

LYNCHED IN HASTE

Andrews, the Somerset County Ravisher, Tried, Convicted and Lynched in One Day.

Wm Andrews, colored, alias "Cuba" was taken from the officers of the law by a mob near the Courthouse in Princess Anne, Wednesday, and was kicked, beaten, cut with a razor and then hanged to a tree.

A few minutes before this occurrence Andrews had pleaded guilty of the charge of assaulting Mrs. Benj. T. Kelley, near or at Marion, Somerset county, on the afternoon of May 5th. Judge Henry Page had sentenced him to be hanged and he was being taken to the jail when the mob seized him.

Andrews arrived in Princess Anne several hours before the trial having been brought from the Baltimore jail.

where he had been taken for protection until the court met to act on his case.

At the conclusion of the sentence pronounced by Judge Page, which was to the effect that Andrews should be taken to the jail, thence at a time to be appointed by the Governor removed to the place of execution and there hanged by the neck until he was dead, the crowd broke out with cheers and applause, which was promptly checked by the court.

JUDGE'S PLEA WAS USELESS.

The Judge was notified that a mob had surrounded the court house and that fears were entertained that violence would be resorted to when the sheriff should attempt to remove the prisoner to the jail. Leaving the bench he addressed the mob, urging all law-abiding citizens to remain quiet as the law thus far had been permitted to take its course. He said justice would surely be meted out to Mrs. Kelly's assailant. The judge was asked if the prisoner would again be removed to the Baltimore jail, and having been assured that this would not be done the mob promised to disperse.

This promise proved to be but a subterfuge, for as soon as the sheriff and his deputies appeared with the prisoner at the door of the private entrance to the court, Andrews, trembling and cowering, was siezed by the infuriated people. Amid curses and cries of "Kill him" he was soon reduced to a state of unconsciousness.

The suddenness of the attack came as a surprise to the guards who had charge of the prisoner. They attempted to protect him but were powerless to cope with the maddened throng.

Deputy Samuel W. Kennerly, who had hold of Andrews siezed him around the neck and attempted to shield his head from the blows that were being aimed at it. In this position the deputy attempted to drag the prisoner across a small ravine which separated the court house yard from Church street, and for an instant it seemed that he would reach the street.

At this moment, one of the mob, wild with fury, inflicted a wound upon Andrews' thigh with a razor. The blood from the wound left its trail to the place where the lynching took place. Andrews had become unconscious in the meantime from blows and kicks which he received from the crowd.

A rope was gotten and a noose having been quickly adjusted around the doomed man's neck, he was hanged to the limb of a walnut tree and soon was dead.

During part of the struggle between the mob and the guards, Judge Page could be seen remonstrating with the mob and begging it to desist from violence, but its fury was increased at every blow and was only satisfied when the lifeless body of Andrews was seen dangling from the limb of the tree.

During Andrews' struggle, no one heard a word or a cry from him. The contest of the sheriff and his deputies with the mob was of short duration, not taking over six minutes. Deputy P. Sydney Dryden received a severe blow over the head. The blow was aimed at Andrews, but landed in the wrong place.

A jury of inquest was summoned and rendered a verdict that Andrews came to his death from wounds of the head inflicted by the mob.

The trial began on the 10th of June, 1858. The jury returned a verdict of guilty on the 12th. The execution took place on the 14th.

[best copy available]

LYNCHED BY RUSH.

accompanied when first she came, broke down and wept piteously as she gave an account of the assault. Not were her eyes the only ones that shed tears, as sobs were heard in all parts of the court room.

This testimony acted as an electric spark which ignited the smothered flame of indignation on the part of those who heard the shocking narrative. Upon its completion Mrs. Kelly was led from the court room weeping piteously.

The Judge promptly began to pass sentence upon the prisoner. Andrews having first been asked if he had anything to say as to why sentence should not be pronounced, replied that the story told by Mrs. Kelley was true with the exception that he had no pistol. Judge Page then pronounced sentence. The start for the jail with the prisoner was made, and the lynching took place as already described.

DEPLORED BY JUDGE PAGE.

PRINCESS ANNE, MD., June 9.—Judge Page, in an interview after the lynching occurred, said:

"I was informed that a large crowd had assembled about the courthouse. Leaving the bench I went to the door, and was surprised to see so many persons. I thought it looked ominous.

"I then consulted with several citizens and ~~decided~~ ~~that~~ ~~I~~ ~~had~~ ~~better~~ speak to the men in the crowd. I asked them to obey the law, saying that the prisoner would surely be hanged. This seemed to satisfy the crowd, and after assuring them that the prisoner would be kept here, they promised to refrain from violence.

"Believing this a good time to get Andrews back to the jail I sent word for the sheriff to come along with him. At the same time I began to make a way through the crowd for the officers and the prisoner.

OVERCOME BY THE RUSH.

"Just how it happened I do not know but the first thing I realized was being," continued the Judge, "pushed aside. At the same time there was a rush for Andrews. I begged the crowd to desist, but there was no use to argue with them, as they were determined to accomplish their object.

"I consider it a most unfortunate affair. There was no reason for violence, as the law would have been vindicated. It is true, the case was a most aggravating one. The prisoner himself offered no defense and the crime was of such a character as would naturally arouse the indignation of any community.

"My object in requesting the State to put Mrs. Kelley on the stand was to inform myself of the facts surrounding the commission of the crime, as up to that time I had no official knowledge of it."

Judge Holland, who arrived at noon, expecting to sit with Judge Page in the case said: "When I arrived I found the prisoner had been presented, arraigned, convicted, and hanged. This was a great surprise to me and I deeply deplore the occurrence."