

The Topeka State Journal.

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TOPEKA, KANSAS, FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 13, 1894.

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR.

PRENDERGAST HUNG.

He Is Strangled at 11:43 This Morning.

In the Cook County Jail for the Murder

OF MAYOR HARRISON.

He Makes No Speech as He Had Intended.

No Unusual Scenes at the Execution.

CHICAGO, July 13.—Patrick Eugene Prendergast the murderer of Mayor Carter Harrison was hung at 11:48 a. m.

Within the gloomy white walls of Cook county jail all was suppressed excitement as the time rapidly drew near for the execution. The gallows had been placed in position in the east end of the north corridor and at 10:35 Jailer

Prendergast especially requested Sheriff Gilbert to allow him twenty minutes in which to make his dying statement, but Prendergast's temper has been probably uncertain and it was thought by many that he would at the last moment forego his determination.

The jury of physicians at 11:10 filed in and inspected the scaffold and appurtenances. Fifty deputy sheriffs were arranged around the sides of the corridor and the rather tedious thought, in reality short wait, began until the final march should be taken up.

Starts for the Gallows.

At 11:45 a. m. a hush fell upon the building through in the corridor and down the hall could be heard the tramp of the funeral cortege.

A few moments later Sheriff Gilbert and Jailer Morris appeared at the right of the scaffold, the prisoner, pale and unsteady, walked behind them. He stood without apparent nervousness, though a little weak and unsteady as his arms were being pinioned.

He seemed determined to die game and looked calmly out on the assembled crowd below him. The white shroud was next placed about him and barring a little restless motion of the eyes up and down and from side to side, he made no motion. Jailer Morris now placed the rope about his neck, the white cap over his head and Patrick Eugene Prendergast had taken his last look on earth. An instant later at 11:48 and he shot downward the head twisted to one

side, the neck having apparently been broken. Slowly swaying back and forth, he hung for a few moments while the physicians held his wrist. A slight spasmodic movement of the legs was a sign of life apparent within the loosely hanging white robe.

Surrounded by the jury of six physicians, the corpse swung to and fro, and at 11:57, nine minutes after the trigger was sprung, he was pronounced dead.

Made No Audible Sound.

The assassin made no audible sound from the time he left his cell, apparently being lost in contemplation of his fate. At 11:38 Jailer Morris loosened the anchored end of the rope, the shrouded corpse was slowly lowered and laid in the coffin standing underneath the platform. The face of the dead man was not badly distorted, though the mouth was open, and the tongue protruding. The color of the features was a bluish tint which, with his unkempt reddish hair, straggling down over the forehead, made a sight long to be remembered.

The coffin was borne into the outer court and thence across to the inner jail

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How Prendergast's Life Led Up to the Assassination.

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ion is not entitled to consideration. The belief is practically unanimous that the assassin is and was in October last sane enough to come within the legal definition of sanity.

The crime and the criminal were alike extraordinary. Patrick Eugene James Prendergast, a newspaper carrier about 23 years of age, took great interest in politics. During the mayoralty campaign a year ago, which resulted in the election of Carter H. Harrison, he was active in political circles, and spent much of his time electioneering and working for Mr. Harrison. He was also an ardent and enthusiastic advocate of the single tax theory. He was in the habit of attending meetings of the Single Tax club, and took part frequently in the debates.

Thus he gained a smattering of knowledge about various matters and among his fellows was regarded as a prodigy of learning. He regarded himself in the same light and treated the other carriers with superciliousness and evident contempt, which they were disposed rather to encourage than to resent for Prendergast was a brutal and cruel youth, who had a disagreeable fondness for beating and torturing his younger and smaller co-workers.

Last summer he grew tired of his featureless existence. What he wanted more than all things, what was more necessary than anything else to him, was to be taken care of. He longed to see his name in the newspapers, to know that he was filling the public eye. He lusted after distinction, no matter whether it was good or bad. He felt that to enjoy the sensation of notoriety, he would risk much. But he was a coward and would not risk a life. He would take his liberty for the delights he dreamed of, but not his life.

At last it occurred to him it would create comment if one in his station in life, a humble newspaper carrier, should apply for a high office in the municipal government. The idea, once admitted, took complete possession of his mind. He appeared in Corporation Counsel Adolph Kraus' office one day and announced that he desired to succeed Mr. Kraus in the position. Mr. Kraus laughed at him and took the announcement as a joke, and Prendergast sneaked out.

