

OLYPHANT ROBBERS HANGED.

**JAMES L. WYRICK, THOMAS BRADY
AND ALBERT MANAKER DEAD.**

**They Were Convicted of the Murder of
Conductor McNally, Whom They
Killed in Attempting to Hold Up
Iron Mountain Train Fifty-One Near
Newport, Ark., Last November—His-
tory of Their Crime.**

Special to The Republic.

Newport, Ark., April 4.—The last hours on Thursday of the doomed Olyphant train robbers, Thomas Brady, James L. Wyrick and Albert Manaker, were cheered in their prison cells by many Christian men and women who came to offer the doomed men all the consolation they could.

There was no display of sentiment. Hill, better known as Manaker, made heroic efforts to bear up manfully. Brady gave way to his grief in lamentations loud and long. His terrible cries of anguish were heartrending. Again and again would he exclaim, with terrible emphasis, "Oh, my God, save me from the eternal torments of hell!" Then he would cry: "Oh, good God, take me as I am; take me as I am!"

The doomed men awoke about 5 o'clock this morning and poor Brady began his supplications for mercy again. At 6 o'clock they made their toilet and then prayed. A few hymns were sung and then the death warrant was read. Hill prayed aloud and fervently. He prayed for his condemned brother Brady, for the court officials, the prison officials, both here and at the penitentiary. The song, "I am glad forever, no matter what the world says," was sung and the procession to the gallows was taken up.

The prisoners mounted the scaffold with firm and steady steps. The Sheriff having stated that if they had any statement to make that the time for making it had arrived, John T. Hill stepped to the front of the gallows over the fatal trap door through which he was launched to eternity a few minutes later.

Wanted to Talk to Young Men.

"I had hoped," he began, "to speak to young men to-day, but as the law doesn't allow that, I will omit what I would have said to them. I am 42 years old, native of Texas County, Missouri, where my father died when I was 3 years old. Mother married again when I was 10. A disagreement with my stepfather drove me from home at 16. The ambition of my life was to obtain a good education. I taught school at 16, was married at 17. My wife died. I married again. Two children died, and my second wife soon followed them. My third wife was unfaithful. I left her, and that marks the beginning of my downfall. Since then I have married twice, having three women living who once called me husband."

He claimed that it was Padgett and not he who organized the Olyphant gang. "Shun bad company" were his parting words.

Wyrick spoke next. He is a native of Roane County, Tennessee. He is now 34 years old, leaves a wife and five children in destitute circumstances. He had lived near Hot Springs for six years. His history of the organization of the bandit gang was substantially the same as Hill's. As a dying request, Hill asked that his and Brady's body be interred alongside of Wyrick's near Hot Springs. Henry Goldman of Brinkley, who was present, assured him that his desire would be granted. He then smiled and retired.

Prayer by Dr. White, chaplain of the Arkansas Penitentiary followed. The men were then placed on the trap door. Brady in the center, with Hill at his left and Wyrick at his right. As the caps were pulled on, Brady increased his supplications to God for mercy.

Died Without a Struggle.

At 7 1/2 o'clock a. m. the trap was sprung, and the men died without a struggle. In 11 minutes Wyrick's heart ceased its functions, Hill's in 12 and Brady's in 12. Considerable blood oozed out of Wyrick's neck. The bodies were coffined and will be sent to Hot Springs to-night in the Hot Springs express.

The crime for which these men to-day suffered death was committed on the night of November 2, 1902. About 10 o'clock that night passenger train No. 41 on the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad was held up at Olyphant, a lonely flag station in Independence County, by seven masked men, who looted the express and passenger coaches.

The robbers kept up a fusillade of firing all the time the robbery was being committed, and Conductor W. F. McNally, who bravely attempted to defend the train, was killed by a rifle ball. About two weeks previous to the robbery half a dozen young farmers disappeared from their homes near Hot Springs. They rode parties and were heavily armed. To their friends they said they were going to the Indian Territory to buy cattle.

The names of these farmers were Albert Manaker, James L. Wyrick, George Padgett, O. L. Truman and Fennyweight Powell and his younger brother Sam. Under the leadership of Thomas Brady, a whisky peddler from the Indian Territory, these agriculturists left their farms, families and friends to become train robbers.

Brady, Manaker, Wyrick and Padgett were arrested not long after the hold-up. Padgett turned State's evidence, and is now in jail awaiting trial at the spring term of the Jackson County Circuit Court. His three companions were tried in February and convicted of McNally's murder.

Fennyweight Powell was captured in Denver about a month ago, and is now in prison awaiting trial.

O. L. Truman and Sam Powell are still fugitives from justice.