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THREE LYNCHED BY MOB AT SALISBURY.

Held for the Lyrly Murders, Three Negro Prisoners Are Taken From the Hands of the Court and Put to Death Unlawfully.

Charlotte Observer.

Salisbury, August 6.—A mob of over two thousand determined men entered Rowan county jail shortly after 11 o'clock to-night, removed therefrom Nease and John Gillespie and Jack Dillingham, charged with the murder of the Lyrly family at Barber Junction, July 13th, and marching them to the edge of town, strung them up to a tree, riddling the dangling bodies with bullets.

George Ervin was taken from his cell with his associates, but after closely questioning him, the leaders of the mob returned him to his cell.

Before getting in its work the mob gave the three victims an opportunity to confess the crime. Dillingham and Nease Gillespie refused either to confess or deny the crime. John Gillespie, in tears, maintained his innocence to the end.

Salisbury, August 7.—Had a stranger entered this thriving little city without having read the papers, he would not have dreamed or imagined that three dead negroes dangled from lynchmen's ropes within two miles of the Rowan county court house. All was quiet save the marching of a few pedestrians and the moans of the mob who had completed its work and scattered to the four corners of the earth. Here and there in popular gathering places groups had assembled and were discussing the crime of last night. Many curious men were going about the jail examining the shattered windows and the bullet marks on the outer walls of the jail. At Henderson's base ball grounds, far removed from the business section of the town, a swarm of human vultures cut fingers, toes and ears from the victims of the mob. By 10 o'clock the remains of Nease and John Gillespie had been so mutilated that they were gruesome to look upon. Thousands of people went out to the scene of the lynching.

THE STORY OF THE MOB.

The mob here last night was a deliberate one. Its progress might be likened to the cloud that precipitated the flood that destroyed the entire world except Noah's ark and its inhabitants. It grew from a small knot of quiet men to something like 3,000 howling maniacs. Minute by minute the crowd swelled, increasing by the street-car load.

At 7:30 o'clock a few peaceful-looking citizens leaned on the iron fence in front of the jail and talked among themselves. These seemed to be amiable men, who had foregathered there to look at the sheriff's guard. But as the night came on the number grew. From a half dozen the party increased to a dozen, a half-hundred, a hundred, two hundred, five hundred, then a thousand, and on to three thousand.

For hours the crowd was nothing more than a large, unwieldy, lifeless assemblage of people. No yells, nor noise of any kind was uttered. The throngs that spread all over Main street, between Council and Liberty, moved in small circles, and talked but little. The yelling did not begin until after 9 o'clock. Then a few boys in short pants began to give vent to pent-up feelings. As the keepers became more general and more frequent the crowd became more compact and more animated. Again it can be likened to a dark and threatening cloud. It grew darker and larger. Hundreds of men came in from Spencer on the one side and Chestnut Hill on the other. Every railroad train emptied car-loads of Stanley, Cabarrus, Davidson and Mecklenburg men in the city. Everybody joined the mob, some to look on and others to participate in the lawlessness.

By 10 o'clock those who have courage and love fair play trembled with fear. Judge Long, Sheriff Julian, Senator Overman, Solicitor Hammer, Thomas Vandeford, John M. Julian, Mayor A. H. Boyden, and many other good citizens were begging the would-be lynchists to disperse. At this time there were no leaders in the crowd. The same sort of a gathering could have come together to see a balloon go up. The dangerous men had

not yet arrived. The officers had about concluded that the multitude bore no ill will to any one, but had assembled to see what some other fellows were going to do. Hosts of beardless youths and collarless laboring men sat on the alley fences, the curbstones and adjacent door-steps.

DETERMINED MEN APPEAR.

