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HOWARD COOPER HANGED.

TAKEN FROM JAIL AT TOWSON.

LYNCHED BY A PARTY OF MASKED MEN.

A Determined Attack Upon the Jail—  
Ineffectual Efforts to Save the Pris-  
oner—The Last Words of the Criminal.  
[Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Sun.]

TOWSON, Md., July 13.—Howard Cooper, the colored man who assaulted Miss Kate Gray, April 2, 1885, in a woods near her father's house, and about six miles from this place, was taken from the jail here this morning at one o'clock and hanged to a tree but a few yards distant from his cell.

Just before midnight little squads of men were seen moving about town. They avoided observation, wore disguises of various kinds, and all had on masks. One of them was observed to have a bundle under his jacket, and on being questioned about it said, laughingly, "Feel it; it is a cravat for Howard." On examination it proved to be a coil of stout rope.

These various parties shortly combined and went out the road leading to Charles-street avenue, and awaited the coming of the men expected from the vicinity of the outrage.

Half an hour later a horseman came up that road to Towson, and, after inspecting the jail, rode back. In a short time a solid body of men, about 75 in number, appeared on the road, rapidly advancing to Towson.

They halted on reaching the court-house grounds; about three hundred yards from the jail, and a detail of twenty men was sent two squares to get a large and stout flagpole, lying on the west side of Delaware avenue. When they returned with this powerful battering-ram the others fell in behind them, and the march was straight and quick to the jail.

The men seemed under good discipline, and the commander gave his orders in a quick, clear, and distinct voice. On reaching the jail the gentleman demanded admittance, saying he would force the gates if necessary.

A tremulous but earnest voice, said to be that of Sheriff Knight's oldest daughter, informed him that he could not be admitted.

She said he could not force an entrance through the front of the jail, but that if he would go to the rear he could force a door leading directly into the jail proper.

"To the rear with the ram," was the order here to "guard this door!" was the order immediately following this reply. Soon the tall fence in the rear of the jail gave way under the blows of the ponderous ram, and a moment or two later heavy blows upon the rear entrance of the building could be heard for a mile or two.

The door, however, did not give way, and soon the commander, with a squad of soldiers, was at the front entrance.

Again he demanded to see Sheriff Knight. The young lady said he could not be seen, that he was in the jail with the prisoners.

"Call him out; tell him to come to the window at once," was the answer to this.

Sheriff Knight made his appearance, when the commander said: "I demand, in justice to your family, that you give the scoundrel Cooper up without a disturbance or fight."

Sheriff Knight replied, "I am sworn to protect him; I shall do my duty. You will never retake him from me. If you take him out of the jail, you do it by force and in spite of me."

There was no more talk or argument. The battering of the ram was commenced on the rear door, and finally it broke in with a crash. The event was announced by the noise and by the loud crying and wailing of the ladies

800 yards from her father's house, and after beating her, dragged her into the depths of a thick, dark woods. Here he kept her for about three hours, making repeated assaults upon her. Miss Gray, who is about 20 years of age, is of strong build, though only weighing 120 pounds, and she fought him valorously, and left marks upon his head and face made by a stone with which she struck him. At the moment finally when Cooper was about to dispatch Miss Gray with a club he was frightened off by the appearance of one of Mr. Gray's dogs on the scene. A trail of blood extending 200 yards through the woods gave evidence of the terrible ordeal through which the young lady had passed. It was some days after the outrage before she was pronounced out of danger by her physician.

The crime was committed on the afternoon of April 2, and Cooper was not caught until the night of April 8, though he was most actively hunted throughout Baltimore county, and especially in the locality of the crime. He was discovered hid in a barn. His hands were tied behind his back, and he was marched to Towson across the country. Before the jail was reached a halt was made and one of the party went forward and made arrangements, so that the licensed citizens might not seize the prisoner and execute him on the spot. The news of Cooper's arrest had spread, and before his captors reached the Towson jail with him a crowd of fully 300 armed men were there demanding of Sheriff Knight his surrender to them. They had actually been satisfied that Cooper was not in the jail and withdrawn, when the party with Cooper arrived. The culprit was taken into the jail, but only for a few minutes, and in less than five minutes Sheriff Knight and Deputy Wm. Kiser started to take him to Baltimore by a circuitous route. They reached the central police station with him after two o'clock A. M. He was saved by this prompt action from lynching at that time. It was the intention of the Baltimore body men if they had succeeded in getting possession of Cooper to take him to the scene of the outrage and hang or burn him. Some hours after he arrived at the central police station two different crowds of "strange men" called to "identify" the prisoner, but they were not permitted to see him, and later they had to be ordered from the place. It is supposed they intended to break in there.

