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PRISONERS KILL GUARDS

Two Desperate Convicts Escape From Penitentiary

PROCURE FIREARMS FROM UNKNOWN SOURCE

AND COMMENCED SHOOTING WITHOUT WARNING.

Murderers are Tracy and Merrill Long-term Men--Fellow Convict Who Interfered Fatally Shot--Fugitives Steal Horses and Get Away From Salem--Surrounded By a Large Posse.

Portland, Or., June 9--The fatal onslaught upon the penitentiary guards recalled the daring attempt that the same two fugitives made to escape from the county jail here previous to their commitment to the state institution. Merrill and Tracy had been tried and found guilty of burglary.

Jailer Dougherty and Deputy Sheriff Tom Jordan were in the act of removing the two prisoners from their cells to the courtroom above to receive sentence. The jailer preceded Jordan a little, and he had no sooner opened the cell door and admitted the men into the open corridor than Tracey quickly pulled a gun on Dougherty and fired. The bullet went high, as Dougherty fell quickly to his knees. Before Tracy could force Dougherty to give up the keys to the other doors, Tom Jordan covered him, and the desperado threw up his hands. The attempted outbreak cost Tracey dearly, as his sentence was increased to 20 years, while Merrill got off with 13.

Tracey had secured a revolver from his wife, who had secreted it in her dress. In speaking of Merrill and Tracey, and the likelihood of their capture this morning, Deputy Sheriff Mathews said: "The men are desperate characters, and they will not likely be taken alive. They are the most dangerous men that the Multnomah county authorities have had to deal with--in fact, they are as bad as they make them."

Detective Dan Weiner, while arresting Merrill and Tracey, was shot at and had a narrow escape from being killed.

The men have a bad record, which extends back for a number of years. Merrill formerly served three years in the Oregon penitentiary for robbing a car in this city. After his release, he left the country and showed up again with Tracey, and the two started out on their career of crime.

"They were sentenced to the penitentiary March 22, 1899.

A reward of \$1000 has been offered for the capture of the fugitives. It is said that this amount will be increased to \$2000 before the day is over. The reward is considered none too large, as the fugitives are both known to be dead

shots. They are well armed, and are expected to fight for their lives, sparing no one in their effort to get out of the country.

It is expected by some that they will steal horses and make for Barlow Pass, going Eastward.

Salem June 9--The usually quiet city of Salem is in a fever of excitement today as the result of one of the most bloody jail breaks in the history of the West.

Poses of armed men are scouring the country in quest of two prisoners, who escaped from the State Penitentiary this morning, leaving behind them the dead bodies of three of the men charged with their custody.

At 7 o'clock this morning, when the prisoners were turned out to work, Harry Tracey, who was doing 20 years for train robbery, and Dave Merrill, sentenced to 13 years for the same crime, went to their work in the foundry as usual.

The guard in charge in the foundry was Frank Ferrell of Salem. While his back was turned the convicts secured revolvers from some hiding place, and without a word of warning stepped up behind him and blew his brains out. Ferrell fell dead, and his murderers at once made a break for the last wall of the penitentiary with a ladder they had picked up in the shop.

On reaching the wall they exchanged shots with Guards B. F. Tiffany and S. R. T. Jones, who were stationed there, and after shooting them down scaled the wall and started their dash for liberty, taking with them the rifles of the men who had fallen victims to their murderous fury.

After leaving the prison, the convicts were last seen following up the course of Mill Creek, from where it is thought they have struck for the tall timber in the Waldo hills, their evident intention being to reach the mountains.

As soon as the remaining prisoners had been secured, a general alarm was given, and within a few minutes a posse of 56 men was upon the trail of the murderers, burning to avenge the wanton

slaughter of the guards, and should the guilty men be overtaken, it is not unlikely that they will be brought back well weighted with lead, for threats of vengeance are being freely made by many of the people, who are stirred up in a way that has been seldom seen in Salem.

The way in which Tracey and Merrill first secured the guns with which Ferrell the shop guard, was slaughtered was at first a mystery, but the fact that many of the excursionists who visited Salem yesterday went through the penitentiary lends color to the theory that it was by their means that the revolvers were secreted in the foundry.

Just how Tracey and Merrill were informed of the location of the weapons is not known, but already detectives are at work on this phase of the case, and there is but little doubt that the person or persons thus prima facie responsible for the death of three innocent men will be brought to justice.

