

LIVELY MAN HUNT IN SOUTH CAMDEN

Negro Chased Into a Swamp and Captured by Officer at the Point of a Revolver

After an exciting man hunt of nearly three hours, in which Policemen Cornog, Climes and Snow and about two hundred men and boys participated, William Willis, colored, aged 20 years, of 627 Chestnut street, Camden, was captured at the point of a revolver by Policeman Cornog, in the Line Ditch swamps, near Tenth and Lemon streets, yesterday afternoon. He was taken to the city jail, charged with assaulting Florence Stokes, aged 16 years, of 707 Vanhook street.

While Policeman Snow was nearing Eighth and Vanhook streets he was startled by the cries of a girl for help. When he reached Eighth street he looked in the direction of the swamp and saw the negro in the act of dragging the girl into the bushes. Snow started for the negro, who fled into the swamp. Snow followed and fired several shots at him, but he eluded the officer.

Policemen Cornog and Climes were attracted by the shooting and joined in the chase. The news spread like wildfire, and a posse of citizens was soon organized. They covered every exit from the swamp. Two hours later the negro made an attempt to get out of the swamp, but was seen by Cornog. The officer called on him to surrender, but Willis turned back to the swamp, while Cornog followed and emptied his revolver at him. The policeman continued plowing through the mud and slime and an hour later came across the negro. He was armed with a club and threatened to kill the officer. As Cornog advanced toward him the fellow started to jump to a hummock a few feet away, but missed his footing and fell in the mire.

After Cornog placed Willis under arrest he took the negro from the swamp by a circuitous route, because of the threats of lynching made by the posse.