KILLS YOUNG WOMAN

Youth Confesses Murder at South Cumberland, Md.

TELLS DETAILS OF CRIME

Choked Victim, Then Cut Her Throat, Following Quarrel.

BODY IS FOUND ON COMMONS

Mrs. Alice B. Litten, Aged Seventeen, Had Been Married, But Lived With Husband Only One Day.

MRS. ALICE BROWN LITTEN.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

CUMBERLAND, Md., June 23.—Harry B. Noland at the Allegany county jail last midnight confessed to the murder of Mrs. Alice Brown Litten, seventeen years old, whose body was found early yesterday morning on the commons near the Western Maryland railway station in South Cumberland, used by the children as a playground. The confession was made in the presence of State's Attorney David A. Robb, Sheriff Noah Hendley, Deputy Sheriff Walter Clay, Dr. Thomas W. Koon, Charles W. Donnelly and Charles H. Shaw, a stenographer.

After the confession was secured it was typewritten, Noland in the meantime returning to his cell. When the typewritten copy was later read to him in the sheriff's office, to which he was again brought, he said it was correct and he signed it in the presence of the same persons that had heard the confession.

State's Attorney Robb, Sheriff Hendley, Deputy Sheriffs Clay and Corfield and Dr. Koon had worked all day on the case and got together from witnesses facts which were afterward corroborated by Noland's confession. These facts had been presented to him in the evening, but he still declared his innocence until he was told the officers had his bloody shirt, which he had hidden under the bed at his home, and that they had witnesses who saw him come out of the clump of trees where the crime had been committed shortly after the time of the murder, and others who saw him at the Baltimore and Ohio Railway Young Men's Christian Association, in South Cumberland.

At this juncture Noland gave in and informed Mr. Robb he would tell him of the affair. His confession was listened to attentively, and as he stated that the young woman had attempted to hit him with stones, and had threatened his life, the officers went to the scene of the murder and found the stones as described by Noland. Going back to the jail last night Noland was brought into the sheriff's office, introduced to those present and informed that a stenographer was there to take down his statements to be used against him. He was further told that he could be offered nothing to induce him to make the confession, that no threats would be used, and he was then asked to tell the story of the crime.

Only Eighteen Years Old.

Noland is but eighteen years of age. He is a fine specimen of youth, with long golden hair, an open face and of imposing stature, being 6 feet 2 inches tall. He weighs 160 pounds. In a clear voice he told of going to the Brown home early in the evening, where he saw Alice and her child; that the mother, brothers, Loring Barringer, his friend, who is with him in jail as a witness, and Helen Lowery came in later; that they went out and got some beer and whisky, which was taken to the house; that the girls went out on the hill, but returned later and were angry because they had been drinking.

He detailed the affairs of the evening, and told of the mother and others going upstairs to retire, and of a quarrel which he had with Alice before going out. He said that they quarreled out near the fence, and the woman threatened his life; that they went over in the clump of trees where the crime was committed; that he seated himself on the ground, and when he mentioned another girl's name Alice became furious and started to strike him with stones.

Noland told all in a quiet even manner. He was entirely self-possessed and cool and said that he then jumped up, grabbed her and choked her until she fell to the ground, when he took the knife and cut her throat twice, waited until "the last breath left her," then placed the knife on her breast and walked out from the trees to Virginia avenue, going up to the Baltimore and Ohio Young Men's Christian Association. He stated he passed a man on the road, and another riding. He went to the Young Men's Christian Association with the intention of washing up, but later decided to go home and do that. He retired and got up yesterday morning and washed himself, shortly afterward meeting the officers who arrested him. He signified his willingness to sign the confession, which he did with a firm hand about one hour after he made it.

Officers Do Good Work.

The officers of the law did remarkably quick work in running down the crime and no attempt was made to resort to "third degree" methods. State's Attorney Robb was the only person who questioned Noland during the confession.

Noland was very cool. He discussed other topics after making the confession. It is claimed that Noland has been addicted to the use of drugs. Although a youth, he has been drinking whisky, which, it seems, he has had no trouble in obtaining. Frequently he would mix the liquor with laudanum, it is said.

