

LYNCH NEGRO NEAR BALTIMORE

DRAGS HELPLESS MAN TO HIS DEATH

IS SILENCED BY BALTIMORE CITY LYNCHERS WHEN HE CRIED FOR MERCY. DRAGGED THRU OWN BLOOD

King Davis, colored, twenty-eight years old, who last Saturday shot and killed Frederick A. Schwab at Fairfield, Anne Arundel County, Md., was taken from the jail at Brooklyn, Baltimore City, and shot to death by a party of men.

Davis, who was also known by the name of Johnson, was dragged to a spot about 200 yards from the station and shot through the lungs four times. His body was not discovered until several hours afterward by a passerby, who notified the police.

No all-night guard is kept at the station and the police had no knowledge of the affair until the finding of the body was reported. Chief of Police Irwin at once started an investigation. He said he had no clue to the perpetrators of the deed.

The avenging band formed quietly. They effected an entrance to the lock-up without attracting the attention of those living nearby, and went to Davis' cell, where they found him asleep. Hubert Chase, colored, who was held in the station as a witness in the Schwab case, was not molested.

Chase said that Davis fought desperately and shrieked for mercy, but his cries were silenced by a blow on the head, which

stretched him unconscious. He was then dragged away to his death.

No noise or outcries were heard by the near neighbors, except the shots, and no attention was paid to these, as they were supposed to have been fired by Christmas merry-makers.

Between the station and the scene of the lynching the grass was trampled down and there was a trail of blood, indicating that Davis was badly beaten before he was taken out.

A jury of inquest returned a verdict that Davis came to his death by bullet wounds inflicted by parties unknown to the jury.

The trouble which caused the shooting of Schwab started in a saloon at Fairfield over a game of pool between Frank Schwab, a brother of the dead man, and Davis. Schwab asserted Davis had called him vile names.

After the party left the saloon Frederick Schwab took up his brother's quarrel with Davis, who drew his pistol and sent a bullet through the heart of Schwab, killing him instantly. Davis then fired two shots at Frank Schwab, without effect, and fled, but was arrested an hour later. He declared he shot in self defense, asserting that Frederick Schwab had struck him first.

—News Dispatch to The Messenger from Baltimore, December 26, 1911.