

MURDER ENDED A BARROOM BRAWL

Ex-Policeman Daniel Lee, of
Camden, Shot by Edward
T. Melson.

DRINK AND "FIGHT" TALK

The Men Were Boon Companions,
But They Quarreled, and One
Shot the Other—The
Hearing.

Ex-Policeman Daniel Lee, of 201 Sycamore street, Camden, was shot while standing at the bar in George Dillmore's saloon, at Fourth street and Kaighn avenue, about 3 o'clock yesterday morning. The fatal shot was fired by Edward T. Melson, an oysterman, of 220 Mount Vernon street, who was placed under arrest and now occupies cell No. 35 in the county jail. The murder is said to be the result of an old grudge dating back to the time Lee and Melson were oystering together.

Several men were in the saloon drinking when Melson entered. He sang several songs. George Dillmore, Jr., who was tending bar, and George Emely, a motorman, testified at the hearing before Mayor Westcott yesterday that Melson made some remark to Lee which they did not hear, but which caused Lee to reply:

"I am better than any one in the Melson family."

"I don't know that you are," answered Melson.

"We won't talk about that now, let's drop it and have another drink," said Lee. In a pacifying tone when he saw that Melson was getting angry.

THE FATAL QUARREL.

"I ain't going to leave you, Danny," was the next remark made by Melson and then pulling out a .38-calibre revolver from his pocket he fired point blank at Lee before anyone realized his intentions. Lee staggered toward the door and fell. Melson turned the revolver toward George Emely and snapped the trigger. Then he placed the weapon under the ear of James Burrows and again pulled the trigger, but the cartridge did not explode. By this time young Dillmore had got out in front of the bar and knocked the revolver from Melson's hand.

A police whistle was blown and Officers Dall and Painter answered the summons none too soon. Lee and Melson were put into a patrol wagon and taken to the Cooper Hospital. Lee died as he was being carried into the Hospital. Melson's injuries were not of a serious nature and he was locked up in the City Hall. He made a statement to Assistant Prosecutor Carson that he had been assaulted by the men in the bar room and shot Lee in self-defense.

WITNESSES HELD.

The following were held in their own recognizance as witnesses: George Emely, George Dillmore, Jr., Eli Morgan, Charles Morgan, George Martin and James Burrows. They were examined privately by Mayor Westcott, and all told substantially the same story.

An autopsy, held by County Physician Jones, Coroner Lippincott and Dr. Hires, of the Cooper Hospital, showed that the bullet that killed Lee entered his left breast penetrating the lung and came out in the back. An inquest will be held Monday afternoon next.