

## Early Law Enforcement in Bryan – 1893-1895

Compiled by Bill Page

Bryan – Mayor Clifford ADAMS gave official notice that an election will be held on the first Tuesday in April to choose a city marshal, three aldermen and a city secretary. From Dallas Morning News, 19 Feb.1893, reprinted 18 Feb.1943.

"Bryan...Elder WATSON and Policeman Levy NEAL, both colored, got into a heated political discussion this afternoon. The lie was passed and NEAL struck the preacher. Both were arrested." Galveston Daily News, 1 Nov. 1894, p.4, col.5

Directory ... City officers ... marshall R.M. NALL ... deputy marshall, C.C. SHELBURNE ... (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 15 November 1894, p.10

Curtis SHELBURNE is no respecter of peace disturbers. He will arrest a mule as quick as a man. Tuesday a young mule became very refractory on Main Street, and refused to obey the rein of its rider, whereupon Mr. SHELBURNE jumped up behind him and roweled the beast in the flanks with a pair of sharp spurs until it pitched and balled and was subdued. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 29 November 1894, p.11

D.B. McMORRIESS has been appointed deputy city marshal. He had hardly got his harness on before two Negroes became involved in a row with which of course he interfered and one of the Negroes, Ed AUSTIN, resisted him and was promptly knocked down and subsequently locked up. DeWitt has convinced the boys that he is "on the force." (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 20 December 1894, p.3

City marshal Shelburne and Officer McMORRIESS made fifteen arrests Saturday and Saturday night, filling the cooler several times and emptying it through the bond faucet. The charges were drunkenness, disturbing the peace, fighting, etc. Claude WARD was arrested and turned over to Sheriff NUNN charged with the theft of several bottles of wine from DUNN & DALY. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 27 December 1894, p.3

Bryan, Brazos Co., Tex., Jan. 15 – The city marshal has been authorized by the city council to contract with the commissioners court for the hire of city convicts in the county convict farm at \$7 per month for men and \$5 for women and for children over 12 years of age. Dallas Morning News, 16 January 1895, p.5

The peaceful monotony of existence on Rat Row was relieved by a shooting scrape about 12 o'clock Saturday night. Amos HAWKINS shot twice at Albert GRAVES, both Negroes. As told by colored policeman Levi NEAL, the story is about as follows: HAWKINS was accused of writing notes to GRAVES' wife. GRAVES had some trouble with his wife Saturday and probably chastised her a little. After the show Saturday night GRAVES walked up to HAWKINS and belted him over the head with a piece of a billiard cue. HAWKINS staggered but recovered himself and pulled his gun, firing twice at GRAVES who ran. Levi NEAL ran between them and fired his pistol into

the ground to stop HAWKINS, which he did. Both were arrested, and gave bond. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 28 March 1895, p.3, col.4.

Marshal SHELBURNE arrested a Negro Saturday for disorderly conduct. Two others who interfered were also slapped into the cooler for their officiousness. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 4 July 1895, p.3

At a late hour one night last week the reporter came upon Marshal SHELBURNE in the act of replenishing the calaboose. He had found a pile of drunken Mexicans in the sidewalk in front of EDDLEMAN & DAWSON's shop .... (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 4 July 1895, p.3