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William J. Kerr

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7-14-1905

## Letters from Chas. Eldered Shelton, John L. Tilton, George Clammer, and Wallace R. Lane

Chas. Eldred Shelton  
*Simpson College*

John L. Tilton  
*Simpson College*

George Clammer

Wallace R. Lane

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(Copy)

Indianola, Iowa. July 14, 1905

TO THOSE INTERESTED:--

Mr. A. G. Reid is a graduate of Simpson College and was employed as athletic director for two years and the foot-ball season of this year. His work was satisfactory in every sense of the term. He thoroughly understands all forms of out-door athletics, is a successful player, and not only a fine instructor in his line but his personal character is of the sort we like to have our students come in contact with.

I commend him for such a position without reserve.

Very truly yours,

Chas. Eldred Shelton,

Pres. Simpson College,

(copy)

Indianola, Iowa, July 14th. 1905.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Mr. A. G. Reid, a graduate of Simpson College, has served us two years and the foot-ball season of this year as coach of our athletic teams and as an instructor in our faculty. During his undergraduate course he won the reputation of being one of the best "backs" in this part of the country, an excellent catcher and a first rate track man. He still holds our college record on the hundred yard dash and the running broad jump; he approached the records on the 440 yard dash, the hammer throw and the discus.

As a trainer he has done good work. His thorough familiarity with all the details of out-of-door athletics made it possible for him to develop new material rapidly and properly. He was careful of the men and developed them without over training them. He kept them well under control, and made them obey him. He was in sympathy with pure athletics and could be constantly relied upon to sustain the "conference" rules.

As a manager, both as a student and as a coach, he was thoroughly reliable and capable, and not extravagant in his arrangements. He cannot only be trusted with money but he can also be relied on to turn in an itemized account that is complete.

In character he was allright. I am not aware that he uses either liquor or tobacco. We have always felt that a team was morally safe under his care and have never known him to be careless

in his oversight of the teams.

In short he is a good all-round athlete of good character, a good trainer,, and a good business manager. I understand he wishes to coach to aid him in meeting his expenses while completing his course in Law.

Yours truly,

John L. Tilton,  
Chairman of the Faculty Committee on  
Athletics.  
Simpson College.

(Copy)

(copy)

Ft. Collins, Colorado.

July 17, 1905.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:-

I desire to say something in commendation of Mr. A. G. Reid. I have known him since his boyhood and am thoroughly conversant with his work in football and other college sports, both as a player and as a coach. He played three years on the Simpson College team of Iowa, and during that time the team ranked with the leading teams of that state. Reid's position was fullback and his work there gave him rank among the best players in Iowa. After leaving Simpson he went to Michigan and played on the second team and was a most consistent ground gainer against the team that made the name of Michigan famous. He was a member of the Michigan track team and did some excellent work in the weight events. After one year spent at Michigan he returned to his Alma Mater and coached the athletic teams for, I think, three years.

He is in all things very hard working and conscientious and this applies to his work as a coach. He is a good trainer and every team that he has coached has been in fine physical condition. His knowledge of football is aided by common sense and originality which has adapted that knowledge to the conditions he is required to face. I may state in brief that Mr. Reid's work caused him to rank among the best football coaches in Iowa.

In addition to his decided athletic ability, I wish to say emphatically that Mr. Reid is a christian gentleman. He is absolutely clean, of best of habits and his example, with the rules that he enforces among his men is of the greatest benefit to them.

To say more might sound like undue praise and defeat its object. I, therefore, conclude by simply saying that in Mr. Reid one may find a coach of football and other athletics, who thoroughly knows his business, has the ability, knowledge and perseverance necessary to bring out good teams and at the same time is withal a gentleman whose influence is always for the best.

I am,

Very respectfully,

George Clammer.

(Copy)

(copy)

Des Moines, Iowa, July 15, 1905.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Mr. A. G. Reid I have known for several years past, and although I have not been intimately acquainted with him, I have come in contact with him in various ways during this time. In the first place, I would say that Mr. Reid is an upright, straightforward gentleman of excellent morals, and I believe him to be a person so thoroughly acquainted with athletics of all kinds as to be capable of handling the athletics of any institution properly. He is particularly proficient in foot ball work, not only as a player, but his ability to train men has been frequently demonstrated in his work in the past three years at Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa, where I have had some opportunity to watch his work.

When I first came west to start the practice of law, I had recently graduated from the Yale Law School and having been in athletics at Yale, I was requested to referee some foot ball games in the colleges of the middle west, and in doing this work, I refereed some games for Simpson College when Mr. Reid was a member of their college team. His clean, hard, straightforward playing called my attention to his work, and although I was not acquainted with the gentleman at that time, it was evident to me that in Mr. Reid one would find a man of high standing. This has been demonstrated since that time when I have seen the team, which Mr. Reid coached,

play,, for each member was playing with the earnest purpose of winning,  
and yet if the team lost,, each took the defeat like men who were  
fairly beaten, and I have particularly noticed that none of the men on  
teams which have been under Mr. Reid's instruction have used oaths  
while they were upon the field which is something of a recommendation  
of itself in my opinion.

Wallace R. Lane.

Dic. W. R. L. "C"

(copy)

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