But a few determined men made their way to the back door of the jail, where they were repeatedly beaten back by the deputies and plucky citizens. Solicitor Hammer made a strong speech, warning and threatening the mob. Three men carrying sledge-hammers had entered the kitchen of the prison building, but were soon arrested. Later, when the leader of a small bunch outside promised to desert if the three men were turned loose, the officers were advised to turn out the newly arrested prisoners. The man who had effected the entrance with his sledge-hammer was George Hall, an ex-convict, an illicit distiller and an all-around bad man. When he got on the outside he mounted the steps and made the following remarks to those who had been with him: "You would not follow me and I want to say to you that you are all a set of cowardly s—b—s." He then shook hands with Mr. Hammer, much against the latter's will, and joined the retreating crowd. Although Mr. Hammer had prosecuted this man in Montgomery he could not recall his name nor his record last night. This morning, however, he had him arrested. Therefore, when Hall and his gang retreated it was more of a sham than anything else. He and the quiet leader, who was with him but did not get inside the jail, were backed by a little band of dangerous men from the neighborhood of Whitney. They composed the radical element of the mob which later broke into the jail and secured the negroes. The conservative element, the men who saved the doubtful defendants and the woman, came from the neighborhood of the Lyrly murder. The mob that did the work must have numbered about 500 men. The great throng was out to see and hear.

WOMEN WITNESS DEED.

Many women followed the surging crowd in all of its wanderings. Some of them went to the place of hanging and saw the negroes swung to the limb and shot to death. Had the guards used their guns they could have kept back the lynchers, but many on-lookers would have been killed.

INFURIATED THE LYNCHERS.

Close to midnight Capt. Max Barker and his military company left the court house. The guard of deputy sheriffs had already gone. This virtually left the building unprotected. Sheriff Julian had instructed the soldiers not to fire until he told them to do so. The mob was shooting out the lights, the windows and peppering the jail. The defence offered did no more than inflame or infuriate the lynchers. Instead of bolting when the Rowan Riflemen began to fire blank cartridges they moved on the jail. Three men had been shot, one of whom was mortally wounded. The fury of the law-breakers was increased at the sight of blood. Therefore when the soldiers quit the jail yard the mob had a clear field. It was not long before the grating of iron, twisting and breaking staples and locks. The silence that fell on the crowd that remained outside while the leaders went in was appalling. Instead of being merry and noisy the throng had become serious and solemn.

The Lyrly murderers were on the third floor. Nease and John Gillespie, George Ervin and Jack Dillingham were in the cell with a number of other negroes. The hunters climbed the narrow winding stairway and found the right place. The door was forced and the negroes hauled out. It was then that some cheerful fellow announced to the crowd below that he had the negroes and urged some one to get the ropes. This news did not cause a y commotion. Darkness and silence prevailed. The gaiety had ceased and many wanted to turn and flee from the

fire that they had encouraged. The men with their game came running, tumbling down the steep steps. The negroes were jerked, cuffed and kicked until they landed on the ground.

WOMAN WAS BEATEN.

Della Dillingham was in an outbuilding. Several strong fellows forced the door and entered and beat her with their fists. She carried a number of bruises from the effect of blows received. But she was not removed from the room.

Having taken George Ervin two blocks away some conservative members of the party questioned him and then decided to let him go. He was about to be turned loose when some one declared that he would be in danger of being hurt by some section of the mob.

MADE TO SAY THEIR PRAYERS.

After going up Swain street for some distance the procession turned east to the Henderson place across the Southern Railway. The negroes were led to a large oak tree on the Henderson baseball ground. There they were made to kneel down and say their prayers. Each one was given an opportunity to make a confession. Nease and Jack Dillingham declared that they would neither own or disown the crime. John, Nease's 16-year-old boy, proclaimed that he was innocent to the very last.

Nease was hung first. The limb being close to the ground, his feet were coupled to his head. Jack followed, and then John. Several men pleaded for a trial for John but the radicals cried for blood and blood they had.

At 12:30 the bodies of the three negroes dangled in the moonlight. They were riddled with bullets. The young fellow who climbed the tree to receive the ropes smoked a cigarette and blew out rings of smoke while the negroes were having their last say on this earth.

For two hours after the last gun was fired groups of dust-stained, tired pedestrians marched through the town, going to their homes. The men carried their coats on their arms and their hats in their hands. These were not the lynchers but the spectators.

One thing can be said about the mob: It was not a segregating mob. The negroes in the streets were unmolested. The word "nigger" was not heard in the cries. The mob was composed of lawless men who would have hung white men.

