

Kirksville, Missouri

Weekly Graphic

July 29, 1881

If dispatches from the scene of the execution of the Talbott boys are to be credited, the moral effects of a judicial killing do not recommend themselves very forcibly to the unbiased observer. It is said that after the bodies of the dead criminals were cut down a most disgraceful scramble occurred for possession of pieces of the rope with which they were strangled. In one or two instances revolvers were drawn but no shots were fired. Again, when the bodies, which were put in elegant caskets, placed in hearses and drawn to the town house of the Talbotts, a crowd of people gathered about the door so thickly that the oaken staves had again to play, and it was a quarter of an hour before a lane could be made among the throng to the front door of the house. Towards evening Maryville became perfectly full of drunken men, and the saloon capacity of the town which is said to be large was tested to its utmost.

Dr. Talbott left an estate of \$50,000 to 75,000, but the trial greatly reduced it and so cleaned out the ready money that one of the younger boys is blacking boots in Maryville to assist in supporting his mother.

August 15 Ray county votes on question of refunding its indebtedness at 80 cents on the dollar—the new bonds to bear 6 per cent. instead of 8. Total indebtedness is \$200,000 principal and \$160,000 accrued interest.

Mortimer Richardson, of Carthage, son of Col. Richardson, secretary of the state board of immigration, was seriously—perhaps critically—shot in the shoulder while out hunting.

Sedalia Bazoog brags that the sheriff who hanged Patterson did a neater job than the one who sprung up Albert Talbott. A competitive hanging match is in order to settle this important question of skill.