

Group deprived man of civil rights

Looking back, from page C1

caught by a traveling man."

The train returned to Mitchell, where Price received medical help but died, and Turley was arrested. Turley was later moved to the jail in Bedford.

It was noted in the dispatch of the incident that Price was "one of the most popular young men of the place (Seymour)." Either that popularity or a distorted code of justice prompted people from that community to take the law into their own hands.

Mysteriously, at 2 a.m., a very short, unscheduled train pulled into the station at Mitchell. When the "passengers" learned that Turley had been taken to Bedford, the train disappeared again into the night.

But the anger set in motion by the murder was not long deferred by misinformation about Turley's whereabouts. The *Telephone* account continued, "About 2 o'clock this morning (May 13) a special train rolled into Bedford, without sounding a whistle or ringing a bell. The men passed down the Monon track to the depot, and there finding, the night officer of the town, took him in the waiting room and left him under guard. The men were masked and marched at once to the jail."

Thereafter the Bedford sheriff was told he was up past his bedtime, and, after looking at several metal persuaders in the intruders' hands, took their advice. There is a little touch of irony in the *Telephone* account — a faint echo of conscience harking back to the religious training of at least one of the mob. After they had the prisoner in hand, "The masked leader told him if he had anything to say, or wanted to pray, his time was exceedingly short."

The nearest tree outside the jail served their purpose. And as silently as they had arrived in Bedford, the men who had violated the constitutional rights of John Turley, left town on the same train.

The *Telephone* related, "Turley's body was left hanging until 8 o'clock this morning. On him was a little paper on which was written that it was worth 35 cents. This was evidently addressed to the father, who had boasted the day before that he had \$50,000 to acquit his son of the charge."

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