

LEO FRANK'S ACCUSER SHOT

Jim Conley, Atlanta Negro, Wounded in Attempt at Burglary.

Special to The New York Times.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 17.—Jim Conley, the negro whose testimony was largely responsible for the conviction of Leo Frank for the murder of Mary Phagan, was shot recently while trying to break into an Atlanta store. Conley was only slightly wounded. He admitted the attempt to commit burglary, and is in jail awaiting trial.

Jim Conley was the negro whose testimony was the chief factor in the evidence against Leo M. Frank, who was charged with the murder of Mary Phagan, a 14-year-old factory girl, at Atlanta, on April 26, 1913. Every resource of the courts of this country was tried unsuccessfully to free Frank, and prominent lawyers analyzed the testimony and wrote articles tending to show how the evidence, so far from convicting Frank, seemed to fix the guilt on Conley.

Governor Slaton commuted the sentence of Frank. This decision was made on June 21, 1915. On July 17 an attempt was made on the life of Frank by William Green, a fellow-convict at the prison farm at Milledgeville. Frank's throat was cut, the jugular vein being severed, and he had not recovered from the effects of the attack when the whole country was aroused by his lynching. Twenty-five armed men overpowered the prison guards and warden at 11:30 P. M. on Aug. 16. Frank was then taken on a wild ride to the outskirts of Marietta, 100 miles away, where he was hanged within a stone's throw of the hillside birthplace of Mary Phagan.