FRANK INNOCENT SAYS MAN WHO CLAIMS TO BE MURDER WITNESS

HE WILL TELL WHO COMMITTED CRIME ON ARRIVAL HERE

Makes Statement to Chief of Birmingham Police and Catches Train at Midnight for Atlanta in Company With Detective—Prominent Citizen Slew Girl, He Says, But It Was Not Frank.

By L. W. Friedman.

Birmingham, Ala., October 18.—(Special.)- -A Birmingham man who says he was an eye-witness to the murder of Mary Phagan in Atlanta, and who asserts positively that Leo M. Frank is not guilty, left here at midnight tonight for Atlanta in company with a detective sent to Birmingham by Sheriff Mangum, of Fulton county.

This man, whose name has not been given out here, works in Birmingham, and is a respectable citizen, according to local police officers, to whom he made his statement.

"The guilty man is a prominent citizen of Atlanta," he told Chief Bodeker, of the Birmingham police, "but it is not Leo Frank. I have no interest in the case other than to see that no innocent man hangs for the crime, and I will tell the whole story when I get to Atlanta."

This man told his story to Chief Bodeker Friday, and the chief promptly wired Sheriff Mangum. A detective arrived today, and the man left with him for Atlanta at midnight.

Sheriff Mangum was reached by phone at his home early Sunday morning and stated to a Constitution reporter that he knew nothing about such a man in Birmingham—that he had never heard anything of the case, and had not sent a detective to Birmingham. Mr. Friedman, the man who sends the story to The Constitution, is a reporter for The Birmingham News, and has been for twenty years. He is probably the best known and one of the most highly respected newspaper men in Alabama. The Birmingham News is printing the story.