

PRICE MAKES A FULL CONFESSION.

He Says He Alone Killed Sallie Dean—Asks Forgiveness of Others Wronged.

Although the awful judgment of the court has disposed of the Price case entirely and will carry him to the scaffold, the trial is still much talked about all over the county, and, indeed, the whole State. His earnest declaration of innocence in the court-room lingered in some minds and made people wonder how a human being, amid such surroundings, could so brazenly dispute the facts which had been proven in his presence. All hoped that the prisoner would confess the whole truth. Visiting ministers asked him earnestly to keep nothing back, for such a full confession, they told him, must be made before he could receive that assistance from above which his soul so much needed. On Saturday he received an unsigned, but beautifully written, letter in a lady's hand-writing. This was dated Baltimore, and the writer said she took a deep interest in him and hoped he, realizing his condition, would make haste to undo the great wrong he had done an innocent man. These entreaties did not at first have any visible effect on the prisoner. He seemed very cheerful and continued to declare that Grant Corkran struck the fatal blows with stone and razor.

While no signs of a repentant heart were seen, Price had begun to take serious thought of the consequences of his course, and wrote to several persons in the vicinity of Harmony. He asked Dr. Dabadway, among the number, to come to see him. The Doctor was at the jail Sunday in response to the prisoner's request. Price then admitted that he had taken the Doctor's instruments and chloroform bottle, and that the latter, which was three-fourths full, was kept until shortly before the murder. He also said that he had broken into the Doctor's house and among other things stolen three gold shirt buttons, two of which he had lost. The other was returned to the owner. He said he did not kill the Doctor's setter dog. About this time he admitted that he was standing beside the prostrate form of Miss Dean when Mr. and Mrs. Todd drove by on their way to Denton.

During Saturday, Sunday and Monday he spent much of his time reading the Bible and a pretty prayer-book which the Baltimore lady had just sent him. During these days kind-hearted children gave him flowers on various occasions. On Tuesday he was seemingly very morose and unhappy. At times his iron nerve deserted him that day, and he frequently wept, the guards stated. He ate very little and would not see visitors who called. On Tuesday evening he called Sheriff Berry and one of the guards and for the second time made a clean breast of the horrible tragedy, stating that he alone did it, and that Grant Corkran is entirely innocent. His first confession, which was made after the detectives had several times told him not to talk, occurred on the trip to Baltimore.

PRICE EXONERATES CORKRAN.

On Tuesday evening when Sheriff Barry handed Price his supper through the wicket the prisoner said he had something to say. After some hesitation he went on: "The detectives said it was a left hand that killed Sallie Dean, but this is the hand that did it." As he spoke he placed his right hand on the sheriff's.

"Then," said the sheriff, "you now admit that Grant Corkran had nothing to do with it?"

"What I told you is true. This is the hand that did it," and Price again gripped the sheriff's hand with his right.

He then began his story of the murder of Sallie Dean, giving the details of the horrible affair and exonerating Mr. Corkran, whose name he had persistently used ever since his statement in Baltimore. Before Price had completed his story the sheriff was called away. Later in the evening, toward midnight, he returned to Price's cell and, with Watchman G. W. Richardson, heard again the confession. After putting a blanket up to the window to exclude observation from without, Price then took a sheet of foolscap paper and quickly drew a plat of the grounds where Sallie Dean met her death. He was evidently very familiar with the place.

He went to the branch that morning, he said, to cut balsam-wood with which to make hames. He cut one piece and went out to the public road within a few feet of the bridge. Sallie Dean passed just then and was ten steps or so up the road toward Harmony. She said, "good morning, Mr. Price," and when he had responded with a like greeting, he stopped up and joined her, walking up toward the hill. He remarked that she had not attended school the day before, and she said: "No, sir; my sister was away, in Easton, and I had to stay at home to attend to some housework." They had approached near the top of the hill, Price said; "I raised my axe and struck her on the side of the head and she fell, badly stunned. I picked her up and took her through the thicket, near the top of the hill. I took the knife—the one the sheriff took from me in the magistrate's office on the night of my arrest—and cut her drawers and tore them, but I did not go any further. Just about this time Sallie woke up as from a sleep, turned over on her side and said: 'Oh, my! How my head hurts!' Little Jimmie Corkran came by just here. He saw my axe and balsam-wood, which I had left by the side of the road, and stopped and looked at them. He looked up and

