

TESTIMONY AT CORONER'S INQUEST IN KILLING OF POLICEMAN MARTIN

Testimony taken at the inquest over the dead body of Hosea Martin at Laurens, S. C., Dec. 15, 1921:

Columbus L. Owens being duly sworn says: I am chief of rural police, Laurens County, S. C. T. D. Abrams last night informed me that he had information that Luther Timmons of Clinton was coming through with whiskey. T. D. Abrams, J. T. Crews and Hosea Martin went to bridge over Little River on the Greenville-Laurens road. Bob Wham and myself went to Barksdale Station. We put our car in the road that leads from Barksdale to Watts Mill. A car passed in a short while. I recognized Luther Timmons in the car. There was another man with him. We watched the car for about a mile. It left Laurens road and went road that leads by Trinity Church. I came to Laurens went up Princeton Road. Timmons got to Hill or Madden Station road ahead of me. This was about eight or nine o'clock. I followed the car to Madden Station. Could not gain on car. I knew of road leading from Boyds Cross Road to Clinton. I came back to town, notified Mr. Abrams that car had gone toward Madden Station. Mr. Wham

and I went Clinton road, turned up by Mr. Ferguson and went into road that leads from Boyds Cross Road to Clinton. We followed that road until we met the car, which was the same car we saw at Barksdale. Mr. Abrams and Mr. Crews were in front of me at the time. Their car stopped just before meeting Timmons car. Crews got out of car and went in front of his car. Hosea Martin was out on right side of car, passed to the rear and left of their car, stopped about left fender of car. I saw a flash and heard report of pistol shot, said shot came from Timmons' car. Saw two men—Timmons and another whom I later learned was Monroe Willard. Timmons' car was going east and the pistol flash was on left hand in the Timmons car. Two shots were fired out of the Timmons car. Immediately I saw Hosea Martin drop to his knees, falling. Timmons' car turned to left between myself and Hosea Martin. I saw flash of pistol on ground at the place I saw Hosea Martin drop. One shot came from where Mr. Martin was at. Timmons' car passed to my right. As Timmons' car passed to my right Chief Crews shot. When he shot I

stopped my car, turned around and followed Timmons' car. About two miles down the road I picked up keg of whiskey lying near the rut in road. Afterwards located same car at filling station at Clinton just below depot—Stanton Filling Station. No one was in car when found. Examined car, found bullet hole. Casing off left rear wheel. Luther Timmons was driving car which was a Ford. Hosea Martin was walking around car when first shot was fired. Hosea Martin was in about four feet of Timmons car when shot was fired. Timmons car when shot was fired. Hosea Martin was near his car fender. The car passed close to Martin car, probably hitting it as it passed. No words were passed at time car came up that I heard.

Dr. Hays sworn—Read his certificate.

Jas. T. Crews being duly sworn says: He is chief police of the City of Laurens. Had information from Mr. Abrams that whiskey was coming through—afterwards learned car had gone another route. We went toward Clinton in Hosea Martin's car. Hosea Martin, Abrams and myself in the car. Went out road toward Lisbon. Met car. Mr. Abrams says "There they are." I jumped out of car, so did Mr. Martin. The Timmons car was driving pretty fast, but did not check up, I said "There they come, head them." They went around Mr. Abrams car, I hollowed for car to halt—they seemed to go faster, just as they passed around Mr. Abrams' car the shooting commenced. When shot was fired Mr. Martin sank to his knees. Thinking he had stumbled I went by him. I did not recognize people in the car just at the time, but when light was flashed in their faces, I recognized Monroe Willard. Hosea Martin says the man shot me from the car. We picked him up, carried him to Clinton Hospital. Mr. Martin says he was going to die and asked me to care for his children—send them to the orphanage. He said he was going to die and he never changed from that belief. It was only 10 or 15 minutes from time he was shot until he made this statement. He was about dead when we got to hospital. The shot came from the left hand side of the Timmons car. Mr. Abrams called on Hosea Martin, and myself to help him capture the car that was hauling whiskey. No attempt was made by man on right to prevent shooting. The car was moving fast. This happened near Lisbon in Laurens county. Have had trouble with Monroe Willard before, had him up for speeding. Had been informed he was hauling whiskey.

