

# BRUTAL NEGRO IS LYNCHED.

Pullman Porter W. H. Wallace  
Outraged an Old Lady.

## LA JUNTA SCENE OF CRIME.

The Flood Was Strung Up to a Telegraph Pole and Then Riddled With Bullets.

La Junta, Colo., March 25.—W. H. Wallace, a negro sleeping car porter, was lynched at 8 o'clock tonight in a corner of the courthouse square, being hanged to an electric light pole by a howling mob of 4,000 people, who had been hunting for him all day. After the hanging the body of the negro was riddled with bullets. Wallace had been kept out of town all day by Sheriff Farr in an attempt to save him from the mob. The prisoner made no resistance to the lynching, and died protesting his innocence.

Mrs. Henrietta H. Miller, a gray-haired woman, aged 67, going from Los Angeles, Cal., to Denver, to visit relatives, was brutally assaulted in the Santa Fe railroad yards here between 10 and 11 o'clock last night by Wallace. The assault was one of the most brutal crimes ever committed in the vicinity, and the aged victim was left for dead in an isolated section of the city by her fiendish assailant.

Mrs. Miller arrived last night in a tourist car on train No. 2, known as the California limited, running between Los Angeles and Chicago. The train arrived here at 10:30 o'clock. Mrs. Miller got off the train intending to leave a negro in a Pullman porter's uniform, she asked him where the Denver sleeper was. He said he would show her the car, and she walked with him through the railroad yards for a considerable distance. Finally she told her companion she would go back to the depot. He struck her on the head with his fist, felling her nearly senseless, and then carried her to an ice house nearby.

As soon as Mrs. Miller had recovered somewhat she began to struggle violently in her efforts to release herself. The negro struck her several times on the head, and then, to stop any possible outcry, placed his fingers upon her throat until she ceased her struggling and lay like one dead.

About 12 o'clock Mrs. Miller recovered consciousness. She was stiff with cold, and so badly wounded that she could hardly walk. She could not utter a sound above a whisper, so cruelly had she been choked. She crawled back to the depot, following the railroad tracks so that she might not become known.

Reaching the long depot platform, she fell in a swoon and lay there when discovered by one of the railroad men. She was picked up and carried into the depot and restoratives hastily applied. The police were immediately notified and doctors summoned.

Under the skillful treatment of the physicians Mrs. Miller soon recovered enough to tell the awful story of her assault. She gave a minute description of her assailant. This description was recognized by the railroad men as fitting W. H. Wallace, a Pullman car porter, who was between Denver and La Junta, stopping in this city from 5:45 at night, when he arrived, until noon the next day.

The bloodhounds from Canyon City were put on the trail of the brute. After sniffing the ground a few minutes the leader gave a low bark and started off at a rapid gait. The trail led directly to the Pullman car, where Porter Wallace was arrested.

Fearing a lynching, Sheriff Farr decided to take the negro to Pueblo. When his intention became known, however, the railroad employees declared that he could not travel by rail, as they would refuse to operate a train out of La Junta with Wallace on board. The sheriff placed his prisoner in a carriage and started for Sugar City, on the Missouri Pacific, twenty miles north.

At that place he was too late to catch the train for Pueblo, and then decided to drive through. Meantime an armed party had left La Junta to overtake the sheriff and prisoner. The carriage was finally overhauled at Patterson

hollow, midway between Rocky Ford and Manzanola.

Sheriff Farr made no resistance, and Wallace did not ask for mercy.

The carriage was turned back towards Rocky Ford. Passing through Rocky Ford the mob was joined by 500 men of that town. La Junta was reached about 7 o'clock this evening, where thousands of men, women and children, many from the surrounding country, awaited them.

The police endeavored to stop the possible lynching, and a committee consisting of Robert Patterson, banker; Dr. Fleming, Charles Dearborn, county treasurer, and other prominent citizens asked the privilege of trying to get from Wallace a confession.

This was granted, and the negro was taken into the courthouse. After an hour or so the word went out that the courthouse doors were locked and that the committee would try to prevent a lynching. Immediately pandemonium reigned. Stones were hurled at the building till every window was broken.

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