to this city for burial. It is expected that the remains will reach here about 8 o'clock this evening. Undertaker Lee will take charge of the body and remove it to the late home of the deceased, 914 North Carolina avenue. Arrangements for the funeral have not yet been made.

The Evening Star, March 22, 1907, p. 16

Burial of C.R. Monroe

Funeral Services to Be Held Tomorrow Afternoon

Arrangements have been made for the funeral of the late Charles R. Monroe, the brick manufacturer, who committed suicide at Atlanta, Ga., to take place from his late residence, 914 North Carolina avenue, at 3:30 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. The body reached here from Atlanta last night and was removed from the depot to the family home by Undertaker Lee. Members of Osiris Lodge, No. 26, F.A.A.M., will have charge of the funeral. The interment will be at Congressional cemetery.