

### CONVICTS KILL TWO PRISON GUARDS.

Those in Missouri State Prison At Jefferson City Make Break for Liberty.

THEY GOT OUT BUT NOT AWAY.

By Some Means Had Secured Pistols and Nitro-glycerine—Running Fight in the Streets.

Jefferson City, Mo., Nov. 24.—A desperate attempt to escape from the state prison was made by four convicts at 2:15 this afternoon, resulting in a terrific battle with weapons and nitro-glycerine at the prison gate, a running fight through the streets of Jefferson City and the final capture of the four convicts, two of whom were shot and wounded. Two prison officers were shot dead and a third was seriously wounded.

**DEAD.**  
John Clay, gatekeeper.  
E. Allison, officer of the commissary department.  
Hiram Blake, three-year burglar from Grundy county.

**WOUNDED.**  
Deputy Warden R. E. See, shot in arm and hip.  
Harry Vaughn, convict, St. Louis, shot in arm.

Mutineers captured unhurt: George Ryan, from Kansas City; Charles Raymond, a three-year burglar from St. Louis.

Warden Matt W. Hall, Yardmaster Porter Gilvin and five prison guards departed this morning for Fort Leavenworth, Kan., on a convict train carrying 71 federal prisoners who are being transferred from the Missouri state penitentiary to the government prison at Fort Leavenworth. It is believed that this fact had much to do with the outbreak today, as it is surmised the convicts had counted largely upon Warden Hall's absence from their premeditated attempt to escape.

There was not the slightest pretension of the trouble within the prison walls. Suddenly convicts Harry Vaughn, Charles Raymond, Hiram Blake, George Ryan and Eli Ziegler, who were working in close proximity to the prison gate, inside the inclosure, as if by given signal, made a rush for the gate. From their pockets they drew pistols, and it is presumed that at least one of them carried a bottle of nitro-glycerine. Where these weapons and explosives were obtained has not yet been discovered.

Running past the gate they entered Deputy Warden See's office and shot him as he sat in his chair. He sunk back and was unable to resist them. Instantly they returned to the gate and met Gatekeeper John Clay, who had been alarmed by the shots. Before he could raise his weapon he was shot dead. Then, as if to signal the convicts generally that the attempt to escape had been started, the convicts raised the bell and momentarily rang the bell.

Gatekeeper Clay had left the wagon gate ajar when he appeared, and was shot dead. The convicts rushed through dragging his body with them, slammed the gate shut and fastened it on the inside. They were then in the wagon entrance to the penitentiary, this entrance being about 40 feet long by 15 feet wide and leading to the public street through another double gate of steel.

This outside gate was locked, but the desperados were deterred but for a moment. Placing their nitro-glycerine under the outside gate, they blew an opening through the massive steel doors, and before the smoke had cleared from the opening they had dashed through, passed a number of "tushy" convicts working in the street, and ran madly for 12 blocks. Ziegler, it was found, had failed to leave the penitentiary walls.

Almost before the four escaping convicts had covered the distance of one block the prison officials, heavily armed, were in pursuit, shooting as they ran. Penitentiaries jumped behind trees, ran into houses and crouched down behind any obstacle that presented refuge. Those living in houses along the line of flight, alarmed by the shooting, rushed out to ascertain the cause. Women screamed and fled precipitately, while the majority of men seized weapons and joined the prison officials in pursuit.

A desperate fear gave speed to the convicts, and they outran their pursuers. Near the Missouri railway station they came upon a wagon being driven by Orville Lane. Jumping into this wagon they seized Lane and held him

### LET YOUR STOMACH HAVE ITS OWN WAY.

Do Not Try to Drive and Force It to Work When It Is Not Able to Do You Will Suffer All the More.

