

THREE OF A KIND.

Execution of the Murderers of Conductor McNally.

St. Louis, Mo., April 6.—A special to the Post-Dispatch from Newport, Ark., says: The three train robbers, J. L. Wyrick, Thomas Brady and Albert Mansker, who killed Conductor W. P. McNally at Oliphant, Ark., Nov. 13 last, were hanged here this morning. The drop fell at 7:55 and the men were pronounced dead at 8:05 o'clock. All three necks were broken.

The men spent the night in prayer and preparing for death. When they found that all hope was gone they confessed that the evidence adduced at their trial was correct and that the story of the train robbery and murder as told by George Padgett, who turned state's evidence, was true. All three united, however, in asserting that Padgett planned the crime, drew the others into it and then deserted them when his own neck was endangered. There was no hitch in the triple execution, which passed off smoothly.

The crime for which these men today suffered death was committed on the night of Nov. 3, 1893. About 10 o'clock that night passenger train No. 51 on the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern railroad was held up at Oliphant, 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. P. McNally, who bravely attempted to defend his train, was killed by a rifle bullet.

About two weeks previous to the robbery half a dozen young farmers disappeared from their homes near Bentonville. They rode ponies 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 Mansker, James L. Wyrick, George Padgett, O. L. Truman and Pennyweight Powell and his younger brother Sam. Under the leadership of Thomas Brady, a whisky peddler from the Indian territory, these agriculturalists left their farms, families and friends to become train robbers.

Brady, Mansker, Wyrick and Padgett were arrested not long after the holdup. 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. Pennyweight 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.