Cooper was promptly indicted by the grand jury of Baltimore county, and the case was removed on his motion to Baltimore city for trial. William George Weld and A. Robinson White, two young members of the Baltimore bar, who were assigned by Judge Stewart as counsel for Cooper after two other lawyers had declined the defense, made application for the removal of the case from the Criminal Court of Baltimore city to the United States Circuit Court, on the ground that the jury laws in operation in the counties of Maryland discriminate against colored men in violation of the fourteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States. The application was refused. The trial took place in the Criminal Court of Baltimore City, May 24, resulting in a verdict of guilty without the jury leaving the box. On the next day, May 25, Judge Wm. A. Stewart sentenced Cooper to be hung. His counsel sued out a writ of error on the ruling of the court in refusing the application for removal. The Court of Appeals affirmed the ruling in an opinion delivered, June 23.

Gov. Lloyd signed Cooper's death-warrant June 24, appointing July 31 for the execution. On June 30 Cooper was removed from the Baltimore city jail, where he had been kept since the morning after his capture, to Towson town. The prisoner was five feet seven inches high. He appeared to be about 20 years of age, though he declared he was 17. Though slim, he was wiry and capable of much physical endurance. He admitted the assault on Miss Gray, and said he meant for devilment, and that he beat her for fun.

The efforts of Messrs. Weld and White to carry the case to the United States Supreme Court precipitated the affair. The same questions would have been presented to the Supreme Court of the United States which were argued in the Court of Appeals. These questions are two, the first being

FROM WASHINGTON.

UNDERVALUATION OF IMPORTS.

THE NEW YORK MERCHANTS FAVOR

Dishonest Practices to be No Longer Tolerated—Alleged Collusion of

Suits—A Disappointed Office-Seeker [Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Sun.]

WASHINGTON, July 12.—The measure adopted by the Secretary of the Treasury to break up the system of undervaluation of imports which has prevailed so long in the port of New York, making rich the dishonest importers of that city, and enhancing the business at the expense of the other mercantile cities of the Atlantic seaboard, no such dishonest system was in force. It is said, soon be reinforced by the act of the Department of State. Curiosity has been excited at the avidity with which in the consular service are sought applicants for the small salaries attaching to it, and there has always been a suspicion that the emoluments of many of these were largely increased by process known to the law. It is now asserted that it is by collusion with the consuls that this extensive system of undervaluation has been successively prosecuted, the sharing largely in the corrupt and illegal gains. It is said to be in contemplation of the Department of State to issue a circular of the most stringent character to the consuls on this subject, which would tend to deter any of them from participating in this unlawful work. It has been suggested to Secretary Bayard that he would perhaps be well to dispatch specially competent and reliable agents into the affairs of such consuls whose suspicion attaches in this case.

The announcement, which seems authoritative, that leaves of absence to department employes will be cut down to thirty to fifteen days, or perhaps even received with anything but pleasure concerned. So much uncertainty has been on this subject, and there has been apprehension as to removals, that any one has made application for although at this time of the year usually hundreds of such applications are filed. For this and for some other reasons a new administration is not very popular in the department people, and it is to be heard some of them with democratic civilities, who a few months back were dancing with delight at the prospect of a democratic administration, declared their breath and set teeth that it would be a much better time under the republic wish they were back in power.

For several years Representative F. W. F. of Ohio, has enjoyed the reputation of being one of the most successful for departmental appointments in the country. During the winter he devotes very little time to the Capitol, but is an almost constant visitor to the departments, always on his way out to capture an office for an Ohio agent. Although a democrat of the dye, he fared better than many other Ohioans in the matter of appointments. He is the Treasury Department yesterday morning to secure a place for a lady friend because he could not obtain a position on the subject he declared that he received more patronage from re-administrations than he could obtain under the ruling regime. He said that he yet secured a single appointment in the present administration.