JAS. T. CREWS.

T. D. Abrams, duly sworn, says: He is a rural policeman for Laurens county, S. C. On night of Dec. 14th, 1921, he called on officers of the City of Laurens for assistance. I had information that Luther Timmons had gone to mountains for whiskey. Went to police headquarters, saw Hosea Martin, who called Chief Crews. Stated case—asked them to help capture Timmons car. We went to River bridge. Other officers went to Barksdale Station. Officers returned, asked if car had passed—was informed by C. L. Owens that car had gone by Madden Station. I suggested that we go down to Clinton road to cut them off. Mr. Martin, Crews and myself went one road, Owens and Wham went another road—the roads we traveled come together near North Creek—all went together toward Lisbon near A. R. Holmes we met the car. We recognized Luther Timmons driving car and Monroe Willard with him. I told officers "There they come, that's Timmons and Willard." I pulled to one side a little, Martin Crews and Wham got out before I did. As soon as they got out of car the shooting began. I got out of car. Owens and Wham were behind me—back of my car. The Timmons car went between the car of Owens and my car. Timmons car went out into field passing Owens car. The Owens car following. Hosea Martin was sitting on ground, said he was shot. Did not see first part of shooting, saw the latter part of the shooting. Some 6 or 7 shots were fired. Hosea Martin says they shot me from the Timmons car. In about 10 or 15 minutes Hosea Martin said he was going to die, asked Mr. Crews to look after his children. He never changed his opinion as to this fact that he was going to die. Saw Timmons and Willard this morning at police headquarters at Clinton who were under arrest. This was about 11 o'clock in the night of Dec. 14, 1921. I saw the same car this morning, saw one bullet hole in back of car and one casing of wheel. We seized the car. I do not know which of the men in the car did the shooting. The car belonged to Luther Timmons. Monroe Willard, according to information, and also Luther Timmons have been dealing in whiskey for some time.

T. D. ABRAMS.

S. C. Reid, sworn, says: He is sheriff of Laurens county. Was not present at shooting. Had information about 12:30 o'clock last night from C. L. Owens at Clinton that Hosea Martin was killed tonight, and that Luther Timmons and Monroe Willard had done the killing. He asked me to come to Clinton and he thought we could capture them. Got my deputy, H. F. Owings, went to Clinton. Met Owens, Abrams and Chief Mason at Clinton in alley leading from police station. This was about 1 o'clock. Abrams, Wham and H. F. Owings got in car, went to where shooting took place to track car. Other officers stayed around in Clinton. C. O. Glenn, Mr. Nabors and myself went down to King Stroud's house at Clinton Mill. Mrs. Stroud said her husband had stepped out. She stated that Timmons and Willard were there about 12 o'clock. We went to Mr. Timmons' house and asked for Luther. This was about 4 o'clock. He said he had been there but was gone. We went to where Luther Timmons slept; sent for C. L. Owens. I searched Timmons and Willard's rooms, but did not find them. We went to Tom Leake's room. Leake said the boys were not there, but have talked with them since he had saw me. He offered his assistance. Tom Leake left in his car and in about 3-4 of an hour he brought Timmons and Willard to us at police station at Clinton. We were discussing the killing. Mr. Mason says, "You have not realized the seriousness of the offense committed." I says, "No you have not, several little children are

made orphans." Willard said, "Sometimes officers get too careless." Mr. Timmons seemed to regret the affair more so than Willard. Willard seemed to be under influence of whiskey. S. C. REID.

Verdict of Coroner's Jury
That Hosea Martin, the deceased, came to his death by gunshot wound at the hands of Luther Timmons and Monroe Willard.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
Notice is hereby given that the next Annual Meeting of the County Board of Commissioners of Laurens County, S. C., will be held at Laurens Court House, S. C., at the Supervisor's office on Thursday after the first Monday of January, 1922, being the 6th day of the month, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon.

