

S. S. BARNES ASSAULTED.

Negro Attempts to Kill Him on His Farm Near King's Creek.

Excitement No. 2 reached Pocomoke City Tuesday evening when it was learned that a negro named Edward Watson had assaulted Mr. Sam'l S. Barnes at his home near King's Creek, in Somerset county and that the life of Mr. Barnes was in the balance with great chances against his recovery. Shortly after the altercation Mr. Barnes was hurried to the Peninsula General Hospital at Salisbury and for several hours his life was despaired of.

The assault took place on the Barnes farm, about a mile from King's Creek, Somerset county. Mr. Barnes, who is one of the most prominent farmers of Somerset county, had a dispute with the negro over some farm work, when the negro struck him with a piece of scantling, dealing several blows over the head, after which he stamped upon him and kicked him in the face several times. Watson then hurriedly left the place, going toward Virginia. News of the assault soon spread over the neighborhood and a posse of white men, armed, started in pursuit of the negro, while Drs. Fisher and Lankford hurried to Salisbury with Mr. Barnes, who was operated on by Drs. Dick and Tull for fracture of the skull.

The negro was caught at Pocomoke City, near the railroad station, at 8 o'clock Tuesday night and almost in an instant a large mob gathered around.

The officers demanded that the negro be given up to their care and a determined effort was made by the authorities to get the prisoner off to Princess Anne on the S 30 train, but the large crowd present made the attempt unsuccessful. The negro was then rushed up town and placed in the lockup followed by a large crowd of infuriated persons. On the way from the station to the lockup the negro received several blows on the head and in the excitement one pistol shot was fired the bullet taking effect in the negro's body. Later he was removed to Princess Anne by Deputy Sheriff Charles G. Dale and special officer John S. Melvin, and handed over to the Somerset authorities. At last accounts both Mr. Barnes and his assailant were better than at first reported.