Virginia democrats are not one whit less active in urging the administration to make more haste in effecting a sweep of republican officeholders. It is very generally that Governor Hooper consented to run again for Governor of Ohio on a distinct personal understanding with the President that democrats should be put in charge of all the post-offices in the State before the active rush of the campaign commences. One day last week the

of Sheriff Knight's house held in the front part of the house.

When they were taken to the jail they at once commenced examining the cells for Cooper.

Sheriff Knight still refused to give up his keys, and crowbars were the implements used on locks by wrenching them.

The night watchman, Henry Nelson, was choked and rushed to another part of the building because he interfered with the search for Cooper.

This search was productive of much anxiety, and it continued so long that many of those engaged in it came to the conclusion that Cooper had been taken to Baltimore or was hid in the sheriff's house.

Search was made in the bushes surrounding the building.

The men were fast getting out of patience, and about to commence a search of Mr. Knight's private apartments, when an un-

known person in the jail pointed out a cell, in which Cooper was found.

It was the cell in which he had been confined ever since his arrival at Towson. The lock was smashed and after a delay of about ten minutes Cooper was led out with the fatal rope about his neck.

The rope was stretched out in full length, and probably forty men had hold of it as if

A delegation went back and saw that all of their party were liberated and then the hanging was speedily effected.

He was pulled off the ground. In an instant or two his head was in contact with the limb had his feet but a foot distant from the ground.

A proposition to fire into the body was made, but the commander objected and cried, "Let no one go near that body on pain of death. Tie the rope about the body of the tree and come away."

The rope was stretched out in full length, and probably forty men had hold of it as if it would require a great effort to pull him along.

His hands were pinioned behind his back, and he came down the jail steps with firm steps, without fear or apparent anxiety. He was led out over the debris of the broken door, and stepped gingerly and carefully in the uncertain light, so as to avoid a fall.

Immediately on reaching the jail yard there was a demand by the crowd that he should be examined by those who knew him well, to be sure that he was the right man.

After having undergone this scrutiny those in charge started off with him on a run to the nearest tree, but were again halted by cries that some of their party had been detained and that the hanging should be speedily effected.

The tree which was the one used, the limb over which the rope was thrown, not being more than seven feet from the ground. When the crowd halted under the tree Cooper said: "You are not going to take me up there and let me drop, are you?"

No one paid any attention to him or his question. All were occupied in getting him swung off as speedily as possible.

Finally, just as the end of the rope was thrown over the limb, he said in a conciliatory voice, as if he wanted to part friendly with them all, "Well, you have got Cooper, haven't you? Good-bye."

As the last word left his lips the heads of men commenced to pull on the rope, closed about his neck. He was pulled off the ground.

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The lynchers stayed for some time about the place to be certain that no one interfered with the body or cut it down. Later in the morning shot-shells were fired into the swinging remains by those who still lingered about the spot.

Sheriff Knight and watchman Nelson came out and viewed the corpse. Said one of those who had participated in the lynching, "Mr. Knight, we have saved you the trouble of hanging this scoundrel."

The news of the hanging spread, and a crowd collected and remained near the body, swaying in the wind. When the men entered Cooper's cell he said to them: "You ain't got Cooper." This is what made some of the men so anxious to have him identified before he was hanged.

Sheriff Knight and the night watchman Nelson were the only male persons about the jail except the prisoners. The family of Sheriff Knight, domestic children, were the only ones in the rear portion of the edifice.

discrimination against colored people in the Maryland law governing the selection of grand jurors in Baltimore county. Second, whether the counsel assigned to defend the prisoner had a right to plead in abatement, notwithstanding the fact that a plea of not guilty was entered for the prisoner before counsel were assigned him. The plea in abatement was offered on the theory that, irrespective of the State law, there is actual discrimination against colored men in the selection of jurors in Baltimore county. Mr. Weld said the effect of a favorable decision in the Supreme Court on the first question would result in the case being sent back for a new indictment and trial. If the second proposition of the defense were sustained, there would be a new trial on the indictment already found. Neither question had any bearing on the merits of the case, but the appeal would have delayed the execution.

