

# STATE OF MARYLAND.

## A Lynching Sequel to the Carver Tragedy in Somerset.

### PRISONER SHOT DOWN IN HIS CELL.

Princess Anne Jail Raided by a Masked Mob—Coroner's Inquest and Verdict in the Carver Case—Details of the Tragedy in Dublin District.

[Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Sun.]

PRINCESS ANNE, MD., June 8.—The twelve colored men implicated in the murder of Constable Edward Carver, Wednesday night, were lodged in Princess Anne jail Thursday, and at about half-past 1 o'clock this morning a party of masked men took possession of the prison and shot Isaac Kemp, the ring-leader of the gang, to death. Kemp was the member of the party who slashed Constable Carver with a razor after he had been beaten nearly to death during the raid, mentioned in today's *Star*, on Miller's store, in Dublin district, of Somerset county. The negroes, twelve in number, were strawberry pickers. They beat Carver to death and seriously wounded Frank McCready, who went to the constable's assistance. Carver became embroiled with them while trying to preserve order in the store, where they were demanding liquor to drink. This was refused them by Mr. George Powell, clerk of the proprietor of the store, Mr. Charles O. Miller.

After their performances at this place ten of the gang were captured by a hastily-organized searching party. The two others were subsequently secured, and they were all locked up Thursday night in Princess Anne jail. It is said the negroes are all from Virginia. The ringleader of the gang, Isaac Kemp, was chained to the floor of his cell, and he was shot as he lay about 2 o'clock this morning. The mob surrounding the prison numbered seventy-five men. Jailer Dryden told the following story of the raid on the jail and the lynching of the prisoner, Kemp. Dryden said:

"Kemp, being the leader, was confined in a separate cell and chained to the floor. About 1 o'clock this morning I was awakened by some one calling his name. I went to the door and was met by two men, who told me they had a prisoner whom they wished to place in jail. Not seeing any one else and not suspecting anything wrong I went to my room, put on my clothes and returned to the outer door of the jail with a lamp. As soon as I opened the door a number of men rushed in, throwing the lamp to the floor and pinning me, at the same time telling me they wanted Kemp, and ordered me to give up the keys. This I refused to do and remonstrated with the crowd to desist from their purpose. In the meantime Sheriff Stirling and a young man by the name of Gibbons, both of whom were stopping in the jail, were aroused and rushed into the hall. These gentlemen were also immediately pinned. The mob, after a few minutes, not finding the keys, secured an oak beam, two by eight inches and ten feet long, and by using it as a battering-ram broke down the door and gained an entrance to the corridor of the jail. They again asked for the keys to the cells, and also demanded that Kemp be pointed out to them, threatening to kill every prisoner in the jail until they had accomplished their purpose.

After a few minutes they found Kemp and shot at him three times through the grating of the door. They then proceeded downstairs in the jailer's private room and, after a thorough search, found the keys, and with a hurrah rushed upstairs, threw open the cell door and riddled the murderer's body with bullets, about fifty shots being fired. The mob then wanted to take the body with them, but after some argument they consented to leave it. They then bled down the stairs and bidding me good night, with a hurrah left the jail."

None of the other prisoners in the jail committed for the same crime were troubled by the mob, their only object being the death of Kemp. The mob consisted of about seventy-five men, most of whom were masked, carrying guns, pistols and rifles. None were identified by the people present in the jail.

The men who told Warden Dryden they had a prisoner to deliver said the prisoner was in a wagon. There was a wagon but it contained not a prisoner, but a heavy piece of oak timber, with which they battered down the iron grating leading to the upper floor. Kemp's cell was protected by two doors, one of iron, the other of oak wood.

At 10 o'clock Justice Rider held an inquest over the body of Kemp. Dr. Wainwright, who made a post-mortem, testified that there were eight wounds on the body of Kemp, any one of which was fatal. Alva N. Gibbons, who had spent the night in the jail with the sheriff, recognized one of the raiders in Samuel Webb, whose mask accidentally dropped off. Sheriff Stirling also identified Sewell Webb as "one of the lynchers.

The jury rendered a verdict that Isaac Kemp came to his death from pistol wounds inflicted by some unknown parties. State's Attorney Henry J. Waters conducted the examination at the inquest.

Isaac Kemp was a black, burly negro, about twenty-three years of age, and very muscular, with an extremely vicious countenance. He came from Key West, Fla., and was here picking strawberries for Mr. Frank Barnes. The mob were very quiet while entering the town, only a few of the inhabitants being aware of the lynching until this morning.

The inquest on the death of Constable Carver was held in the courthouse this afternoon. Frank McCready, who was badly hurt over the eye when Carver was killed, testified to the facts in the case as they have been already reported. The affair occurred between 8 and 9 o'clock at night. McCready said when he went to the assistance of Constable Carver the negroes divided, some of them attacking Carver and some jumping on the witness.

George Powell, clerk in the store, made the same statement as McCready. He also said George Parker, colored, one of the prisoners, came into the store first, and Constable Carver, who was already there, said in fun, "Let's have a drink." Isaac Kemp then came in, and then the fight began. Mr. Powell says he had, in the meanwhile, gone into another room, and when he came back Carver was getting up from the floor where he had been knocked down. He said, "George, I am hurt; I am sick." Carver then got a pistol from Powell and fired it three times in the air. He then laid down on a bench and never got up again. Isaac Kemp, the negro who was lynched, ran in and cut him with a razor while he was prostrate. The witness Powell recognized Drew, one of the prisoners, Handy, Conquest and others who took part in the fracas.

Joseph Horsey, who saw the fight, identified Leonard Conquest as the negro who had a beer-bottle in his hand, but did not see him strike a blow. He saw John Handy, who made threats while Carver was dying, and identified five of the prisoners.

John Bacon testified that he saw the man run in and cut Carver with a razor.

The jury brought in a verdict that Edward Carver came to his death from wounds inflicted upon his head by Isaac Kemp and John Handy, and that George Brown, George Holden, George Parker, Thom Smith, Alfred Conquest, Leonard Conquest, John Williams and George Holman were aiding Kemp and Handy in the commission of the felony.

Sheriff Stirling summoned a posse of forty men to guard the jail tonight to prevent any more lynching.