

9-22-1914

Shot Down In A Field

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Recommended Citation

"Shot Down In A Field" (1914). *Newspaper Articles*. Paper 179.
<https://digital.kenyon.edu/kcbhanews/179>

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The Democratic banner. (Mt. Vernon, Ohio) 1898-192?

September 22, 1914, Page PAGE SIX, Image 6

Image provided by Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, OH

Persistent link: <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn88078751/1914-09-22/ed-1/seq-6/>

No Affidavit Filed Against Man Who Did The Shooting

Caught in the act of stealing cabbage, William Barber, colored, was loaded with shot early Friday morning in the Simmons' cabbage patch north-east of the Essex Glass plant in South Vernon, when Mr. Willard Simmons, who, in company with his father, Mr. S. J. Simmons, had lain awake all night in wait for thieves, fired twice at the intruder, the second load bringing him to the ground with his right side full of shot. Then Simmons sent for Sheriff Woolaan and Deputy Sheriff Mossholder and the wounded man was taken to the Mt. Vernon hospital in the Miller ambulance. A physician was called in attendance and a hasty examination made of the man on the operating table. It was estimated that about 100 shot had entered his side and it was thought useless to attempt to extract them for the present.

The shooting occurred about 4:30 Friday morning. Mr. S. J. Simmons has been carefully cultivating some track on his small farm in South Vernon all of this summer. In addition to cabbage, he had some corn set out and some other garden truck. The cabbage patch, however, was his chief pride. A month or so ago, it was noticed that marauders had been in the corn field and had acted without principle. The growing corn was torn down and deliberately carted away. Several weeks ago, the cabbage patch was ravaged. These practices continued until fifty heads of cabbage had been removed from the patch, according to Mr. Simmons. It seemed as if the entire crop, so carefully nourished during the summer, might be stolen and Mr. Simmons' endurance was finally exhausted. For the past week, he and his son, Willard, have lain in wait at the patch for the person or persons robbing them of their vegetables.

Their watch had been fruitless until Friday morning, when detection of the robber occurred. Mr. Simmons states that the hour was about 4:20 and that both were pretty well tired out from waiting for something to develop. Suddenly a man was seen entering the cabbage patch. Under his arm, he carried a burlap sack. He first walked over to the hogpens, which are situated nearby the patch and, seeing nobody there, started in on his depredations.

His first act, according to Mr. Simmons, was to pull out a large knife and cut off one of the heads of cabbage which he dropped into his sack. He then started toward that part of the patch where the largest

was sitting a cow, when a horse her husband was leading to water, frightened at some object and got loose, trampling Mrs. Knerr under its feet, before she could dodge. Her injuries are not serious, but are very painful.

SOCIETY NOTES

Auction Party

Mrs. L. H. Kinnaird entertained Thursday afternoon at her home on East Gambler street with an auction party in honor of her guest, Miss Kinnaird, of Los Angeles, Cal. Five tables of the game were played and a very enjoyable time had by all.

Surprise Party

Rev. Hampton of the colored Baptist church was tendered a surprise party Thursday evening by the members of his congregation at his home on West Vine street. Vegetables, money and household effects were presented to the pastor and his wife by the congregation.

"Visiting Hell"

The pupils and teachers of the Gambler public schools gave a novel entertainment at the school house Thursday evening, under the title, "Visiting Hell." Fantastic garbs, smacking the underworld were worn and the whole effect was decidedly ghastly. There were fortune-telling and other catch-penny booths and a nice sum was realized.

Cranmer-Miller Wedding

Mr. Paul Cranmer, a prominent young business man of North Sandusky street and Miss Florence Miller, daughter of Mr. J. E. Miller of East High street, were united in marriage at the bride's home on Second street, Milwaukee, Wis., on Wednesday evening, September 16. The young couple are now on their honeymoon trip visiting in Indiana and Illinois, and will make their future home in this city.

BIRTHS

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. George Fore of Jalloway, Thursday.

Squire and Mrs. George S. Harter have returned from attending the Harter family reunion at Greenville, O., and spending several days with relatives in Mays, Ind. In addition, the Squire attended the reunion of his regiment, the 116th, at Greenville. Sixteen members of his company, it is believed, are present.



JAMES R. MARKER, STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER, AND WHAT HIS DEPARTMENT HAS ACCOMPLISHED.

ssow drifts, washouts, etc., are discouraging to the boys and girls who have to walk or drive to school. Bad roads keep many from their studies. However, the time when this condition will be entirely eliminated in Ohio is rapidly approaching, the laws set in motion by Governor Cox hastening the end of mud-choked and impassable highways.

Possessed of the best money-raising road laws of any state in the Union, and having the spirit to do, Ohio this year steps to the front, in fact, far in the lead, in road construction and improvement. Among the half dozen measures pertaining to roads passed by the legislature last year, at the recommendation of Governor Cox, the Hite bill, making a .35 mills levy on the grand tax duplicate, stands out as the most important. The grand tax duplicate is about \$7,000,000,000, and the half mill levy will produce annually \$2,500,000. One fourth of this, or \$625,000, must be expended on the main market roads, and can be used with or without the co-operation of the county. The remainder, less the operating expenses of the state highway department, or about \$2,500,000, is apportioned equally among the counties. This represents the sum of \$330,000 per county.

State Highway Commissioner James H. Marker estimates that the Hite law, together with the fees from automobile owners, will contribute an

80 per cent of the highway traffic in Ohio.

Another of the laws passed at the recommendation of Governor Cox and which will work a wonderful improvement to 70,000 miles of roads in Ohio is the split log drag law. Under its provisions, every graveled or unimproved public road, including those covering mail routes and all main traveled roads, will be dragged. The law requires township trustees to set aside funds for dragging purposes and appoint one of their number as dragging superintendent. The yearly cost will be approximately \$7.50 a mile. With a little more than \$500,000, says Marker, every highway in the state can be made passable at all times of the year.

The state highway department has already accomplished much and more is promised, in addition to the federal aid, which can come only through an efficient organization. Not only is a systematized effort for roads possible, but economy in contracts results, and every county gets the benefit. The abolition of the state highway department would be fatal to the good roads system of the state, and would mean the loss of thousands of dollars to individuals; it would mean harm to schools and churches; it would mean that Uncle Sam would extend no further aid. To abolish the good roads program is poor political policy and would be fatal to state advancement.