### FOREIGN NEWS.

an entertainment with companions at the Emperor's chateau, Sans Souci, near Berlin, snipped at Hiller's in Berlin, and thence went to a house frequented by the Jeunesse dorée. The joyous band sang and shouted and threw bottles through the windows. In the midst of the orgie the Prince quarreled with Lieut. Pritzwitz, of the first regiment of Silesian cuirassiers, and boxed his ears.

The police arrived on the scene and persuaded the party to go home. Lieut. Pritzwitz, feeling dishonored before his comrades, and etiquette forbidding a duel with a prince of the house of Hohenzollern, shot himself, leaving a letter of explanation. Emperor William on being informed of the affair wrote a letter of condolence to the Lieutenant's father. The Prince's under military arrest.

London, July 12.—The Orange societies celebrated the anniversary of the battle of the Boyne. Some mischief occurred, in which a man was injured. Another while trying to light an Orange flag fell from the scaffolding and was killed. One arrested. There were night riots elsewhere. Day was generally quiet.

Paris, July 12.—The Intransigent prints a letter from M. Billing, a former diplomat, saying that the Mahdi, before the capture of Khartoum, offered to release Gen. Gordon for a ransom of 25,000, payable as soon as official news of his release reached Paris. Mr. Billing forwarded the proposal to Lord Salisbury, the British ambassador at Paris, and England rejected the offer.

Washington, July 12.—There are rumors of some important diplomatic changes. Prince Hohenzollern, the present German ambassador at Washington, it is said, will succeed the late Baron de Hatzfeld as Governor of Alsace-Lorraine, and Count Von Munster, ambassador to Madrid, will take the embassy at Paris, while Count Von Hatzfeld will go to London.

London, July 12.—The managers of the British Exhibition are preparing to produce a new series of medals, and Jones, it is said, will be named as the artist and designer. The medals will be struck at the Royal Mint. The date has not yet been fixed.

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Virginia Confederates vent and in the strong to put out just as fast as they could be signed. Major officers hold. Sent that if he would not talk of demo President replied that anxious for democrat than he, and the change made with due diligence. Ten Virginia appoint were made on Saturday Kerr's Creek; Mary C. Field; Joseph Hayes, at York; at Meadowville; J. B. W. Gabbat, at Pappa Keyaville; E. V. Busch Maybright, at Crabfoot at Bragg.

Four changes in a postoffice were made here; James Little, at county; B. J. Williams for county; vice H. at Bragg.

The Indian WASHINGTON, July 1 has ordered three reg the Fourth Infantry, men, to proceed at or Fort Reno, Indian Terr stations in the Dep the Platte. (This will 4,000 men in the Territ

KANSAS CITY, MO., Ju worth special says I instructions to Gen. pretd by officers her Indiab must submit marily dealt with, and they will not yield the shed.)

COLUMBIAN CITY, T rumped. There was a between Mexico and Mexico. The report is that the July are, though acc me nu join.

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The jail is a strong, heavily-built structure of stone, surrounded by a high board fence, situated about a quarter of a mile southwest of the town and in sight of the Maryland Central Railroad. It is among the best of the county jails in Maryland.

Cooper occupied a cell on the second tier. There were forty odd other inmates. None of the other prisoners were released or permitted to escape.

Rumors were afloat in sections of Baltimore county on Friday to the effect that if the money was raised for taking Cooper's case to the Supreme Court and thus delaying his execution, he would be lynched.

The publications in THE SUN from time to time stating the progress made in the matter of collecting the money created general comment. Friday night a few individuals were on the lookout in the neighborhood of the jail in anticipation of the appearance of the lynchers.

Saturday night there were more of these watchers, and last night they gathered in increased numbers at an early hour, and at no great distance from the building which contained the condemned man.

Before dark it was quietly known through the town that the assault on the jail would be made last night, and some of the young ladies provided their sweethearts, who were to take part in it, with long black masks, made of dress material.