All persons holding claims or demands of any kind against the County, not previously presented to the Board, are hereby notified and required to file same with the Clerk of the Board on or before the first day of January, so that they may be ordered to be paid at the annual meeting, as provided by law.
Done at Laurens, S. C., December 8th, 1921.
J. D. MOCK,
Clerk.

LAND SURVEYING

I will be in a position from now on through the fall and winter months to do your surveying. Surveying is tiresome and expensive work, so why not have it done accurately now and not have to do it over.

B. R. T. TODD


P. O.—Barksdale, S. C. Phone—Laurens 846

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JUST TRY IT AND SEE how much better you feel in the morning. That "lousy" headache, tired, don't-know-what's-the-matter feeling will be gone—you'll feel fine.

TROUBLE IS, your system is clogged with a lot of impurities that your over-worked digestive and eliminative organs can't get rid of. Pills, oil, salts, cathartics and ordinary laxatives, and purges only force the bowels and prod the liver.

Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) acts on the stomach, liver, bowels and even kidneys, not forcing, but toning and strengthening these organs. The result is prompt relief and real, lasting benefit. Make the test. Nature's Remedy will act promptly, thoroughly, yet so mildly, so gently, that you will think nature herself has come to the rescue and is doing the work.

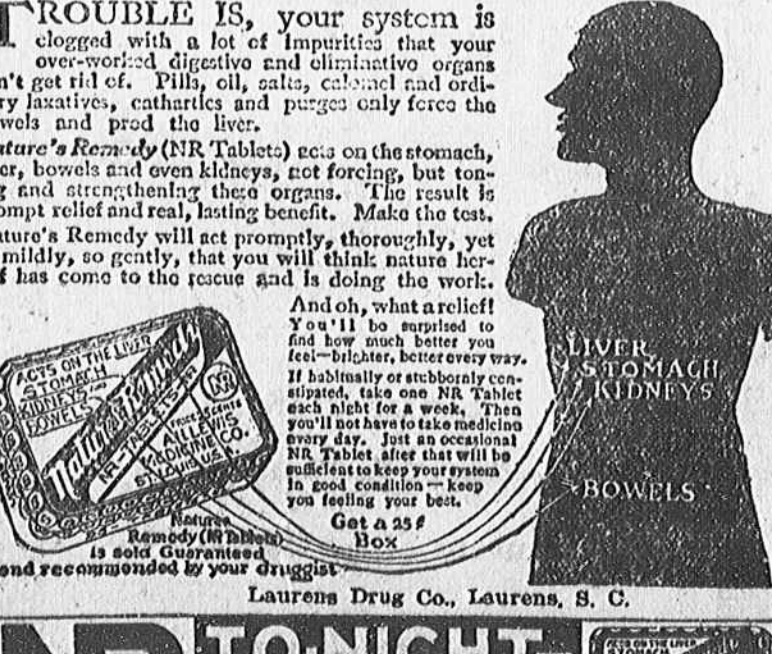
And oh, what a relief! You'll be surprised to find how much better you feel—brighter, better every way. If habitually or stubbornly constipated, take one NR Tablet each night for a week. Then you'll not have to take medicine every day. Just an occasional NR Tablet after that will be sufficient to keep your system in good condition—keep you feeling your best.

Get a 25¢ Box

Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) is sold Guaranteed and recommended by your druggist.

Laurens Drug Co., Laurens, S. C.

NR TO-NIGHT—Tomorrow Alright
Get a 25¢ BOX



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A HAPPY CHRISTMAS

We wish to extend our wishes for a Happy Christmas to all of our friends and customers.

We appreciate the business that has been given us during the past year and hope to warrant a continued patronage during the year to come.

During the remaining days before Christmas, remember that we have a line of useful presents that every man will appreciate. Come in and let us help you solve the Gift Problem.

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RECEIVER'S SALE
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Appointed by the courts as receiver for the Fleming Brothers' jewelry business, I am offering for retail sale, the entire stock of jewelry of this firm.

All prices have been marked down and everything will go in the sale at 25 per cent discount.

This is an opportunity to buy your Christmas presents at greatly reduced prices. Come in and inspect the line before others get the Bargains.

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R. FLEMING JONES, Receiver