

ITS VENGEANCE. Paul Reid and Will Cato, Negroes WERE CONVICTED MURDERERS. Brother of Man Who, With His Family, statesboro, Ga., Aug. 16. - With

cothing saturated with kerosene, writhing and twisting in their agony, screaming to heaven for the mercy that the mob would not show, Paul Reid and Will Cato, negroes, two of the principals in the murder and burning of Henry Hodges and wife and three of their children, six miles from Statesboro three weeks ago, were burned at

the stake today. MILITARY GUARD OVERPOW-ERED.

MOB WREAKED

Burned at the Stake at

statesboro, Ga.

Was Murdered, Appealed to Mob to

Disperse, but in Vain.

This afternoon at 1:20 o'clock a mob harged on the court house, over-powered the military guard, secured cato and Reid, who had been found willy after a legal trial and sentenced guily and, took them two miles from to be hanged, took there burned them alive. Statesboro and there burned them alive. The climax came quickly and unexpect-

elly. The forenoon had been passed quietly, the trial of Paul Reid, the ringleader, being concluded and a verdict of guilty rendered. Both he and Will Cato, found guilty the day before, were sentenced to hang on Sept. 9. The crowd assemwilly the any berow, a. The crowd assem-te hang on Sept. 3. The crowd assem-bled about the court house was not as large as yesterday nor was it so threat-ening, though for that matter .there was never much parade, the country-me sloway being quiet.

was never finder paralet, the country-ner always being quiet. In the trial of Reid little delay had been caused, and on its conclusion the prisoners, as before, were hurried into the wilness room where a strong guard f military was mounted over them. In the corridors the agitation began. The spectators left the court room and from he lawn outside many entered the hallwayn.

MOB SOON FORMED.

Shortly before 1 o'clock the crowd was addressed by a tall man who seemed to inflame it greatly. He called upon these about him to follow him. Then Capt. Hitch, of the Oglethorpe light in-fantry, who was in command of the forces, realized that the situation had been desperate. He posted councile become desperate. He posted guards on each of the stairways that led to the on each of the startways the prisoners were nor above where the prisoners but un-confined. With fixed bayonets but unlaaded rifles the guards stood. The mob sugged toward them but were re-pulsed several times. The determined effort was yet to be made.

### APPEAL FROM A MINISTER.

At the rear stairway the gravest anger threatened. Prominent men-smong them the Rev. Mr. Hodges brother of the murdered man. sprans to the front to address the crowd. He begged its members to disperse. Sherifi Kendrick cautioned the crowd against violence and pleaded with them to have, declaring that five more men were equally guilty with Cato and Reid, but that only by information to be secured from the condemned men could the others be convicted. The

and demanded that he promise to take the negroes back to Savannah. This he declined to do.

Suddenly twenty-five men crowded around the guards. Before they could be prevented they had caught two of the guards, wrested their weapons from them and thrown open the breechlocks The weapons were empty. That was what the crowd wanted to ascertain. That was The troops had been given orders not to load their rifles. The captured soldiets were held prisoners. The captured sol-diets were held prisoners. The same policy was followed with others of the solders. Man after man, caught is-olated, was relieved of his rifle after a struggle.

### MILITIA USE BAYONETS.

At the front a member of the crowd crept along the wall until he got close to the guards. He threw himself upon them. In the breach thus formed his npanions threw themselves. Two hundred wildly cheering men followed and soon the soldiers, though they fought desperately and inflicted bayants, were overpowered.

PRISONERS PLEAD FOR THEIR LIVES.

The small guard about the prisoners The small guard about the prisoners withdrew into the room and closed the door. The mob crushed against it, bursting it in easily. Cato, Reid, Handy Bell and the other prisoners cowered before the crowd. Cato and Reid alone were dragged out, Reid was taken down one stairway with a rope about his neck and Cato down the other, both pleading for their lives.

## DOOMED MEN DRAGGED.

By this time the crowd numbered go persons. The doomed men were dragged, the crowd shouting and cheer-ing, along the roadway to the Hidges homestead. The heat was so intense that the crowd wearled when two miles of the six-mile route had been tra-versed. Going 75 words from the road Versed. Going 75 yards from the road the crowd halted.

The two negroes were told they had but a short time to live and that they should confess. Reid confessed, impli-cating other negroes, as he had in the court room. He denied, however, that he had taken an active part in the murder. Cato answered incoherently.

CHAINED TO A STUMP.

The crowd moved across a field to a strip of woodland. A member of the mod made a speech recounting the hor-tors of the crime. This inflamed the crowd to the burning pitch. To a large slump 12 feet high the men were chained with their backs to the stump.

FUNERAL PYRE BUILT.

Then a wagon load of pine wood was hauled to the spot. It was piled around the men and ten gallons of kerosene was thrown over them. A photograph-er was present and the crowd was cleared back that he might get several wiews of the men bound to the stakes and ready for the burghing. and ready for the burning.

# REID CONFESSES CRIME.

Just as the match was applied to the The one of these in front asked Reid the wanted to tell the truth before a died: "Yes, sir; I killed Mr. and In Hodges." he replied, "Who killed a children?" he was asked. "Handy kill," came the response as the finnes aped upward. Further questioning The specific la the wild tumult. The specific la the star saped upward. The spectrele was frightful. As the fames touched Reid's naked oil-soaked win he twisted his head around in an endeavor to choke himself and avoid the farth tosure. Only once did he the fearful torture. Only once did he complain. He said. "Lord, have mer-

# BEGGED TO BE SHOT.

Cato screamed in agony and begged that he be shot. His heavy suit of hair which was oil soaked was almost the