Salisbury, Aug. 7.—There has been considerable talk here this afternoon about revenge and retaliation on account of the shooting last night of Mr. McLendon, the engineer, and the arrest this morning of George Hall, Montgomery, a leader of the mob that lynched the negroes. It is not known who shot McLendon, but some of his friends charge Jailer Hodge Kridler with it. When shot McLendon was hearing in a window with a hammer. He is very dangerously ill. [Later: McLendon is dead.]

It was said that a mob would try to take Hall and at the same time even up for the shooting of the engineer. It is certain that Mr. Kridler did not shoot McLendon. The jailer was at a different part of the building at the time. An attack on the jail to-night, with the two-fold purpose indicated, would be a very different proposition from the one last night of defending the negroes considered guilty of murdering white women and children. The latter defence would be for a cause that is dear to the hearts of law-abiding citizens.

A certain prominent officer here declared that they would die before Hodge Kridler or any other good officer should be harmed. At this time of the night, 8:30 o'clock, there are absolutely no signs of approaching violence.

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

This has not been an eventful day compared with yesterday, but Judge R. F. Long and Solicitor W. C. Hammer have made a step in the right direction. Early this morning Mr. Hammer was told that a man who was in the mob the night before was ridiculing him and boasting up the part he had taken in the lynching, having declared that he had tied one of the ropes and helped to hang one of the negroes. The man was pointed out to the solicitor and he recognized him as the fellow who first forced a way into the jail last night.

"Who is that fellow?" asked Mr. Hammer. "George Hall is his name."

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was the answer. Then it all came back to me. Hamner, who had been in the mental in seeking for the roads for three months. That is a whiskey distiller, an ex-convict and a bad man. His name was ordered and he was locked in a cell. Here the court, the imprisonment of Hall had a good effect. Others who had been recognized last night and disappeared from the streets. The well-to-do young ladies who led the first attack on the jail was seen a number of times this morning but no one knew his name. It is believed that he belongs in Montgomery or Stanley.

At 2 o'clock to-day the bodies of the negroes were still hanging on the tree. Thousands of people have seen them. The heads are cutless, the hands fingerless and the feet toeless. Some of the negroes had mutilated the corpses. The red tape of the law kept the gruesome things there for women and children, as well as men, to gaze upon.

The horrible tragedy of last night almost made Judge Long ill. But, this morning, he was all right and ready to place against the lynchers. Court convened at 11 o'clock and Solicitor Hammer asked for continuance in the case against Henry Lee, John Ervin and Della Dillingham, who had been sent to Charlotte for safe keeping. The request was granted.

Judge Long sent for the grand jury and told the foreman that he should hold his men in jail until they come before the court at any time. He explained that he had work for the jury to do.

JUDGE LONG TO THE PEOPLE.

Having spoken to the grand jury, Judge Long addressed the people. Among other things he said: "There was a rumor current here to try this case this morning at 10 o'clock. The grand jury had found a true bill and the court had made an order that 200 veniremen appear at the court house that the case would be investigated and tried according to law. But last night the court had become so excited that it was thought that the court would shortly before that the law would hold the laws of the land and stand by the courts in the administration of the law. A band of men broke into the jail, took three prisoners out and lynched them as the court is informed. I will say to the citizenship in my hearing that if there are any law-abiding men in Rowan county (and I believe there are) that there are I would like to have your presence during the sittings of this court."

MR. NEWELL ON LYNCHING.

Mr. Anticipated Trouble and Had no Regard for the Law—Assailed the Governor Otherwise.

Mr. Jake F. Newell, who, with his law partner, Mr. H. S. Williams, of Concord, was to have represented the alleged murderers of the Lyrly family at Salisbury yesterday, returned to the city last night. Mr. Newell is very pronounced in his views on the lynching and speaks in rather plain terms of the causes leading up to the atrocious crime which has been laid at the doors of Rowan county. He believes firmly that at least one innocent negro has been put to death and he attributes the lynching to the blood-thirstiness of a lawless and desperate mob.

In speaking to an Observer reporter last night, Mr. Newell had this to say:

"I wrote to Governor Glenn last week and told him that I anticipated trouble at Salisbury. He replied that the authorities there had assured him that there would be no danger and that he had ordered them to take whatever steps they deemed necessary in maintaining order. When I reached Salisbury and saw the crowd at the house and heard it all, I knew that trouble was brewing. Every movement of the great mass of people assured me that I had had the correct opinion.