The large majority of the avengers, however, were from a distance. The contemplated assault was also known in the afternoon to some of those in charge of the jail, for one of them said, in the course of a conversation, as he drove there about sunset:

"There will be a circus in this town to-night."

From this it was concluded that the authorities had found out the intention of the citizens, and a determined resistance was feared.

Cooper in jail at the time of his lynching presented an appearance in marked contrast with that presented when he was caught April 6.

He was a slim, poverty, sick-looking, joy when brought to Baltimore on the morning of April 8. Soon after his imprisonment he began to take on flesh, and when he was hanged this morning he was a heavy obese man. He ate each day his full prison rations and in addition three meals of extra size, sent to him from the table of Sheriff Knight.

In prison he was cheerful and even gay. All he wanted was someone to talk to. He appreciated a joke and told jokes himself. He said he was mischievous when a small boy, and related how when his mother punished him one day and went off he whitewashed a black dog in order to surprise her on her return.

He gave accounts of sawing a ladder half in two and then hiding near by to see the man fall when he got half-way up the ladder. Many of his statements would not bear repeating.

Cooper's mother was at the jail last Thursday. She asked for his body after the execution. Her request was granted, and it is supposed she will come here today after her son's remains.

#### HISTORY OF VICTIM.

Cooper's crime was one of the worst of its kind ever perpetrated in Maryland. His victim was Miss Kate Gray, daughter of Mr. D. C. Gray, who resides midway between Rockland Mills and Pikesville, Baltimore county. Cooper overtook her in the county road about

read to agents of the American market, who. It is stated, guaranteed \$5,000 for the American rights.

#### The Cholera.

MADRID, July 12.—The returns from all the cholera districts in Spain show that on Saturday 1,533 new cases and 648 deaths were reported. Senor Romero y Robledo, minister of the interior, and Admiral Autequera, minister of marine, have tendered their resignations. Premier Canovas del Castillo is consulting with the King.

#### Preparing for War.

SHANGHAI, July 12.—China continues making preparations for war on the Korean frontier in view of the Russian aggression.

It is stated that China and Japan are jointly acting for that purpose. The Japanese minister to China is staying at Tientsin, and has daily interviews with Li Hung Chang.

#### Assaulting Emperor William.

EMS, July 12.—While Emperor William was taking a drive today a miserably dressed man threw a flower pot at his carriage, exclaiming "Thus will the empire break." No damage was done. The man was arrested. He is supposed to be insane.

#### The Soudan in a State of Anarchy.

CAIRO, July 12.—It is stated that Oliver Paine died from unsuccessful treatment of a disease at Ombduran. The Soudan is in a state of anarchy. Osman Digna blackmails all caravans and travelers on the pretext of raising war funds.

#### An Alliance Between Serbia and Austria.

CONSTANTINOPLE, July 12.—It is rumored that an alliance has been formed between Serbia and Austria. In the event of Austria taking Macedonia, Serbia will assist Austria, receiving in return a portion of Bosnia.

#### Fifty Houses Burned.

ST. PETERSBURG, July 12.—Fifty houses in the commercial quarter of the city of Kursk have been destroyed by fire. The loss is heavy.

#### A Papal Nuncio at Peking.

ROME, July 12.—It is expected that the Pope's communications with China will lead to the appointment of a Papal nuncio at Peking.

#### The Crofters' Bill.

LONDON, July 12.—Mr. Gladstone will not acquiesce in the decision to drop the crofters' bill. He will urge the passage of the bill this session.

#### Mr. Packard Sails.

LONDON, July 12.—Mr. Packard, ex-United States consul at Liverpool, sailed for New York on the steamer Aurarias.

#### Eight Parsons Drowned.

MENNEAPOLIS, Minn., July 12.—Shortly after five o'clock this afternoon a heavy wind and rain storm passed over Lake Minnetonka. The small steam yacht Minnie Cook, with eight persons on board, was capsized and every one drowned.

The victims were as follows: Ex-Mayor A. C. Reed and wife and two sons, Harvey and Frank, J. R. Coykendall and wife, and J. R. Kendall, and George McDonald, engineer.

A negro attempted to outrage a young lady yesterday at Oxford, Miss. He was arrested and banged in the Methodist church-yard.