TWO MURDERERS LYNCHED

A Mob Takes Winner and Nelson from Jail and Hangs Them.

LEXINGTON, Mo., Dec. 7.—About 1 o'clock this morning a large mob of men from Ray County came into town for the purpose of lynching Jesse Winner and James Nelson, who were confined here on the charge of murdering Mrs. Winner and her two babies, near Richmond, Mo., Oct. 25. They broke into the jail with little difficulty, and speedily accomplished their object of meting out punishment to the alleged murderers.

Lon Lackey, who had also been in jail here, under a charge of complicity in the murder, was taken back to Richmond Saturday.

The mob was composed of 250 men. They overpowered the jailer and his guards and demanded the keys to the cell that Nelson and Winner were locked in, but were refused. The doors were then battered down, and the prisoners tied and led out. The leader of the mob was asked where he was going to hang them, and he said that they were going to Ray County, so that Lafayette would not have to bear the expense of burying them. Winner came out trembling with fear. Nelson said not a word, but clearly showed that he was not afraid. Both men pleaded with the mob for their lives and asserted their innocence.

The New York Times

Published: December 8, 1896 Copyright © The New York Times