

MOB KILLS NEGRO

Policeman Daugherty's Murderer Beaten To Death At Crisfield.

CORPSE STRUNG ON POLE

Lynching Occurs In Broad Daylight And No Masks Worn.

FIERCE RACE WAR IS FEARED

Man In Rowboat Was Pursued By Gasoline Launch And Captured On Tangier Sound—Is Torn From Captors At Dock—Dies Before He Is Dragged 100 Yards.

[Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Sun.] Crisfield, Md., July 28.—Crisfield and Somerset county were thrown into a state of intense excitement at a late hour last night by the murder of Night Chief of Police John H. Daugherty, of this city.

The crime was committed by James Reed, a negro of North Carolina, who had been living in Crisfield for the past eight months.

After a long, stern chase this morning in gasoline launches, Reed, after being fired upon, was captured, brought back to Crisfield and beaten to death by an angry mob of citizens.

Stringing his dead body to a telegraph pole the rioters surged through the colored settlement, took negro men from their cabins, mauled them fiercely and bade them leave town.

Further trouble is feared tonight.

STORY OF THE MURDER.

Officer Daugherty, in company with day Officer Sebern A. Evans, had a few minutes before the shooting arrested an out-of-town negro for selling whisky, and the two officers, with the prisoner between them, were walking through a negro district in the business section of the town toward the jail when the deed was committed.

Reed, when he saw the officers make the arrest of the other man, who was his partner, ran into a negro billiard room and borrowed a 44-caliber revolver and followed the two officers about half a block, when he drew the revolver from his coat and shot Officer Daugherty in the head from behind. The bullet came out over the right eye, making a frightful wound. When the shot was fired the murderer was within 10 feet of the officer and Daugherty fell without a struggle. Death was instantaneous.

Officer Evans, not knowing whether his companion was seriously wounded, let go of the prisoner and jumped to his assistance. The prisoner immediately fled after Reed, who ran as soon as he fired. They were lost because the street was crowded with other negroes. With the assistance of a few persons who gathered Evans carried Officer Daugherty to the office of Justice P. M. Tilghman. As they turned the corner of Third and Main streets the wife of Mr. Daugherty with two small children was coming out of a store on the same corner and ran unknowingly into the party.

HE STEALS A BICYCLE.

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Although officers were dispatched to different parts of the town to prevent the escape of Reed while the inquest was being held the man by making a detour of the marsh reached the upper part of the town and followed the railroad into the country. Because the negro first ran in directly the opposite direction from which he afterward went it was thought that he had secured a boat and left town by water. He was afterward seen, however, as he ran up the railroad.

Stealing a bicycle in front of a little store, he made his way as fast as possible north.

Word was received at an early hour this morning that the man had ridden the wheel to Coulbourne's creek, about 10 miles north of Crisfield, and had stolen a boat and made for the western shore. The town authorities at once chartered a fleet of five large gasoline launches, among which was the mail boat Ercliff, and the boats started to scour Tangier Sound and adjoining bodies of water. Each vessel took a different course.

At 9 o'clock the Ercliff sighted a small vessel answering to the description of the vessel stolen, and immediately changed her course, overhauling the little craft, which proved to be the one stolen. The man, who had retreated to the cabin, was commanded to come out and give himself up, but did not appear. After the second command given by Captain Chetton, of the Ercliff, fire was opened by those aboard, and the negro was again commanded to give himself up. He jumped from the cabin into the water, but saw the futility of his attempt to escape and allowed himself to be picked up.

MOB HOWLS FOR VENGEANCE.

He at first denied any knowledge of the crime, but afterward admitted the crime and said he shot the officer that his negro partner, who was under arrest, might escape. Hundreds of people of Crisfield and all points in the county were downtown at an early hour waiting further developments, when about 10 o'clock the vessels signaled that the man had been caught.

Immediately the hundreds of people around the docks became intensely excited, and as the vessels neared the dock the mob set up a howl for the prisoner. The town officers, with a large number of deputies, made an effort to secure the man as he was landed between two other deputies on the dock, but the mob, with cheers, curses and yells, made for the man with clubs, knives and pistols.

HIS SKULL IS CRUSHED.

The mob led the negro toward the scene of the crime, but by the time he had gone about 100 yards the negro was dead. The man's skull was crushed and he was beaten to a jelly.

No masks were used and no one participating in the lynching seemed to have any hesitancy in doing what he did.

A rope was secured and tied around the negroes neck and the body was dragged through the streets to the scene of his crime, and there strung upon a telephone pole where he hung for several hours.

The mob did not disperse, however, until after nightfall, although at 3 o'clock this afternoon Coroner P. M. Tilghman impaneled a jury composed of Lloyd Riggins (foreman), J. A. Howard, W. L. Tull, George M. Smith, Thomas C. Sterling, James T. Tull, Charles Riggins, John W. Muir, Frank Lowe, D. Ross Riggins and George S. Tull, and an inquest was held.

The medical examiner was Dr. C. E. Collins and the verdict rendered after hearing a few witnesses was that the deceased met his death as a result of mob violence at the hands of unknown men.

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A short while after the negro was hung the mob started to clean out the whole negro population of the town, and for several hours a fiercer race war was feared. Several negro houses were invaded and the negro men occupants beaten. It was like courting death for a negro to appear on the streets. However, at this hour things have quieted down a little, although it is feared that more trouble and disturbances between the negroes and the white population will develop.

Up to the present time the negro who was under arrest and the negro who lent Reed the pistol with which to kill the officer have not been caught. It is thought that they have left town, but searching parties are looking for them in every part of Crisfield, and should both or either be caught it is the general impression that they will also be lynched.

The representative people of Crisfield and the county generally believe that the lynching was justified, and the lynchers are praised for their work.

Mr. Daugherty was about 52 years old and a prominent citizen of the town. He is survived by a widow and five children, who are Mr. Charles H. Daugherty, Mrs. Clarence T. Long, Mrs. Lloyd Sterling, Miss Lillian and Miss Georgia Daugherty, all of Crisfield.