"The bill of indictment was returned about 4 o'clock Monday afternoon and the prisoners were almost immediately arraigned. Remaining the seriousness of the situation, I made a motion to have the case continued till the regular term, three weeks hence, and recited the conditions prevailing. I called Judge Long's attention to the fact that my clients were not only in danger of being dealt with violently, but we, as counsel, had also been threatened. I laid special stress on the point that a fair and impartial trial could not possibly be held.

"But the solicitor assured the court that he had investigated conditions thoroughly and he knew that there would be absolutely no danger of violence and that the prisoners would be given a fair trial. On this assurance, Judge Long overruled my motion and set the trial for 10 o'clock this morning. I had permission to examine the State's witnesses in jail and went down shortly after eight o'clock in the evening. Already a crowd had gathered, but there was practically no demonstration. When I talked to the guards, they informed me that they were afraid for me to go into the jail, as it would create a suspicion of the removal of the prisoners. The guards at this time were thoroughly rattled and totally inadequate and incompetent.

"I immediately went to Judge Long and informed him of the conditions. He instructed the sheriff, solicitor and mayor and begged them to assist him in maintaining law and order. This they promised to do, but before anything could be accomplished the mob had been so augmented that the judge saw only prompt and heroic measures would avail anything. With the solicitor and Senator Overman, went to the jail and attempted to speak to the mob, but they were howled down and treated with every discourtesy imaginable. The military company arrived at this juncture and, for a time, it seemed that the mob had become discouraged. As soon as

a little order was restored, the military company walked out of the jail yard, leaving it entirely in the hands of the mob and alleging that they did so because they had no authority to shoot to kill.

Mr. Newell was asked his opinion in regard to the immediate cause of the lynching. "It was reported in Charlotte to-day that the lynching would have never occurred if the military company had not appeared on the scene. Some believe that the soldiers infuriated the mob. What is your opinion about that?" "No," Mr. Newell replied, "the lynching was due primarily and solely to the blood-thirstiness of a lawless, desperate element of Rowan county. That crowd went to Salisbury for the purpose of killing those three negroes. They had been there all day, drinking mean liquor, and nothing but more military protection would have deterred them. I saw a number of drunk fellows on the street yesterday and there were many threats that violence would be done."

"Is it true that threats were made against you and Mr. Williams?" "Yes," was the reply. "No one came to us direct, but some of the officials had been told by drunk men that we would be handled when they had finished with the negroes. Sheriff Julian sent us word yesterday morning that it wouldn't be advisable for us to appear on the streets."

"Who is to blame for the outrage, Mr. Newell?" "Well, that is not for me to say. The fault is somewhere, but I think that too much praise cannot be given Judge Long for his bold and determined stand for the preservation of law and order. His remarks to the crowd in the court room could not have been uttered by any other man but a fearless man. If any blunder was committed it was because Judge Long had been deceived as to the true situation. The same may be said of Governor Glenn.

"I believe," Mr. Newell continued, "that not sufficient evidence had been introduced to have sent the case to a jury and in any other county than Rowan, an acquittal would have been the result. In the case of Mrs. Carnegie, who stoutly pleaded his innocence, we would have established a complete abject and we feel perfectly sure that at least one innocent man has been lynched."

Mrs. Carnegie Loves to Embroider

Though the name of Carnegie might suggest being "too rich to be comfortable," Mrs. Andrew Carnegie, 24, the wife of the ironmaster's nephew, doesn't think the possession of a big income should preclude the joys of the simple life. What she enjoys most is sitting on the piazza of her summer place at Magnolia, which commands a superb view of the sea, and doing needlework. This summer she is embroidering seat coverings for a set of Chippendale chairs. As soon as she finishes a cover, a chair is upholstered and set out to be admired. Some members of the summer colony profess to think Mrs. Carnegie's love of needlework a surprising fancy in a woman who has sought Magnolia for recreation. "Why shouldn't she do as she likes and enjoy herself?" asked a woman who was championing the old-time accomplishment at a luncheon the other day.

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