Yesterday all day Noland stoutly maintained his innocence and declared that the young woman committed suicide.

The victim was a daughter of J. A. Brown and Mary E. Brown, the father being a lather, who had been employed at Hagerstown, and who was summoned home by the tragedy. She has a sister, Belle Brown, and two brothers. She was the wife of Frank Litten, who married her when she was fourteen years of age, her parents giving their written consent. They lived together but one day. There is a son two years old.

Was Jealous of Woman.

The young woman's mother said yesterday that Litten and his wife were about to be reconciled. Noland was very jealous of the woman, and this fact, it is believed, egged him on toward the commission of the crime. Noland some time ago went to Clarksburg to work, but soon returned to Cumberland. He declared yesterday that the young woman said she would commit suicide if he did not return.

Mrs. Litten was of medium height. She had black hair and was quite pretty.

Noland is a son of Joseph W. Noland, a retired Baltimore and Ohio engineer, who lived at 99 Mary street, this city, while the Browns lived on Lexington avenue. The crime was committed within 100 yards of both homes. The section is below the Baltimore and Ohio tracks and within a few yards of the entrance to the Cumberland race grounds.

The coroner's jury this morning at Butler's morgue heard fifteen witnesses. Persons who said they saw Noland coming from the clump of trees after the murder testified, as did Loring Barringer, who identified the little knife with which Noland did the deed as his. He said it dropped out of his pocket four or five days ago and Noland got it. The knife is quite a small one.

The father, mother and other relatives of the dead girl, including Belle Brown, an older sister, who is very attractive, were present at the hearing. The father of the dead girl is very bitter and vows vengeance. Noland will have to remain in jail until October, when the next jury term of court assembles.

STIFF SENTENCES FOR MEMBERS OF MAFIA

Bandits Who Murdered a Captive Held for Ransom Are Severely Dealt With.

Foreign Correspondence of The Star.

MILAN, June 7, 1910.

Punishment has at last been meted out to seven out of ten members of the Sicilian Mafia, who in October, 1905, kidnaped a young university student named Edward Martino, son of a highly esteemed Palermo doctor, and, in default of a ransom, condemned him to a barbarous death.

The principal assassins have been condemned to penal servitude for life with hard labor in the sulphur mines, and the rest have been sent to solitary confinement for periods varying from eight to six years. One of the gang has been for some time in a criminal lunatic asylum. Two others escaped to America.

The judges and the crown prosecutor recently received intimation from the Black Hand Society to the effect that avengers had already been chosen by lot.

When the youth was captured his father wrote a piteous appeal to the band, pointing out that he was a poor man with a large family, and that he had no money wherewith to ransom his son.

"Had you looked at my son's penniless condition and his shabby clothes," he wrote, "you would never have demanded money from his father."

The gang reduced their demand to $400, and when this was not sent they led the youth out and shot him. The murder was committed in the presence of the Mafia council, and lots were cast to determine who should fire the shot. Two men were chosen, and it is one of these who is still at liberty in South America. The body was buried under a heap of stones.

The wife of one of the murderers has been sentenced to seven years' solitary confinement for complicity in the crime.

HERE'S HONESTY, INDEED.

Australian Government Withdraws an Erroneous Advertisement.

Foreign Correspondence of The Star.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., May 21, 1910.

Australia has scored one for honesty. Mr. Batchelor, the federal minister for external affairs, has directed Sir George Reid, the Australian high commissioner in London, to withdraw an advertisement published in England containing a definite statement concerning the number of sheep and the production of wheat in Australia.

The commonwealth statistician reports that the figures are altogether overstated. Mr. Batchelor describes other information published as distinctly exaggerated.

"No good purpose," he says, "can be served by the circulation through official sources of a statement which the most casual reference to statistics proves to be inaccurate."

The Greatest Detective.

From the Atchison Globe.

After a man has known a few jealous women he doesn't marvel much at the cleverness of Sherlock Holmes or Old Sleuth.