

Y. AUGUST 6, 1893.

FROM LEAVENWORTH, KAS.

Members of the Garfield Rifles Arrested for Suspicious Actions.

They Claimed They Were Preparing to Defend "Cute" Smith in Case of an Attempt at Lynching and Were Discharged From Custody.

At a late hour Friday night and about 2 o'clock yesterday morning the police arrested thirteen members of the "Garfield Rifles," a colored reserve company attached to the First Kansas militia. The men were acting in a suspicious manner, running in and out of their armory, on Cherokee street, in squads, making circuitous tours through the city and in the neighborhood of the county jail. When questioned by the police, who got on to their movements, they refused to give explanation of their conduct, so that the officers captured different squads until they arrested thirteen men.

Being arraigned before Judge Petherbridge this morning, the men set up a defense that they were on the alert lest a crowd of white men should make a raid on the county jail for the purpose of lynching "Cute" Scott, the colored man that Sheriff Flora recently brought from New Mexico, and who is charged with being the principal in the Ed Gannon murder, which occurred in this city over one year ago.

Hearing the defense and nothing beyond "suspicious movements" being charged against the men, they were all discharged from custody.

There were no tenable grounds for the suspicions of lynching entertained by the men.

No lynching talk has been indulged in and even if there should have been, it is improbable that the sheriff would have called on the "reserve" company for assistance.

At the time the murder occurred and the murderers escaped, there was talk of a lynching in the event of the arrest of the fugitive murderers, but that feeling long ago died out.