

## LURED INTO AN AMBUSH.

### REVENUE OFFICIALS KILLED IN TENNESSEE BY MOONSHINERS.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 7.—Moonshiners led a party of revenue officers into an ambush near Flintville to-day.

S. D. Mather, a Deputy Collector, who lived at Belvidere, was killed.

C. S. Cardwell, General Deputy Collector, who lived in this city, was fatally wounded and died soon after.

J. L. Spurrier, General Deputy Collector of Nashville, was wounded so that it is hardly possible that he can recover. Even if he should he may never be able to walk again, as he was shot between the shoulder blades and is partially paralyzed.

Some days ago Mr. Spurrier, who has been connected with the Internal Revenue Service in the Middle Tennessee District for a number of years, and whose territory covers the entire district, received an anonymous letter concerning some "crooked" brandy, which the letter stated was concealed near Flintville.

Spurrier, who showed the letter to other revenue officers, said that there were about twenty barrels of the brandy, and that it was located ten miles from Flintville, Lincoln County. The letter he received not only stated the point of concealment, but also told how the officer should go in order to find it.

Mr. Spurrier went to Lincoln County and, accompanied by Messrs. Mather and Cardwell, and E. S. Robinson, J. E. Pulver and Mr. Harris, all connected with the Revenue Service, started early this morning in search of the brandy, and also an illicit distillery.

They rode along, not fearing any danger, and had reached and passed some bushes at a point four miles from Flintville when the reports of several guns rang out, and Mr. Mather fell lifeless. Twelve buckshot had entered the back of his head. Mr. Cardwell was shot in the back under the right arm. Mr. Spurrier received a bullet wound in the back.

The other members of the party escaped unhurt. They at once returned the fire, and a bullet from Robinson's gun killed a man named Paptrick, the leader of the moonshiners. The names of the other men in the party, who fled, have not been ascertained.

Messrs. Robinson, Pulver, and Harris at once turned their attention to their fallen comrades. Mr. Mather was beyond all aid. Messrs. Caldwell and Spurrier were suffering greatly, but were conscious. A courier was quickly sent to Flintville with the news and soon a party of officers and citizens left for the scene of the assassination.

Caldwell and Spurrier and the body of Mr. Mather were removed to Flintville, that place being reached about 2:30 o'clock. Mr. Caldwell died half an hour later. He was conscious to the last and gave jewelry and other articles to a friend to be taken to his family.

Mr. Mather leaves a wife and grown daughter and Mr. Caldwell a wife and several children. Mr. Spurrier has a wife and several children living in this city.

Mr. Mather was forty-eight years old. Mr. Caldwell was thirty-seven, and a brother-in-law of Joseph Thompson, Congressman from Kentucky. Mr. Spurrier is forty years old.