You cannot treat your stomach as some meat eat a hasty horse, force, drive or even starve it into doing work at which it rebels. The stomach is a patient and faithful servant, and will stand much abuse and ill-treatment before it "balks," but when it does you had better go slow with it and not attempt to make it work. Some people have the mistaken idea that they can make their stomachs work by starving themselves. They might cure the stomach that way, but it would take so long that they would have no use for a stomach when they got through. The sensible way out of the difficulty is to let the stomach rest. It wants to and employ a substitute to do its work.

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Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are for sale by all druggists at 25 cents a box. They are so well known and their popularity is so great that a druggist would as soon think of being out of alcohol or quinine as of them. In fact, physicians are prescribing them for all cases of indigestion. If your own doctor is real honest with you, he will tell you frankly that for dyspepsia as nothing on earth so good for dyspepsia as Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets.

to act as a shield from the bullets of their pursuers. One convict lashed the horse to a run. The wild ride was of short duration, however, as another posse, consisting of city police, augmented by citizens, appeared in front of them and seeing that further flight was cut off, they stopped the horses and made a desperate stand.

Lane was thrown to the bottom of the wagon, and crouching over him, shielding themselves to the best possible advantage behind the sides of the vehicle, the convicts opened fire back to back, on their pursuers. The prison officials shouted to them to surrender or they would be shot dead. Their only reply was a volley from their revolvers.

Then followed a desperate street battle. The posse men jumped behind trees and shot with falling rifles, splintering the wagon and finally putting a bullet through one of the convicts who fell to the ground. Thereupon, seeing that death was inevitable and further resistance useless, the convicts surrendered.

It was found that Convicts Vaughn and Blake were suffering from bullet wounds. Driver Orville Lane and Convicts Ryan and Raymond were uninjured. The convicts were immediately taken back to the penitentiary, where the wounded were given medical attention, while the uninjured were placed in solitary confinement in dungeon cells.

Blake, who was wounded in the battle with the posse, died tonight. He was from Grundy county.

Convict Harry Vaughn from St. Louis was sentenced for 35 years for first degree robbery. Vaughn was a member of the Morris-Rosenau gang, with which three detectives fought a terrible battle on Chestnut street in St. Louis. One detective was shot dead and the other two detectives died later in the city hospital from wounds. Rosenau, one of the leaders, was shot dead, and Morris and other leaders died subsequently from wounds. Vaughn was badly beaten up, and after recovery was convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary.

Eli Ziegler, from Warrensburg, was sentenced to three years for robbing dead bodies at a railroad wreck.

**BIG FIRE IN INDIANAPOLIS.**  
Indianapolis, Nov. 24.—A fire early today practically destroyed the big plant of T. R. Brooks foundry, company, manufacturers of structural iron. Loss \$100,000.

The plant of the Oils Steel company, across the street from the Brooks building, caught fire and for a time was threatened with destruction. The flames were finally checked, however, after causing a loss of \$10,000.

**TEA**  
Give thought to the tea you buy.  
Your grocer returns your money if you don't like Schilling's Tea.

### MERIWETHER COURT-MARTIAL.

Judge Advocate Challenges Rear Admiral McCormick, Member of the Court.

BUT IT WAS NOT SUSTAINED.

U. S. Atty. Brought Out Some Interesting Facts About How Fighting Had Succeeded Hazing.

Annapolis, Md., Nov. 24.—One of the most remarkable incidents in the history of naval court-martials in this country marked today's session of the court which is trying Midshipman Meriwether, Jr., in connection with the fight between himself and Midshipman James R. Branch. Rear Admiral Alexander H. McCormick, next in point of rank of the members of the court to Admiral Ramsey, its president, was challenged by Judge Advocate Marix after the whole testimony for the prosecution had been submitted, a proceeding which the judge advocate said had never been taken by him in all his years of previous experience, and of which he had never heard.

The grounds for the challenge appeared after the beginning of the trial and were, first, that Admiral McCormick had consulted with a high medical authority (Medical Director Walton, U. S. N., retired) in relation to the case, second, that he had by his remarks and continued cross-examination of the prosecution's witnesses practically taken the place of the counsel for the accused and, third, that he had evinced the possession of a theory in the case which was so rooted that it would be impossible to move it by the evidence.

