

NEGRO LYNCHED IN FLORIDA.

He Attempted to Murder the Family of His Employer and Commit an Assault.

ST. AUGUSTINE, June 5.—Much excitement exists to-night over the report of the lynching of a negro named Isaac Barrett, near Orange Dale, in this county, early yesterday. Barrett worked for a man named Hewson, and, according to reports, he attempted to murder the family and assault the daughter. Hewson's family consisted of himself, wife, two young children, and a girl of eighteen, named Maggie.

Thursday night about 10 o'clock some one entered the house and brutally assaulted Mr. and Mrs. Hewson, beating them with a club most cruelly.

The little boy, aged ten, awakened by the noise, then came running into the room, and the man knocked him down with a terrible blow over the head, cracking his skull. The girl's room was then entered, and she was attacked. Hearing a noise, the man became alarmed and, jumping through a window, fled. Maggie, as soon as she recovered her senses, attended to her parents. The room was a frightful scene. Blood was over the bed, on the walls, and on the floor. Her parents and the boy seemed dead. Just then Barrett walked in innocently, and asked if he could help, stating that he had heard a noise and thought there might be something wrong. He aided the distracted girl and then went for help.

This morning an examination showed that the tracks under the window lead to Barrett's cabin, and he was arrested. Two men put him in a wagon and started to carry him to the County Justice for examination. On the way Barrett managed to secure their shotgun, and, jumping from the wagon, covered them with it and compelled them to retrace their steps and move toward the river. Several people were met later on, and, his attention being caught, one of the men jumped on him, and soon he was pinioned and tied. Half a mile further on a mob stopped the wagon and without a word took Barrett out.

They were all masked and well armed. Barrett lost his nerve and begged for protection, but the leader waved his gun at the men in the buggy, and they moved off.

Barrett's cries could be heard as the mob moved into the forest, and finally died out. It was reported this afternoon that he was hung to an oak tree shortly after being captured. After he was seized the second time he confessed his deeds, and admitted that he tried to kill the Hewson family. His confession was reduced to writing, and he signed it. The Hewsons are badly hurt, especially the boy.

Late to-night it was reported that the boy and his mother were dead. Mr. Hewson was terribly beaten about the head, and he lost much blood. The girl was severely bruised, but not hurt badly. The people in that section are greatly excited over the murder, and the negroes are stirred up over the lynching. Barrett was called a steady man, and had worked for Hewson some time. Sheriff Davis and a posse left here to-night to go to the scene of the tragedy. They will make a thorough investigation.