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THE INSIDE OF IT.

The Barrett Scott murder came before the senate yesterday in a new form. Thursday Senator Pope presented a resolution requesting the governor to immediately offer the statutory reward for the arrest and conviction of each of the murderers of Scott. In reply to this resolution which was adopted by the senate Governor Holcomb vesterday submitted to the senate a communication explaining why the reward had not been offered in this important criminal case, together with all correspondence between the executive department and Holt county officers. The communication is as follows:

Chapter LI. Sec. 542 .- Whenever it shall be brought to the knowledge of the coroner or the sheriff of any county in this state that a murder has been comthis state that a murder has been committed their respective counties, and the person or persons committing such murder are unknown, or, if known, have fled from justice, it shall be the duty of the coroner or the sheriff to make the same known to the governor of this state, together with such facts as may come to his knowledge, going to show by whom such murder was committed and the whereabouts of the murderers.

Section 548. Upon receipt of the information as prescribed by the preceding section, the governor of the state shall issue his proclamation offering such reward not exceeding \$200 for each per-

shall issue his proclamation effering such reward not exceeding \$200 for each person murdered, as he shall deem proper for the arrest of the person or persons committing said crime and the delivery of said person or persons to the sheriff or jailor of the county where said crime was committed. Upon the trial of any person for whom such reward has been offered, if the presiding judge shall, under his hand and seal of the court, certify to the governor that the person arrested and indicted committed the act charged in the indictment, the person or charged in the indictment, the person or persons making the arrest shall be entit-led to the reward.

"As soon as this department was in possession of information that a murder had been committed in Holt county, I at once telegraphed to the sheriff of Holt county, Nebraska, tendering such assistance as was warranted under the law by this department for the apprehension of the murderers of said Scott. I also sent a similar telegram to the county attorney of that county, replies being received in each instance indicating that the persons implicated in the crime had been arrested and that no reward for their apprehension was required.

"Under the information thus received and the law as construed by this department, I deem it inadvisable to make public proclamation offering a reward for the apprehension of any person or persons supposed to be guilty of committing this murder.

"I transmit herewith copies of all correspondence had between the executive and the county authorities of Holt county, Nebraska, regarding this sub-

"I regret that under the law as I view it and my conception of official duty that I am unable to coincide with your honorable body in the views as taken in the resolution before quoted. Very res- McHugh don't alight from his position ectfully, SILAS A. HOLCOMB

Governor

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE. The official correspondence with Holt county officials began with the following letter from sheriff Hamilton:

letter from sheriff Hamilton:

O'NEILL, Neb., Jan. 9 1895.—Silas Holcomb, Governor—Dear Sir: In regard to the disappearance of Barrett Scott, defaulting ex-treasurer of Holt county, would like to have you offer a reward for his body, living or dead, and also a suitable reward for the apprehension and conviction of all parties implicated. Kradly give this your prompt attention and oblige. Yours respectfully, C. W. Hamilton.

The governor's reply was as follows: LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 12, 1895.—C. W. Hamilton, Sheriff, O'Neill, Neb.—Dear Sir: I beg to acknowledge receipt of yours of the 9th inst. requesting that a suitable reward be offered by this office for the apprehension and conviction of all parties implicated in the disappearance of Barrett Scott late of your county. all parties implicated in the disappearance of Barrett Scott, late of your county. In response thereto, I have to say that I have consulted with the deputy attorney-general and upon such investigation as could be made, the authority for offering such a raward by the executive is very doubtful, in fact, in fact I think I have no authority to offer a reward, exit be made to appear that a homicide has it be made to appear that a homicide has been committed and the reward be offered for the person or persons commit-ting the same. In the case mentioned it seems very uncertain as to whether or not a homicide has in fact been commit-ted, and until there is some information tending to establish that fact, I am unable to see my way clear to comply with your request.

In the meantime, I shall be glad to have all the information which you may be in possession of regarding the disappearance of Mr. Scott, and at the first opportunity would be very glad to co-operate with the authorities of your county in apprehending any person or persons guilty of committing murder, if one has been committed.

I might add that your letter to Mr.

Bartley, the state treasurer, has also been referred to me by him, and I have conversed with him some regarding this subject. Yours truly, SILAS A. HOLCOMB.

THE SHERIFF INACTIVE.

