

# CREEN'S MIND AFFECTED BY FALL FROM BRIDGE

## Many Believe Frank's Assail- ant Insane—He Has Kill- ed Two Men.

Columbus, Ga., July 18.—(Special.)—Will Creen, who cut Leo Frank's throat at the state farm last night, has had an adventurous and unusual career. He had killed two men before attacking Frank, and is now under life sentence.

Creen is about 40 years of age, and is married, his wife now residing in Columbus. As a stonemason he has worked in and around this city for a good many years. He was one of the workmen on the new Dillingham street bridge across the Chattahoochee river here, and fell from the bridge into the river, narrowly escaping death. It is believed that he has not been altogether sound mentally since his fall from the bridge.

Creen's first man was Tobe Reese, whom he killed in a saloon fight. Reese is said to have run amuck and Creen ran behind the cash register for refuge. The other fired at him, the bullet striking the register, and then Creen dropped him with a well aimed shot from behind the register. He was tried and was acquitted on the ground of self-defense.

Afterwards Creen shot Sam Hudson in a fight, and while under indictment for this, on a charge of assault with intent to murder, killed Otis Kitchens on March 9, 1913. Creen cursed a number of boys in the street who laughed at him as he passed by in his buggy. Kitchens, an insurance man, who was passing along, reproved him for his words. Creen went to his home, secured a pistol, returned and shot Kitchens between the eyes, killing him. Upon his arrest Creen acted queerly, and his attorneys claimed that he was insane. Dr. Jones, an expert from the state insane asylum at Milledgeville, was called to Columbus, and examined the prisoner, reaching the decision that he was feigning insanity. At the same time it was felt that Creen was not altogether sound mentally, and under an agreement between the solicitor general and his attorneys, he was given a life sentence.

Mrs. Creen was much affected when she heard of her husband's deed, and expressed the opinion that he is crazy. She said that last June, when she visited him, he seemed to have lost his mind and was apparently unable to talk with her in a connected manner.