

# TO BE SOLD ON THE BLOCK.

## ANOTHER VAGRANT NEGRO TO BE DISPOSED OF AT AUCTION.

**Howard County Will Hold Its Second Sale of the Kind Within a Year—The Last One Not Very Profitable, Three Likely Colored Boys Being Sold for Less Than \$30—Only One Victim to Be Offered This Time.**

Special Correspondence Kansas City Times.

FAYETTE, Mo., March 11.—Tuesday, March 14, Howard county will witness the second sale of vagrant negroes within her borders since the war. The victim on this occasion is George Winn, a lazy, worthless negro, who lives in Glasgow, and who for several years has been an eyesore to the citizens of that town. Winn was arrested a few days ago by Constable James B. Lewis of Chariton township upon the charge of vagrancy and placed in the holdover to await a preliminary examination, which took place yesterday before Justice H. Clay Cockerill at Glasgow. A jury composed of six prominent citizens was secured. Sam C. Major of this city prosecuted and Humphrey Denny appeared for the defense.

The prosecution showed in the summing up of the testimony that Winn had worked only about six days in the last six months, and that he was invariably addicted to street loafing. Upon the strength of the testimony, as given, the jury found him guilty as charged, and he was ordered brought to this city, where, on Tuesday next, at the south front door of the court house, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, he will be sold at public outcry, for cash in hand, for a term of six months to the highest bidder.

Winn is a tough looking negro, about 28 years old, 5 feet 8 inches high, and of black complexion. He is tolerably strong of build and if the proper person gets hold of him he will probably be worth to the purchaser all that is paid for him. Judge Boyd M. McCrary will most likely be the auctioneer on this occasion.

The first public sale of negroes took place here Monday, May 28, 1892. The sale was advertised extensively, and much comment pro and con made on it. The negroes in the city and county gathered on the street corners in groups for days before the sale and discussed the matter. Many of the older negroes who had been sold as slaves before the war talked very hostile, and many of the timid white citizens feared the town might be fired by the negroes for revenge. The officers and citizens, however, made them understand that they would be summarily dealt with should they attempt anything of the kind. The sale was under the vagrant law of Missouri. Constable O. S. Brown had supervision of the sale, by virtue of a warrant directed to him by Justice S. J. Preston, and the three negroes were hired out for a term of six months to the highest bidder, for cash in hand.

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At 1:30 o'clock that day Judge Royd McCrary mounted the stone steps in front of the court house. The court yard was crowded with men, women and children, white and black. The three "vags" were stood in a row on the top stone step before the crowd who looked upon them, some in pity, others in disgust. The first victim was George Turner. Bidding was pretty lively and he was knocked off to Dr. H. K. Givens, a banker, for \$20. It is hardly probable that the doctor ever got that much work out of him.

The next victim was John Hicks, a lively young fellow 22 years old. John might have brought quite a sum of money, but he had no sooner mounted the block than he shouted: "Ise gwine to tell you white folks now dat dis niggah ain't gwine to work for nobody nohow." He was bought by N. B. Cooper for \$1, but his purchaser was given \$2.50 for his "bargain" by R. W. Payne, a druggist. John was given a suit of cast off clothes by his "master," and he worked very faithfully for several days, when he skipped out.

The last victim was Sam Snell, a black negro about 35 years old. An old negro man began the bidding and kept it up until \$3.50 was reached, when he stopped his "holding" to the auctioneer, saying, "He ain't wuf any more dan dat; Ise knowd him too long. You can't fool dis heah old darkey." William Winfield, a saloonkeeper, bought him for \$5.25, dressed him up in a new suit of jeans, gave him his fill of beer, and probably got "value received."

During the sale the negroes in the crowd made many remarks. One lazy negro said he "wished he had a chunk of dynamite to drap among dat passel of poh white trash." Another said it reminded him of the day he saw his daddy sold "befo de wah"; but that "his ole dad brung \$1,200, and 'twas't no good day for niggahs neither."

During the national election last fall the republicans of Chillicothe, Mo., told the negroes that if the democrats should get into power they would sell all the negroes back into slavery. They cited the sale of negroes here, and the result was that the republicans carried the day by a large majority.