then down the road and peered into the thicket where I was with Sallie. I thought surely he would see me; and lay as flat as possible, watching him. Jimmie then went on to school. Again the girl woke up and seemed to be conscious, for she looked at me and tried to talk, but I could not understand her. I took a razor from my pocket and with my right hand cut her throat with one stroke. I didn't get a drop of blood on my clothes. Then I kicked some leaves over the bucket and books, buried the razor near where the bloody knife was found, threw the cedar brush over the body, and again went to the branch. I cut another piece of baize and returned to my shop, as the little Wright boy said on the witness stand."

Price then took the drawing he had made and indicated where the razor could be found. Deputy Sheriff Roe and Mr. Richardson went down the county yesterday to look for it. They had directions, given by Price, whereby they expected to find the axe with which he struck the little girl suddenly and without warning, knocking her senseless. Price said he had placed that stone near the scene to be found "as a blind." It had not been used at all in the killing of Sallie Dean.

"I thought of Grant Corkran and charged him with the murder," continued the prisoner, "and beginning with a lie I had to stick to it." Price confessed that he had some motive in selecting Grant as one on whom to lay the blame, aside from the fact that he was nearest the scene. It was that Grant had had a watch and knife deal with him once and had got the better of him. "But I have got even with him, haven't I?" Price asked of the guard, and the guard told him Grant had been dealt with very severely.

AGAIN REMOVED TO BALTIMORE.

Marshall E. Price, the convicted murderer of Miss Sallie Dean, was taken to Baltimore on Wednesday morning and placed in the Baltimore City jail. He will remain in that prison until shortly before the date to be set for his execution. This step was taken for two reasons—the expense of a guard here being unavoidable, and the jail not being sufficiently secure for a long imprisonment. Sheriff Berry, Deputy Sheriff Roe and Mr. M. F. Allaband left Denton jail with Price about five o'clock. No one except the officers knew of the contemplated removal. On arriving in Baltimore, the prisoner was turned over to Warden Constantine, and the sheriff and his deputy witnessed the police parade that afternoon. They returned to Denton by the Choptank steamer. Mr. Allaband only accompanied them as far as Queenstown.

EXCEPTIONS FILED.

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The *Baltimore Herald* says Millard F. Taylor, of that city, one of the counsel for Price, will make a further effort to secure a new trial of Price. The *Herald* says exceptions to the verdict have been filed by Mr. Taylor with the Caroline county Circuit Court clerk. The case will be carried to the Court of Appeals. Oath has been made that the step was not taken to delay Price's execution.

The first of these is that the State did not prove Price's admission to his wife. Another is that the confession of Price made to Marshal Frey here be excluded. The third is that the type-written confession of Price, produced at the trial, was not proven to be an original copy made in the marshal's office by his clerk.

DATE OF THE EXECUTION.

Governor Brown on Thursday set Friday, July 5, as the date for the execution of Marshall E. Price, the convicted murderer of Miss Sarah Elizabeth Dean. The hanging will take place at Denton, and the prisoner will be brought here a day or two before the date for the execution. Warden Constantine was notified of the Governor's action Thursday afternoon, and a "death-watch" was detailed to keep a constant oversight of the condemned man.

The hanging of Price will be the first in Caroline county by legal process since 1820, when Selby Jump was executed for murdering his brother, and the second in the history of the county, which was formed in 1774. Only two other men have met death in Caroline in punishment for crime, and they were lynched. One was a negro, Thomas, who in 1854 killed Butler, a white man, and the other was the negro, Wilson, lynched in the early sixties for an atrocious assault on and the murder of a little white girl.