"I have had a conversation with Medical Inspector Thomas C. Walton," said Admiral McCormick. "I did this in order that I might ask such questions of the witnesses brought before the court as would affirm or negative the possibility of Branch's death having occurred in the manner charged. I am fully aware that in the end I must reach my conclusions upon the testimony of the witnesses before this court and in that manner only."

The court was then cleared, and upon its being reopened Admiral McCormick announced that the challenge against Admiral McCormick had not been sustained.

Only second in point of interest to the challenge entered against Admiral McCormick was the court's determination to request the secretary of the navy to order that the body of the late Midshipman Branch be examined and an autopsy held. It is not certain how much can be revealed by an autopsy upon the remains of Midshipman Branch, who has been dead for about three weeks, but it is believed that almost absolute information can be obtained as to the existence of any previous diseased condition of the heart, brain or other organs such as would have made death possible at the time from any other cause than the blows received in the fight.

The prosecution closed its case this morning. Surgeon E. M. D. McCormick testified: "I saw Branch between 10 and 11 o'clock Monday morning. He was unconscious, his left side was paralyzed, his right arm and leg were continually thrashing and he was much bruised about the face, head, shoulders and forearms. I think that the condition was brought about by the repeated blows he had received. I don't think a cause of death could have existed prior to the fight. The witness answered that it was impossible to say this absolutely in the absence of an autopsy, but that there was no reasonable doubt that the blows had caused Branch's death. Under this examination Surgeon McCormick said that excitement and over-exertion might have contributed to the condition of Branch, but only in a secondary way.

Admiral McCormick evidently was not at all satisfied that the hot applications upon Branch's head by his companions on the night of the fight had not contributed to the death. He brought out from the witness that hot applications might contract veins if applied to them closely and continuously. As each medical officer concludes his testimony, the conviction grows that a

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serious and perhaps fatal error was made, as far as conviction for manslaughter lies, in failing to hold an autopsy. There is evidently a serious doubt in the minds of some members of the court as to whether there may have possibly existed some unusual condition in the organism of Branch which led to his death.

Dr. E. P. Stone was recalled and testified as to a physical examination of Branch about eight months prior to his death.

A startling incident occurred during his cross-examination by Mr. Munroe, Meriwether's counsel. He was asked some questions connected with the death of Midshipman Branch, which occurred at the academy last year. The cause of the death was not certainly revealed by the autopsy, the witness said, but an old injury to the brain was discovered, and it was rumored that this had been occasioned by an injury which Branch had received in some hazing occurring when he first entered the academy. He had no personal knowledge of this, he said.

At the close of the morning session the court granted a request of the counsel for the accused that the body of the late Midshipman Branch, whose death occurred after his fight with Meriwether, be examined and an autopsy held. The case has reached the stage where several points on matters which the experts admit could not be satisfactorily determined without an autopsy.

The defense offered two witnesses during the forenoon session. They were Midshipman Herbert B. Labhart, a classmate and former roommate of Meriwether, and Midshipman Norman Smith, a first class man.

Labhart was called to show that Branch had done things to Meriwether which would make good his assertion that he "would make life for itself living for him," but his testimony was not particularly strong.

During the course of Midshipman Smith's testimony United States Dist. Atty. Rose of Baltimore, who is associated in the prosecution with Judge Advocate Marix, took a keen interest in the evidence given that fighting had increased since hazing was "knocked out" at the academy. He brought out very many things which he believed the witnesses were still compelled to do various silly things and obey ridiculous orders, the impelling force being the fact that if they do not prove tractable they must fight, whereas they were formerly compelled to do the same thing by the imposition of physical cruelty in the shape of hazing.

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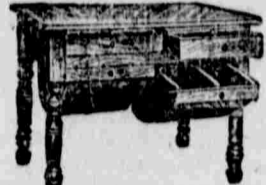
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