Guard Jones has several relatives in Portland. He was a brother-in-law of Sheriff Jack Hubbard of Spokane, who was killed in a similar manner several years ago. Hubbard had arrested outlaw wanted in Missouri and on his way to Spokane with them in a carriage when some friend of the prisoners opened fire from behind, killing Hubbard and one of the prisoners.

Jones had resided at Hubbard station, 18 miles from Salem, for years. The station takes its name from the family of Sheriff Hubbard. Jones leaves a wife and four children.

Salem, June 11--At this time the murderous convicts who killed three guards at the Oregon State Prison Monday morning are still at large.

Two crimes were committed in this city Monday night and Tuesday morning that may lead to the capture of Tracey and Merrill. Blood hounds are now on their track. If traces are not too old they will be located within 24 hours and given justice.

At 10 o'clock J. W. Roberts who lives on South Liberty street was held up by two men.

Thinking they were some men returning from the search for the fugitives, he paused in answer to their hail, and found himself covered by two rifles.

He was required to remove his coat, vest, trousers and hat which were taken by the men.

M. Carson, guard at the Washington State Penitentiary at Walla Walla arrived in Salem on the 1 o'clock train bringing a brace of blood-hounds.

The sheriff and Carson took the dogs to Mr. Roberts' house to have them track the criminals by traces of their clothes. A pair of horses the property of Felix Lebranch were stolen last night and the theft is placed to the credit of the escaped convicts.

Dr. White sent word to Salem this afternoon that two ex-convicts, believed to be Tracey and Merrill held up a wood camp near Gervais at 6 o'clock this morning and compelled the men to give them breakfast. They then turned their horses loose and started

aloof across the prairie. If the report is verified blood-hounds will be taken there on the afternoon train and the men will soon be run down.

From the description it is believed that the horses left at the wood camp are the ones stolen from Salem. If the two convicts are captured alive the commonwealth will undoubtedly be spared the expense of a trial, and the cowardly unprovoked murder of three of Salem's respected citizens will be speedily avenged.

Salem, June 11--The two escaped convicts are surrounded by 250 men in the timber east of Gervais and their capture is only a question of a few hours.

Salem, June 12--Convicts eluded officers and escaped about 2 o'clock this morning. At daybreak the escapes got breakfast at a farm house eight miles from Monitor.

While eating they held the men of the house away, and the women were forced to prepare the breakfast. After staying a quarter of an hour they left and crossed the river.

The fugitives eluded the officers and men who were on the lookout for them and got through the brush to Needy, eight miles.

There they held up a farmer for dinner and they started towards the Clackamas mountains.

Sheriff Darbin spent the morning with the hounds in the brush, but accomplished nothing.

The militia at Monitor was useless and the capture of the murderers is remote.

Salem, June 13--It now seems that the report this morning that the escaped convicts had been seen near Barlow Pass may have been true. A further report has been received at the sheriff's office that the convicts took breakfast near Barlow.

The posse pursuing have lost all track

of the men, evidently having escaped into the mountains.

The militia and posse have been called off the chase and left regular officers alone after the men.

Salem, June 7--There may be an extra session of the legislature.

Gov. Geer intimated today that he would call one to put into effect the plank of the Republican state platform which declared for flat salaries.

By enacting a law before the newly elected officials are sworn in, they would have to abide by it.

Governor Geer will also recommend an extra session to pass a law making operative the initiative and referendum amendment to the constitution for which the voters declared by a large majority at Monday's election.

Big U. C. T. Convention

Minneapolis June 13--Lake Minnetonka was today the Mecca for commercial travelers from far and near and the grand council meeting of the United Commercial Travelers, which began at well known resort today and continues through tomorrow, is the most largely attended gathering of the kind ever held hereabout. The visitors come from all parts of Minnesota, the Dakotas and Manitoba and many of them accompanied by their wives and families. The local councils of Minneapolis and St. Paul have provided great entertainment and nothing will be left undone to conduce to the enjoyment of the visitors. The large attendance is an indication of the prosperity of the organization, which is rapidly increasing its membership in the Northwest.

Dress goods

SPRING IS HERE

And the accompanying demand for serviceable goods has been met at this store. In our showing this spring we have completely outdone all previous efforts to please our trade and unhesitatingly say that our stock is at present the only representative stock of up-to-date goods in every line.

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