With what eagerness he looked for the papers the next morning! His anxiety to see his name in print, he would have looted it over the other carriers of whom the public had never heard.

But unluckily for Mayor Harrison, and for him, he was disappointed. The newspapers contained no mention of the incident he had so carefully planned. Exasperated by his failure to secure the notoriety he craved, Prendergast determined to make another attempt. He selected Mayor Harrison. He called upon the mayor, and with all the gravity he could muster, stated his desire to be appointed corporation counsel. But the mayor was in good humor and the ludicrousness of the affair struck him.

He chaffed Prendergast good naturedly and speedily forgot him. At any rate he did not think it necessary to notify the newspapers and again Prendergast failed of his object.

He was now more determined than ever to attain it. He resolved that he would get his name into the newspapers even at the risk of arrest. He called again upon the mayor and hinted if his request did not secure him the notoriety he would be the worse for the mayor. But his cowardice prevented him from making the hints ominous enough to frighten or even startle the mayor. Mr. Harrison did not fear, and he treated Prendergast's threats as lightly as he had treated his requests. The order Prendergast issued out of the office, in spite of that he did not think the matter important enough to mention it.

Prendergast determined to write the mayor. His letters were not only unanswered but he could not be sure they had ever been delivered. Again he called on Mayor Harrison. This time he was received brusquely and was warned to keep away and trouble the mayor no more.

Desperate with his determination to secure the longed-for notoriety and enraged at his repeated failures Prendergast at last worked himself into a frenzied momentary courage and committed the frightful crime for which he died today.

On the night of October 28, 1893, Carter H. Harrison, mayor of Chicago, was seated at dinner with his son and daughter, in his residence on Ashland boulevard. The doorbell rang and a low-browed, shambling, ill-clad fellow asked to see the mayor. When he was informed the mayor was at dinner he turned away and said he would return later. When the man called again the mayor was quietly dozing on a divan. It had been "American City" day at the World's fair and he had made the best speech of his life to the vast throng of people. He was awakened by the sound of voices and came toward the door.

The man approached the mayor, said something which was not overheard by the servant, and then pointed a revolver at Mr. Harrison's breast and fired. The assassin ran into the street and after discharging a bullet at the pursuing butler, disappeared in Jackson street. Shortly afterwards he surrendered himself to the police, about the same time that Mayor Harrison expired in the arms of Miss Anna Howard, of New Orleans, to whom he was to be married in a few days.

TO GO A-HUNTING.

President Cleveland Will Visit Colorado to Kill a Bear.

DENVER, July 13.—Gen. A. L. New, collector of internal revenue for this district, is arranging for a hunting trip in Colorado for President Cleveland, Attorney General Olney, Secretary of War Lamont, Senator Gorman, Collector of Internal Revenue Miller, Chairman Harney and other distinguished men.

Gen. New says President Cleveland is anxious to kill a bear. The locality that will be selected for the hunt will probably be the mountains around Glenwood Springs. Gen. New will go to Washington next week, and hopes to complete all arrangements for the hunting trip at that time.

OFFERS OF PEACE.

Debs Willing to Call Off the Strike

If the Railroad Managers Will Take Back

ALL OLD EMPLOYEES

Except Those Who Have Committed Criminal Acts.

General Managers Will Not Confer With Debs.

But Will Listen to Mayor Hopkins of Chicago.

CHICAGO, July 13.—Mr. Eugene V. Debs, arose early this morning and called his executive officers together at Ulich's hall. They held a close conference for something like a half hour and about 9:30 Mr. Debs appeared and said: "In view of the enormous proportions which this strike has assumed and the tremendous damage to public and private interests, we will today submit a proposition to the General Managers' association declaring the strike off on condition that they restate our men."

The proposition referred to was formulated last night in a conference between Debs, Sovereign and Gompers and it was agreed that in case the general managers refuse to meet the wishes of President Debs, Gompers should call out the national federation of labor throughout the country.

The proposition has two conditions: First, That arbitration as proposed by President Cleveland be entered upon; second, that all the striking employees except those who had been guilty of criminal misconduct shall be restored to their positions without prejudice by the railroad companies.

