

A DOUBLE EXECUTION.

The Hanging of the Talbott Brothers at Maryville, Mo.

MARYVILLE, Mo., July 22.—The first legal execution which has ever taken place in Nodaway County occurred in Maryville today. It was the hanging of Albert P. and Charles Edward Talbott, in the presence of 10,000 people, for the unnatural crime of murdering their own father in this county on Saturday night, September 18, 1880, the details of which have heretofore been widely published.

All the preparations for the execution were completed by an early hour on Friday morning, the scaffold being erected in Northeast Maryville, just west of the Kansas City Road, at a point where fully twenty thousand people could have a fine view of the execution, and on the same site where it was placed in position a month ago.

AT HALF-PAST NINE O'CLOCK

entire new suits of black cloth were brought into the jail, and they commenced preparing their toilet with great care. An hour later Mrs. Talbott and children, and Miss Maxey, Bud's affianced, visited the jail to take their last leave of the boys. It was an affecting scene, and the agonized parting of the mother and other relatives was a sight which would move a heart of stone. When the boys were about to be started on the march to the gallows they were very much affected. Mrs. Talbott did not go to the gallows. She remained in the jail, and her screams could be heard almost all over the town. At 1 o'clock the death warrant was read by Sheriff Toel in the Jail just before their departure for the scaffold. The boys listened to the reading with seeming unconcern.

One o'clock having arrived Sheriff Toel informed the boys that the time had come when they must go. Just as the procession was being formed outside the Jail, Albert told Sheriff Toel that he was hungry, and wanted some ham and bread and butter to eat. This was brought him, when he ate heartily. When offered something to eat between 11 and 12 o'clock they said they did not want anything. At 1:15, after eating, the boys smoked cigars. At 1:30 they were taken from the Jail and the march

TO THE GALLOWES

began. The boys were both smoking cigars, and looked pale and nervous. At about 1 the procession formed outside the Jail, a guard of over fifty and a number of special police acting as escorts. The priests, the prisoners and the Sheriff and his deputies moved on to the north entrance to the Court House square, where a 'bus stood in waiting. They at once got into the 'bus. The guards then formed on either side, and some in front of the 'bus, and the march to the gallows, about three-quarters of a mile distant, was commenced. It took some fifteen minutes to reach the gallows. Up to this time the boys had a faint hope that they would still be saved by the Governor, but the sight of the gibbet drove hope from their breasts, and they looked on the instruments of death with blanched faces.

ASCENDING THE SCAFFOLD.

It is impossible to picture the when the scaffold was reached. There were 10,000 swaying people trying for a vantage point as the large 'bus containing the prisoners slowly drove up. Albert was in tears on their arrival. Arm-in-arm with Fathers Anselm and Ignatius, quietly and firmly they ascended the fatal stairs leading to the gallows. Arriving on the scaffold platform, they knelt in prayer, after which they coolly arose and seated themselves, each taking a small crucifix in his hand, while the holy fathers read the death service of the Roman Catholic Church. Both became cool, and looked out upon the vast crowd with undaunted nerve and steady eyes. Five minutes elapsed from the time of ascending the scaffold. Then the boys joined hands in a parting grasp, and the Sheriff removed the steel bracelets. Feeling the freedom of their hands, they each took a copious drink from the hands of Dr. Koch. Then they arose and their limbs were securely pinned. Albert swayed slightly. Edward was firm and immovable, while the priests held their hands and continued to read the last service. Ed, from time to time, moved his feet as if naturally resting. The crucifix was raised to the lips of each, a few parting words of consolation were uttered by the priests, when a small box was placed under the feet of each and the prisoners gave

A LAST FAREWELL SHAKE

to those on the platform. The boys at this moment were asked if they had anything say, when they replied, in a low tone voice, "Nothing; only that our last confession is true." The black caps were then drawn over their heads and the ropes adjusted around their necks, when, at 2:20, a drop fell. Edward's neck was broken, and he died instantly, but Albert struggled violently, and lived for twenty-nine minutes.

Sheriff Toel showed wonderful nerve throughout the trying ordeal, and performed his sad duty to perfection. As soon as the boys were known to be dead their bodies were delivered to their mother at her residence in Maryville, where they will remain until Saturday, when they will be buried beside their murdered father on the Talbot farm.

THEIR LAST LETTERS.

JULY 22, 1881.—Have mercy on me for my dear old mother's sake, for I am punished innocent and have got to die. My mother has spent her money, and she is now left alone in the world to die. Yours truly,

CHARLES TALBOTT.

DEAR FRIENDS: I have been in custody for a long time, and all the officers have been very kind to me—one in particular, George Dearing. He is one of the finest gentlemen I ever met. I am in a bad situation at present, and have been misrepresented and misjudged from the beginning, and I am innocent of the crime I have to suffer for. But then people have to have their misfortunes in this world, and have to put up with them the best they can. All I hate in this world is that there is no one to care for my mother, and she is without any one to protect her; and I must say that some day the true facts will come to light in this case, and then I hope capital punishment will be abolished.

ALBERT P. TALBOTT.