

Copied

in 1859

Tuesday Morning 28 Dec Richard
 Hartman left home soon after breakfast
 horse back going out to hunt up Oryza -
 he was gone a bout one hour when his horse
 was seen 1/2 mile from his house towards wash
 hommas seen by a ^{wagoner} "I got word
 Thursday Evening I got word started at sundown
 got thru 1 or 2 AC in the night found Looma
 in a heap of trouble Mrs Howell & daughter and
 James Hartman & George Hartman was there
 as soon as I got the Looma told me she suspected
reynolds (Prince) " next morning I started out
 after the man that saw the horse and brought
 him in and he showed us the place and we
 tracked the horse (back track) to the rail
 hills where Prince was spitting about 300 yds
 back of the grave yard. I left and went
 with Soloma & I went to wash homma and got
 in boat and landed at Ashby ford to hunt
 for him as his horse tracks went into the
 river and came out dragging the latter rain
 in the mud and found a track where the horse
 stepped on the latter rain this we compared with the
 latter all where the horse went up the hill found
 when blanket fuse starting to burst combard and
 found it to be the saw from the blanket under
 his saddle this made us believe he was around
here I advised the company and sent 1/2 to the
 hills & swamp and I with the other 1/2 crossed
 the river for 3/4 mile and gone up the river Saturday
 Evening - and when we got up to the house
 from the river near sundown we found that the
 company had found sign enough to take up

and Suspect Prince his tracks was found on
 a rotter chunk and some other signs they found
 went to suspect Prince about sundown we took
 him out to where he was splitting rails and
 tied him up and was going to give him a
 sever whipping but he Confessed killing him and
 brought in "Adam" "That day Adam was sent
 to Red River (Poland) and passed about the time
 which looked very suspicious" Prince said that Adam
 hoped him kill him and hid him under the top of
 a tree also said his Aunt Lucy had been after
 him to kill his Master and tie a rock to him and
 sink him in little river and it would not be found
 and that she would be good to him as long as she
 lived also they would then move back to Mountain
 and all together again" She was taken up and
 closely Guarded & Adam (Saturday Night), About
 midnight Prince spoke and said (no one asking
 him any thing) and said that his Uncle Adam
 did not know any thing about it that he just said
 so" and still said that he never thought of killing his
 Master until Lucy come over here to live he said that
 she had bin after him to kill him for a long time
 and a rainy day was to be the time: Prince said his
 Aunt Lucy gave him the rope to tie the rock to him
 he said the rope came around Aunt Lucy's basket
 when she come from Mountain fork and she gave it
 to him and told him how to tie it Prince say
 Richard got off his horse to help him roll over a rail
 cut and when he had his back turned he struck
 him with the poll of the axe between the shoulders
 and struck him two or three times after and then he
 hid him in the leaves in the tree top

Just morning at day light My self and James Harkin
 and George Harkin Jr went with Prince to find the
 boy he promised to show it we was walking along
 and (Prince) said that Adam did not know any
 thing about it that it was his aunt Lucy he
 said he needed three times in packing him to the river
 he went and showed us the log he walked out on
 and throwd him on the upper side James Harkin got
 a pole and soon found it to be a fact I was getting
 the boy and had a hold of the chain and was standing
 close to the Edge of the river and I was throwd of
 my Land by day James Harkin and Richard up
 and the boy jerked from me and jumped in the
 River and covered my self and we could not help
 it or get him out for an time I wanted to reach
 the ocean we went back to the house and after
 breakfast and came and got up Richard and found
 a rock tied to him that would weigh 25 pounds tied
 to his back - also fishing up the shell Prince car-
 tied him to the bank for further Consecration or
 on camping Richard found his Mouth Stuffed full of leaves
 and mud his Skull broken in and 1/2 of his right Ear
 cut half a to from the hole in the side of his head
 also a slit on his throat either one of the stone
locks would of killed him he was buried on Monday
 "Sunday the day he was found" also Prince covering him self
 same day Prince was creeped up to to him he killed his
 master and Lucy was both placed on a log heap and
 burnt up this is just every thing transparent

L. J. Tolson

P.S. Lucy told Prince to ride the horse in the river and burn him down at the ford.
 Lucy did not confess a thing

The Howells' came very much getting up
 a serious excitement "at that time they little would
 started a big map. It appeared they would be started
 up a fuss between the Pettigrews and "Hartins"
 by letter from with the Negro + and saying that
 Lorna better look out. It might come close home
 the Negro - That man and her husband - her and
 her daughter was walking around during of the devil
 "we all being armed. It might of ended in a half dog
 getting killed on each side. It is to bad to think of
 what a narrow ~~escape~~ we had of keeping out a
 fuss - and a serious one" just at such a time
 in excitement would of raged with fury &
 and vengeance".

They Greater Lorna shamed at her
 own home and she is so much truth Lorna was half
 crazy all the time and she did not know what
 she said. It appear they had a ready hatred
 to Gen Childers or else they were would just such
 a time to get up an excitement. "Lorna said
 It was the white blood in Lucy that planned the
 death of her husband. Once Mrs Howell & daughter
 saw a white man had no show amongst half breeds
 she and her daughter married white men and that is
 what they got mixed at it. "ol Hartins knew every
 thing Lorna said".

L. H. J.