

SEVEN ARE LYNCHED

An Infuriated Mob Deals Out Swift Vengeance.

MURDER AND RAVISHMENT

And the Burning of the Victims Excite a Mixed Crowd of Blacks and Whites to Frenzy, and They Take Terrible Revenge—Bloodhounds Trail and Capture the Murderers Bloody-Handed.

Special to The Register.

HOUSTON, Tex., April 30.—For the murder of an old man in his dotage, a child in its nonage, and a woman in the first flush of young womanhood, the ravishment of two girls, burning the home of their victims, two of the bodies being consumed in the flames, six young negroes were last night sent to their doom at the hands of an infuriated mob of negroes, the victims also being negroes, at Sunnyside, Waller county.

Last fall a gentleman from Brenham was robbed of \$65. Suspicion pointed to the four Thomas boys and they owned up to having committed the theft and said they had given \$40 of the money to Henry Daniels. Daniels spent the money and on Sunday evening last the four Thomas boys, according to their confession, decided to either collect their \$40 or kill Daniels. They carried out the latter part of the programme. Henry Daniels, an old negro, lived there in a little hut with his stepdaughter, Marie, and a 7-year-old child.

Wednesday night the house was broken open. Marie Daniels and the 7-year-old child were ravished, and old man Daniels was clubbed to death while trying to protect those in his charge. Then old man Daniels and his stepdaughter were thrown into the house and the child was thrown into the well. The house was set on fire and the devils capable of such a crime left, thinking they had covered their inhuman deed from the sight of the world.

The fire had not attracted much attention, but when Daniels and his people did not show up, the charred location of the house was searched and the terrible truth was soon only too plain. The burned remnants of human bodies left no doubt in one direction, while the blood stains about the premises indicated the commission of murder.

The local officers went to work with a will and were ably assisted by the citizens of the neighborhood. The blood-hounds from Steele's plantation were secured and they were not long in finding the right track. Before night they went to the place

where the Thomas boys resided and one by one they were secured.

Fayette Rhome, 27 years old; Will Gates, 45 years old; Louis Thomas, 20 years old; Aaron Thomas, 13 years old; Jim Thomas, 14 years old; Benny Thomas, 15 years old, the last four are brothers, and Will Williams were arrested. When taken they were smeared with blood and a bloody shirt was hidden in Richmond's house. The blood hounds worked splendidly, and after the boys were confronted with the evidence they owned to committing the crime and laid the killing on Louis, the eldest. All seven of the prisoners were under guard last night. About 12 o'clock the guards were overpowered by a strong body of men and the prisoners taken towards the Brazos bottom north of here. A little later forty or fifty shots were fired; and all was quiet.

This morning, dangling from the limbs of a large oak tree, were found the bodies of six negroes, limp and lifeless. Hundreds of people from all over the county are surging back and forth, but always with that one tree as the center of attraction. All of them are there except Williams, and he is not to be found, but the shots probably explain his absence. At a late hour this evening the bodies are still hanging from the tree. As far as can be learned, the mob was composed of white and black men, with the colored element largely predominating.

Tonight there is calm after the storm and public opinion is almost universal that if the right parties were apprehended no harm has been done.