

James Sanderson

(- 29 Jun 1864)

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The Murder of Sanderson

Yesterday afternoon, an examination was held before Justice Cull, of the case of Frederick Furst, Chas. Brennan and Daniel Clare, charged with being concerned in the murder of James Sanderson on Wednesday night. It appeared from the evidence that there must have been a scuffle in the house of Sanderson, in which he was killed. One of the witnesses testified to reaching the place just as Sanderson was breathing his last, and also to finding a knife on the floor, which was not bloody. Another witness testified to finding two soldier coats in the house (which Furst has identified since as his) and also a revolver, bearing the appearance of having been used as a club. It appears that the men charged belong to the 14th company, 3d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, and that after the murder Furst ran back to the camp and told what had happened, stating that he had a scuffle with Sanderson, and while they were tussling another soldier, Oscar Moore, stepped up with a knife and stabbed him. It appears from Furst's statement that there were a number of soldiers together, and they got some whisky in Uniontown, but it being strong, Sanderson invited him and Moore to go to his house for water. As soon as they were in the house Sanderson demanded their money when the scuffle ensued, with the above result.

Brent and Clare, it appears, with two others, Taylor and Ferry--were arrested as deserters near Bladensburg, they making their way from the city, and the officers suspecting the two first with being concerned in the affair, were brought over on the charge. Sanderson's sister was unable to recognize Brennan as one of the men in the house by his face, but when he turned his back she immediately asserted that he was one.

The justice held Burst and Brennan for a further hearing on Saturday afternoon, and dismissed Clare.