

A MURDERER MOBBED.

John Martin, Who Killed His Accomplice in Crime
Is Taken From Jail on a Bogus Order and
Afterward Riddled With Bullets.

THE THIRD CHAPTER OF A TRAGEDY.

[Special to the Courier-Journal.]

MOREHEAD, KY., Dec. 10.—Your readers will readily remember the terrible affair which resulted in the death of Solomon Bradley, one of our best citizens, on election day, August 4, for which John Martin, of Morehead, and Floyd Tolliver, of Farmer's, this county, were alike indicted by the last grand jury for manslaughter, it not being determined which fired the deadly shot. They were both out on bail. Up to August 4 they seem to have been close friends; since then they seem to have been most bitter enemies. They met in the bar-room of the Salt House, in this place, December 2, when Tolliver asked Martin to drink with him, which Martin refused to do, saying he did not want anything. Tolliver turned and said:

"John, I have nothing against you."

Martin said: "Nor have I against you, and I have treated you like a gentleman when you come to my house, but I think you have done me dirt."

Tolliver said: "No, I haven't John, but I hear you said you intended to mob me, and all there is between us is whether or not you said it."

At this time Tolliver had his right hand on Martin's left shoulder and his left hand resting on his own hip. Martin had his left hand on Tolliver and his right hand in his overcoat pocket. Answering Tolliver that he did not say it, and, drawing his revolver at the same time, he shot Tolliver near the heart, death resulting immediately.

Tolliver and Martin were both considered brave men, and have many friends in this and adjoining counties. Martin was arrested, and claimed he did the deed in self-defense. He was taken to Winchester jail for safe-keeping, and yesterday, some one forged an order signed by the two magistrates to the jailer at Winchester to deliver Martin to the bearer. This was mailed to Alvin Bowling, one of the guards, who took Martin to Winchester December 9, with instructions to go after Martin, and he did so, taking two or three deputies along. Martin's wife went to Winchester yesterday and saw him, left in time for the express train, and the guards went to the jail after she had left, got Martin and started with him on the same train, his wife being in one coach and he in another. When they reached Farmer's, at 1 o'clock A. M., where Tolliver had lived, a masked body of fifteen or twenty armed men, with heavy revolvers and double-barreled shot-guns, covered the guards and trainmen, and shot Martin four or five times with a heavy revolver; took the guards off the train and ordered the train to move on. The guards were ordered to their respective homes and the band dispersed. Martin's wife, the trainmen and Dr. C. A. Black, the railway's surgeon at this place, did all they could for him until they reached his friends at this place. He died at 8:30 this morning, leaving a wife and five children. Tolliver left a wife and two children. Bradley left a wife and ten children.

This calls to mind the great Underwood war several years ago, and from the looks of things at this writing may prove a sadder affair.

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

[Special to the Courier-Journal.]

MT. STERLING, KY., Dec. 10.—There was another foul murder in Rowan county last night, the particulars of which are these: Last Tuesday night, John Martin shot and instantly killed F. M. Tolliver, of Farmer's, in the bar-room of the Carley House in Morehead. They were both in the fight at Morehead on the day of the August election, in which Coleman Bradley was killed, and were under bond to appear at the next term of court to answer to the charge of killing Bradley. They were on opposite sides in the fight and had not been very friendly since. Meeting in the bar-room at Morehead last Tuesday, Tolliver asked Martin to drink with him. Martin refused, and immediately drew his pistol and shot Tolliver dead. Since then the feeling has been intense against Martin and on Wednesday he was taken to Winchester for safe keeping, and last night on the late train, in charge of A. M. Bowling, Marshal of Farmer's, Rowan county, with two other guards, passed through here, en route to Morehead, to have his examining trial. At Farmer's a party of masked men numbering about fifteen, boarded the train from the east side and came toward the prisoner. No sooner did Martin see them than he exclaimed: "My God!" when one of them fired on him, wounding him in the side. The firing then became general, both from the outside and on the inside of the car. After the firing ceased, it was found that the poor man was riddled with bullets. He was taken to Morehead, where he died at 9 o'clock this morning.

It is openly charged that Bowling was in collusion with the mob, and that the order under which the prisoner was removed from Winchester was forged. Bowling and his posse made no show of defense, and Martin, just before dying, claimed that he received one shot at the hands of Bowling. Great excitement prevails in Rowan and a general outbreak between the friends of Tolliver and Martin is feared. This makes the third tragedy that has been enacted in Rowan in the last two weeks. Martin was a desperado and had killed two or three men.