

Bessie Graham and Lizzie
Roberts arrested, Charged
With the Murder of Ethel
Woody at Hot Springs

After Preliminary Trial, Both
Committed to Jail Without
Bond

In the case of state vs Bessie
Graham charged with the murder
of Ethel Woody at Hot Springs
on last Friday the defendant was
given a preliminary hearing on
Tuesday before Esq. Barnett
Forner. The evidence of the
state tended to show that the de-
fendant had shot four shots at the
deceased who afterwards went
down to the river and was drown-
ed. Afterwards, Monday, the
Woody girl was found in the riv-
er and a coroner's inquest was
held later. The defendant was
arrested on a charge of murder
and brought to jail where she has
since been awaiting trial. Very
little evidence was introduced.
The leading witness was a little
eight year old girl who swore to
two or three different stories. The
truth about it is that the little
girl appeared not to know the
facts. During the course of this
trial there was evidence to the
effect that one Lizzie Roberts was
with the defendant on the day and
at the time of the alleged homi-
cide and that she pursued the
Woody girl with a stick; that
when they were at the river bank
the Roberts woman struck her
with the stick and that she fell
into the river and floated off. The
same witness, the little girl, stat-
ed that the Roberts woman struck
her with a stick and after she
had pulled off her slippers and
stockings she waded out into the
river, got on a rock, slipped off
and that as she floated off down
the river with her eyes shut she
waived at her and her little sister
and told them good bye. At this
point of the testimony Lizzie Ro-
berts who had been subpoenaed
as a witness against the Graham
woman was ordered under cus-
tody. At the close of the evi-
dence on behalf of the state the
attorneys for the defendant mov-
ed to dismiss but stated that they
would not insist on the motion if
the state would put up sufficient
evidence to warrant the justice in
binding the defendant. They in-
sisted that there should be more

evidence or a dismissal of the
case but the justice held that the
state had shown probable cause
and remanded the defendant to
jail without bond. There was no
trial as to Lizzie Roberts. She
was not allowed bond.

The state was represented by
Attorney G. M. Pritchard and the
defendant, Graham, was repre-
sented by Messrs. Guy V. Ro-
berts, James E. Rector and E.
Zeph Ray. The defendant Ro-
berts was represented by attor-
ney P. A. McElroy. 8/14/14