After Debs had made this startling statement he was asked what would be the effect in case the general managers refuse to reinstate the men. He said he thought the strike was practically ended and regarded it as a great triumph for labor. After a pause he added: "The strike will settle back then to the original grievance between Pullman and its employees."

President Debs then left Ulich's hall to call upon the mayor. On his way he met Sovereign and Howard and they accompanied him. At the mayor's office they held a conference for about fifteen minutes. At its conclusion Mayor Hopkins said: "These gentlemen came to me with a proposition to call the strike off, the General Managers' association to agree to take back all employees who had not been arrested for any offense against the law. They asked me to go with them to present the proposition. I told them I would gladly do so."

Meanwhile, Alderman McGillan, chairman of the council of arbitration committee, had been sent for. He arrived at 10:45, and after a few minutes talk with Debs and Sovereign, the mayor and Alderman McGillan went to the office of the general managers association, while Debs, Howard and Sovereign returned to their hotels.

When the mayor arrived at the office of the general manager's association, he found that the regular meeting had adjourned, and Mr. St. John, of the Rock Island road, was the only manager present.

Vice President Thomas H. Wickes, of the Pullman company, received his first information of President Cleveland's intention to appoint a committee of investigation at his residence today. He had anticipated no such move on the part of the president, and did not know of the law under which the appointment of the committee was made. Mr. Wickes would make no statement, saying he would wait until the committee had arrived, and he knew what powers it possessed.

Among the stock yards strikers who returned to work this morning were nine engineers, nine telegraphers and twenty clerks and yardmasters. Other employees will be given their positions if they report promptly. A few steam fitters and carpenters left their work this morning, but they did not add to the seriousness of the situation.

Armour brought twelve butchers from Milwaukee this morning and was only three short of his usual force. The sheep butchers talked of joining the beef butchers, but they did not leave their work this morning. Applicants for positions as unskilled laborers were turned away from the packing houses. Armour discharged fifteen teamsters for whom he had no work.

Would Not Call Another Meeting.

Mr. St. John said he would receive the proposition and lay it before the next meeting. He was requested to call a special meeting, but declined to do so. He consented to listen to the gentlemen before the mayor and a prominent member of the city council. He declared that he would have nothing to do with Debs or any of the strike leaders.

After leaving the proposition with Mr. St. John, the mayor returned to his office. Mr. St. John had previously said that the general managers would not recognize the labor of Mr. Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, shortly after midnight last night, reverting to the cause and effect of the present crisis he said: "I doubt whether this action of the committee of arbitration to be appointed by President Cleveland will materially affect the Pullman strike as it was originally because I do not see how it has anything to do with the interstate commerce law. My understanding is the O'Neill bill can only take effect when the interstate commerce law is violated."

Leaving the impression that arbitration was a failure.

Should Do As Roosevelt Did.

The British Government Settled the Great Miners Strike by Arbitration.

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ENID DESPERATE.

The War Against the Rock Island Railroad

By the People in the Government Towns.

GROWS WORSE TODAY.

A Thousand Enid People Tearing Up Tracks.

A Freight Train Sent Through a Bridge.

ENID, Okla., July 13.—A north-bound freight train on the Rock Island went through a small bridge three-quarters of a mile from South Enid today. The bents and braces of the bridge had been sawed and left hanging together. Thirteen loaded cars piled up in a heap. The engine and several cars passed over the bridge before it fell.

Brakeman Cordray, and a painter named Harry Lyon were injured slightly.

The wrecking is supposed to be due to the old Round Pond trouble, the people here having received a decision in the supreme court yesterday which they regard as being against them.

Last night a meeting of interested citizens of Round Pond were held and many inflammatory speeches were made.

Tearing Up Tracks.

GUTHRIE, Ok., July 13.—The situation at Enid grows worse hourly. The people are desperate and will risk everything to compel the railway to come to terms. At noon nearly a thousand people began tearing up the railroad tracks. A large force of deputy marshals have been sent from here and the governor will order out troops.

SHE WAS SO CLEVER.

That she Swindled Jewellers Out of Diamonds Right Along.

NEW YORK, July 13.—Inspector McLaughlin last night arrested Lizzie Patton, one of the most beautiful and at the time accomplished swindlers that ever made trouble for the police. The young woman (she is not more than twenty-two) has for weeks successfully tricked New York merchants, diamond dealers being her especial prey. If her own story be true she took several thousand dollars out of Chicago a few months ago. She is a blonde of stylish appearance, though she has the good judgment not to overdo. There is not one thing in her appearance to indicate that she is a swindler.

