

Cases of. Kings - 1901. 35j

Arkansas.

TIMES-DEMOCRAT
NEW ORLEANS, LA

April 7 1901
WHITE MAN LYNCHED

TAKEN FROM THE OSCEOLA JAIL
BY FIFTEEN MEN.

Doomed Man Insisted That the
Homicide Was an Accident—The
Keys Taken Away from the
Sheriff.

Osceola, Ark., April 6.—May Hearn, of
Luxora, Ark., was taken from the county
jail here this morning between the hours
of one and two o'clock and lynched.

The victim of the mob was a young
white man, the son of J. R. Hearn, one
of the most respected farmers living in
the neighborhood of Luxora, and the prime
suspect in the shooting of Clyde King in Luxora on the night
of Sunday, March 31.

The lynching was a very quiet affair,
as the mob that participated in it was
thoroughly organized. It seemed to be
made up largely of persons from Luxora,
as the members entered Osceola on horse-
back, and not half a dozen citizens of
the place were aware that a lynching had
taken place until this morning.

The mob, numbering about fifteen per-
sons, entered the city about midnight.
Sentries were posted along the main
streets and a posse was sent out to effect
the capture of Deputy Sheriff Lee Good-
rich and Night Watchman Skipworth.
Both of the officers were found by the
posse, and after their capture they were
disarmed and were compelled to accom-
pany the lynchers.

Deputy Sheriff Goodrich had the keys
to the jail in his pocket and they were
taken possession of by the leaders of the
mob.

Arriving at the jail the lynchers en-
tered.

Hearn sank to his knees and began to
pray. Although his sentences were almost
incoherent, he insisted that he had not
killed King from malice, but that the
shooting was accidental. The mob was
unmoved by his prayers and petitions for
mercy, and, placing a rope around Hearn's
neck, they took him from the jail and
hanged him to a tree.

After it was found that Hearn was dead,
the mob, in an orderly body, left the scene
of the tragedy and rode out of town.

The body was left dangling in the air
until about 9 o'clock this morning, when
it was cut down and turned over to his
family.

NEGRO LYNCHED IN MENA, ARK.

Eight Men Hang Peter Berryman After
Disarming a Jail Officer.

[By The Associated Press.]

Mena, Ark., Feb. 20.—A mob of eight de-
termined men took Peter Berryman, a de-
stitute negro, out of the city jail at 1 a. m.

and hanged him to a tree. The crime for
which Berryman was hanged was an assault
on a 12-year-old girl, whose condition
is critical.

The masked men met Night Officer
Jones and compelled him, at the point
of a knife, to hand over the keys and his

volver. Two were left to guard Jones, while
the others went to the jail and secured the
negro. About 2 o'clock they returned
where the officer was being guarded and
gave him his keys and gun. Then the men
disappeared without a word. About two
months ago this negro attacked an engineer
with an ax, nearly killing him, and has
been guilty of numerous other offenses.

GAZETTE
MARCH 24 1901

TO A BRIDGE

Geo. Shivery, a White Man, Hanged
by Mob Yesterday.

LYNCHING AT POCAHONTAS

Shivery on March 20 Murdered City
Marshal Norris of That Town
Without Provocation.

BATTERED IN JAIL DOOR

Sheriff Russell Pleaded With the Mob
to Let the Law Take Its Course,
but Without Avail.

Special to the Gazette.

Hoxie, March 23.—George Shivery, a
houseboatman at Pocahontas, residing
with his family in his houseboat on
Black river, who shot and killed John
Norris, the city marshal, on the evening
of the 20th instant at that place, was

last night taken out of jail by a mob of
four or five hundred enraged citizens and
hanged on the county bridge in the
southern part of town at 1:30 a. m. to-
day.

The body was left to hang until 9:30
a. m., and was visited by hundreds of
people.

Mr. Norris was a Knight of Pythias,
married, and left four children. Shivery
was also married and the father of

children, the eldest 11 years of age.

The murder of Norris seemed to be
cold-blooded and atrocious, without
provocation, and Sheriff Russell, realiz-
ing the danger to himself and prisoner,
did all in his power to protect the
wretched man from the mob.
He made an appeal to them
at the jail to let the law take its
course, but to no avail. They forced
him and his guards to stand aside and
then proceeded to batter the jail doors
in. After getting in they found the mur-
derer crouched in a corner of his cell
under his bedclothes. Taking him out,
they marched him to the place selected
for his execution, and, after giving him
an opportunity to make his peace with
God, swung him from the bridge.

Thursday a coroner's jury held Shivery
for murder in the first degree. Feeling
was high against the slayer, and on that
account the examining trial was con-
tinued till next week.

Public sentiment deplors the occur-
rence, but feels that justice has been
done, although in the wrong manner.