

## FATAL FIGHT IN COOPERSTOWN.

### DRUNKEN TRANSIENTS START ROW WHICH ENDS IN DEATH.

The Sentinel gives the following account of the murder which was committed at Cooperstown, Sept. 16:

During the early hours of last Sunday morning Cooperstown was the scene of a brutal murder, committed almost within sight of the police officers, but unknown to anyone except the actual participants, and the horrible truth was not known until the dead man was discovered at about 8 o'clock Sunday morning by an employee of the Blackwell lumber yard who notified Mr. Blackwell and who in turn notified the authorities.

The rain of Friday stopped thrashing and a large number of transients came to town Saturday for the usual celebration, many of whom got drunk. It seems that Corbett, the murdered man, was a bootlegger and had supplied a lot of whisky to the crowd, and of which he also drank quite freely, and a crowd of eight or ten remained on the street after the closing hour. The officers, Marshall Christianson and Nightwatch Rood, realizing that the crowd needed watching, kept tab on them and when they did not go to bed at 12 o'clock intercepted them at the corner of the Retzlaff building, commonly known as the old Union house, and ordered them to go to bed. The gang went down the street toward the track, apparently to seek lodging in box cars, but engaged in a fight which was finally confined to but two, Corbett and Smith, the others dispersing in their drunken imbecility without a thought of the serious outcome of the debauch. However, it seems that the fight was noticed by a couple of the others who were not so intoxicated as most of them were and they remember enough to indicate the guilty party, and Frank Smith, who claims Newark, N. J., as his home, is under arrest for the murder.

Corbett was only 22 years of age and was a son of Ed Corbett, a special policeman of the Minneapolis police force, and a brother-in-law of Perry Walker, the old head hall

The officers got to work early on the case and all the members of the crowd seen by the marshal and the night watch that could be found were rounded up Sunday forenoon and held, and Coroner Westley and States Attorney Gladstone began an inquest, J. H. McDermott, W. D. Hartman and P. A. Melgard being sworn as jurors.

The verdict of the coroner's jury is as follows: "That the said Eddie Corbett, alias Thos. Farrell, on the sixteenth day of September, A. D. 1906, in the Village of Cooperstown, Griggs county, N. D., came to his death by a stab wound below the sixth rib on the left side in a direction upward the backward, inflicted by a sharp instrument in the hands of a person known by the name of Frank Smith, with felonious intent."

A warrant was immediately issued by Coroner Westley and Smith was placed under arrest. The hour being late (after nine o'clock Monday evening) when the jury finished their work, Smith was not brought before a justice until nine o'clock Tuesday morning, when he was taken before Justice Hearick for hearing. He asked for an attorney and Will H. Carleton was called, but after an adjournment until Wednesday morning, Mr. Carleton decided that he could not be the defendant's attorney. The case was called Thursday morning and the defendant still having no attorney the case was adjourned until 9 o'clock this morning (Thursday) when it is to be held.

Three witnesses for the state are also held.

The body of the dead man was embalmed and shipped to Minneapolis Tuesday, accompanied by a brother of the deceased who arrived here from Minot.

### TAKEN UP.

Came to my place, Sept. 15, 1906, 4 black horses, 1 brown and 1 bay. Three of them had halters on. They are all young animals.

A. M. Sinclair, Hannaford, N. D.  
Sec. 33-144-59.

F. W. Soule, the eyesight specialist, will be at Hannaford Hotel again Thursday, Sept. 27, one day only, prepared to examine defective eyes and fit glasses when needed.