Her method was to appear in one of the leading jewelry establishments, as a customer, her appearance and manner being in her favor. The clerks were invariably obsequious. From the display laid out before her, she would select articles valued usually at about \$200, asking that they be kept for her until the next day, when she would call for them. Thereupon she would hand out a delicately engraved card bearing "Miss Lizzie Stearns," announcing herself as the daughter of W. F. Stearns & Co. The following day she would present herself with a certified check for the exact amount of her purchase. This check was always accepted without hesitation and always turned out to be bogus. After her arrest, the young woman confessed and also said that she had been successful in swindling in Chicago, Philadelphia and Baltimore. In the last named city her husband, she added is now serving a sentence for forgery.

A BRUTAL SOLDIERY.

British Soldiers Near the Prince of Wales Commit a Foul Outrage.

DUBLIN, July 13.—The Freeman's Journal today publishes a startling account of a scandal which has occurred at Birr, Kings county, the headquarters of the Prince of Wales' Leinster regiment.

According to the story a few nights ago some of the officers of the Leinster regiment masked and disguised forcibly entered the rooms of some female servants, assaulted two of them and fled.

The officers in their flight, it is added, rushed past a sentry who challenged them and upon their refusal to halt, the sentry thrust his bayonet into one of them and shouted for the guard to turn out.

The guard turned out promptly and the officers were arrested. The two girls who were assaulted have sworn to complaints against the prisoners.

CONDUCTORS IN SESSION.

The Entire Santa Fe System From Chicago to Albuquerque Represented.

The general grievance committee of the Order of Railway Conductors of the Santa Fe system, is in session in Topeka. The meeting is one which is held the second week in July every two years, for the purpose of electing officers and transacting routine business.

The committee is made up of the local chairmen of each of the eighteen conductor divisions of the Santa Fe system from Chicago to Albuquerque. There is a full attendance.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected today as follows: G. L. Short, Topeka, general chairman; Geo. Thornburg, Denver, assistant general chairman; Richard Wilson, Topeka, general secretary. The meeting will last a day or two. "The session has nothing to do with the strike," said a conductor in reply to a query. "We are meeting simply because our constitution requires us to meet every two years at this date. The members of the order, you might say, by the way, are understood to be true blue to the Santa Fe company."

Cholera at St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, July 13.—There were thirteen new cases of cholera and four deaths from that disease reported from here yesterday.



P. E. J. PRENDERGAST, Assassin of Mayor Harrison, of Chicago.

Morris and his assistants made the final test of the rope, trap and trigger. Jailer Morris at 10:45: "As near as I can judge the march to the scaffold will be about 11:30. Prendergast rested well last night and seemed calm and collected when the jailer left him a few minutes before.

"He refused until late last evening to receive spiritual consolation, but when nightfall came on he asked that Father Muldoon be admitted. I am in doubt as to how he will act when he sees the dangling noose," said Jailer Morris, "and while I am half inclined to think he will make a scene, there is no telling. He may brace himself and go through it all right, for he has often expressed admiration for the manner in which Bull Higgins met his death."

The Prisoners Moved.

At 10:50 all the prisoners in the three tiers of cells immediately in front of and to the left of the scaffold were marched out and taken over into the south wing.

side, the neck having apparently been broken. Slowly swaying back and forth, he hung for a few moments while the physicians held his wrist. A slight spasmodic movement of the legs was a sign of life apparent within the loosely hanging white robe.

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THE LATE HON. CARTER H. HARRISON, MAYOR OF CHICAGO, Assassinated on the Evening of October 28, 1893.

In order that there might be no demonstration during the final scenes. Father Barry was in constant attendance upon Prendergast all the morning. The little assassin "had thawed out" materially since last night, and was now most deferential to his spiritual adviser. The doomed man announced with a trifle of bravado, "that he would die game and set a great and shining example to his country."

He intended, it was stated, to make a speech which he asserted will be the effort of his life, and was very particular lest he be misquoted or misinterpreted. Prendergast was removed from his cell in murderers row to an ante-room off the jail office which is in fact the bath room and where the last kindly offices were being performed for the miserable wretch.

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