The Bakersfield Californian
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VICTIM OF BATTLE AT CAMPS HERE MAY DIE

Version of Stabbing Affray Is Given by Mrs. Nora Lacey.

The condition of Mrs. Lillian Harrison who was stabbed several times in the breast and abdomen Monday afternoon in a fight in a camp about three miles from this city, is still considered very serious but the physicians who are attending her at the county hospital have announced that there is a chance of recovery.

Edgar Harrison, the husband of the woman, who was also badly cut in the mix-up, is being held at the county jail. His injuries are being attended by the county physician, and his condition is improving satisfactorily.

H. Lacey and his wife, Mrs. Nora Lacey, are both charged with assault with a deadly weapon. The authorities have not had them arraigned, as they are waiting to see how the victim of the battle improves. If the woman should die, Lacey, his wife and Harrison will be charged with murder.

Mrs. Lacey, who with the two men is confined in the county jail, is a frail little woman who looks as though life had not always given her the best of everything. Although she is only 46 years of age, her hair is streaked with gray, her shoulders are bent with the troubles she has had to bear, and her hands are hard and cracked from heavy work.

This poor little woman has given the authorities most of the real plausible information with which they have been working. In her story, she claims that Lacey and Harrison came to the camp from Bakersfield late Monday afternoon in a drunken condition. They were quarreling when they arrived, and before many minutes had passed blows were exchanged.

One of the men is alleged to have drawn a knife. Then Mrs. Harrison, according to Mrs. Lacey's story, attempted to interfere to protect her husband, and she was stabbed several times by Lacey.

At the county detention home, three fair haired children with beautiful big brown eyes are crying for their mother. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, and they can't understand why they should be held in captivity when they are so accustomed to playing under the shady trees or beside the cool creek where their parents have had their camp home.

The oldest child, Alta, a girl of 9, tries hard to comfort her little sister, Hallie who is 5 years old, and her little brother, Wesley, aged 7, but in vain. They are continually searching for a sweet, gentle face which never appears. They haven't been told that their mother lies almost at death's door at the county hospital.