January 21 the governor sent a telegram to to the sheriff asking if the state could be of any service in assisting in apprehending the murderers. To this the sheriff replied:

O'NELL, Neb., Jan. 29, 1895.—Governor Holcomb, Lincoln, Neb: Don't know of anything the state can do. Everything is quiet here. Law and order

prevails. That is the sentiment of the good people of Holt county. Will ask assistance if needed. C. W. HAMILTON, Sheriff.

It seems that it never entered the heads of the officers to offer a reward, even after the body of Scott had been recovered, and the governor felt obliged to stop hinting that there was a duty on their part left unperformed, so he sent this unspoken message by wire:

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 22, 1895.—C. W. Hamilton, Sheriff, O'Neill: The proposed assistance in my telegram referred to matter of reward for apprehension of murderers of Barrett Scott. If you deem it necessary that a reward be of-fered, wire me. Silas A. Holcomb. Governor.

MURPHY SAID THEY HAD 'EM.

Failing to get the sheriff to formally apply for a reward proclamation, it appears from the correspondence that the governor then turned to the county attorney and sent this telegram:

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 22, 1895 .- H. E. Murphy, County Attorney, O'Neill, Neb Please advise me immediately if the state can be of service in assisting you to apprehend murderers of Barrett Scott. Silas A. Holcomb, Governor.

In reply, County Attorney Murphy, with considerable assurance and with the assumption that all the murderers were under arrest, sent the following telegram:

O'NEILL, Jan. Jan. 23, 1895,-Governor Silas A. Holcomb. Lincoln, Neb.; All persons charged with the murder of Barrett Scott have been apprehended, brought before the bar of justice and will be dealt with strictly according to law. I know of nothing the state can do more than it has done, to punish violators of law in Holt county. This course shall be pursued. Will ask assistance in the future if necessary. Law and justice shall prevail in Holt county! This is the sentiment of our citizens.

H. E. MURPHY, County Attorney.

No action was taken on the governor's communication. -State Journal.

Now we have the inside history of the case. Hamilton and Murphy are to blame that no reward has been offered by the state. In this they have been guilty of great negligence. While it is true, as Murphy said, that all charged with the crime are under arrest, it is also true that others, not charged, were implicated, and a reward should be offered for their apprehension. It has been thought all the time that the sheriff and county attorney were luke-warm in this prosecution, and their correspondence with the governor strengthens the belief. If these officers have no desire to do their duty in this matter they should resign and give some one else a chance to look after the peace and dignity of the state.

The Sun says let Scott's friends continue in their investigation of the mur der. Why does the Sun say "friends?" Why did it not say officers of the law and citizens of the county irrespective of previous conditions?

Upon the Scott murder the Sun has made its position as clear as mud. It printed a pretty fair original editorial condemning the crime, and parrelled it with a "very sen-ible" editorial from the Sioux City Tribune which by interence said the murder was justifiable. If

THE following resolution was introduced in the house last Thursday, referred to the committee on resolutions, and subsequently laid over indefinitely

Whereas: It is currently reported by the press and otherwise that Hon. J. A. Robertson, a member of this house, is a member of the vigilant committee, which is responsible for the deplorable crime of the murder of one of our citizens, the

late Barrett Scott; therefore, be it Resolved. That there be a committee of five appointed to investigate this mat ter, and if found to be true the same to be reported to this body for further and more definite action.

EVERY once in awhile a pop is heard to say that if the Hill lynching had been investigated Scott never would have been hung. That may be a fact, but in this connection we desire to ask why the Hill matter was not investigated. We have a pop sheriff and a pop county attorney and a pop county board. Why did they not get their heads together at the time and investigate? It would have been no difficult matter to have arrested some guilty parties. Fact is if Scott's friends had not taken hold of the matter his murder would have been allowed to die out as quickly as that of the Hills.

WE do not see how any man can accuse Barrett Scott-with all his faults -of having wrecked the Holt county bank. The men who persist in making this statement are uninformed, to say the least. Barrett Scott did not wreck the Holt county bank, such reliable authority as the Sioux City Tribune and other lesser lights to the contrary notwithstanding. The Holt county bank wrecked Barrett Scott. Scott kept the bank upon its feet for years and finally went into the vortex with it. The funds with which he proposed to carry on the business of the county were deposited in that bank and they are there yet. When the bank shut down Scott shut down. True, he should have had more money, but then he didn't. That he had it loaned out over the county does not in any way effect this case. He did not wreck the bank, unless it might be said that he wrecked it in that he did not THE OMAHA BEE

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