

The Cake-Walk Homicide.

END OF THE TRIAL OF PATRICK M'DONALD FOR THE MURDER OF DANIEL BROWN, COLORED—VERDICT OF MANSLAUGHTER—CONDUCT OF THE PRISONER, ETC.

[Reported for the Baltimore Sun.]

The jury yesterday in the Criminal Court rendered a verdict of guilty of manslaughter in the case of Patrick McDonald, the ex-policeman, charged with the murder of Daniel Brown, colored, in the house of the latter on Tyson street in July last. The punishment for manslaughter is in the discretion of the court from one day in jail to ten years in the penitentiary, but he was not sentenced. The case is known as the "cake-walk homicide," from the fact that a social entertainment of colored people was in progress at Brown's house, when the policeman called to repress the noise they made, of which complaint had been made to him.

The case was given to the jury at 4.30 P. M., Tuesday, the State claiming a verdict of murder, and the defense of not guilty of any offense against the law. They had not agreed on a verdict when court met at ten A. M. yesterday, but at five minutes to eleven A. M. word was sent by the jury to the court that they had agreed. They came into the court-room a few minutes after, looking rather worn and quite grave. The prisoner, who stepped briskly, was then brought in and took his seat in the dock, neatly dressed in dark clothes. The court room had been crammed with men for nearly an hour, waiting for the jury. The crowd at one time extended even out to the door of the court house on Court House lane. Judge Gilmor admonished the bailiffs to permit no display of feeling in the audience and the latter to repress the indecorous expression of sympathy or disgust on the rendition of the verdict. Perfect quiet prevailed in consequence of this injunction.

The prisoner stood up and raised his right hand when called upon by Mr. Maloney, the court clerk, to look upon the jury. He exhibited no fear, but seemed fully to realize that he stood in a perilous position, and that a critical moment had arrived. When the words of the foreman, "Not guilty of murder, but guilty of manslaughter," fell on his ear, he looked earnestly at the jury and bowed his head twice in thanks. It was evident that McDonald was satisfied with the verdict, and that he had dreaded a verdict for a higher grade. The court ordered the prisoner to be remanded to jail for sentence, which will probably be awarded next week. The defense took several exceptions during the trial, but they gave no indication of pressing their appeal yesterday.

It is learned that when the jury first went out with the case they stood eight for a verdict of murder in the first degree and four for manslaughter. During the night the eight consented to a verdict of murder in the second degree, but the other four were immovable from their first position for manslaughter. They stood thus when court was called yesterday morning. During the next hour the eight made a further concession to the verdict of manslaughter. The ground taken by the advocates of manslaughter in the jury room was that McDonald found he was in serious danger, when he fired his pistol. The names of the jury are as follows: Robert G. Williams; foreman; J. Hanson Thomas, Jr., J. M. Getz, Duncan N. Robb, William S. Tyler, R. Lewis Whiteford, Andrew J. Hankey, H. C. Waggoner, Josiah Kinzie, Solomon Brown, Albert H. Shook and James Boyle.