

# THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of the Eight Thousand Colored People in Omaha and Vicinity, and to the Good of the Community

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\$1.00 a Year. 5c a Copy.

Omaha, Nebraska, July 17, 1915

Volume I. Number 3

## MAJOR LYNCH TAKES ISSUE WITH CHICAGO TRIBUNE

### Two Classes Commercialize the Race Problem.

Chicago, Ill.—Thousands of the older generation of people, throughout the country, will remember the Hon. John R. Lynch, as a part of the south's "Reconstruction" period; as a member of Congress, for several terms, from the state of Mississippi; as the temporary chairman of a National Republican convention held in Chicago, many years ago; as a Republican leader of his home state, Mississippi, for many years, and finally, as a major of the United States army until placed upon the retired list a year or two ago. Few men living are so thoroughly capable and such an authority on the subjects discussed in the following communication to the Chicago Daily Tribune, as is Major Lynch:

Speaking of the photoplay called "The Birth of a Nation," the Tribune says:

"It is in all essential episodes grounded on historical fact, representing the struggles of that terrible time in the south when the whites, back from war, saw their government taken over by the newly enfranchised blacks controlled by the northern carpetbaggers. What happened with the Negro ascendant and how the white re-established his supremacy is shown with obvious natural sympathy for the south, and no doubt with such heightening of effect as dramatic art has a right to employ. It presents what the south says and the north of our day, at least, is inclined to believe to be the truth."

Exactly the reverse of this is true, for there never was a time when any one of the state governments of the south was taken over by the newly enfranchised blacks controlled by the northern carpetbaggers. That some mistakes were made during the progress of reconstruction will not be denied. How could it be otherwise? The war had just come to an end. Sectional animosity was bitter and intense. The Republican party was looked upon as the enemy of the south. No white man could identify himself with the Republican party at that time in any one of the southern states without running the risk of being socially ostracised and publicly characterized as an enemy to his section, his state, and his race. Notwithstanding these things, not less than 25 per cent of the white men of that section—men who were to the manor born, many of them ex-Confederate soldiers, identified themselves with and became leaders of the Republican party. These, in the main, were the men that the newly enfranchised blacks selected as their leaders and whose leadership they loyally and faithfully followed. I do not hesitate to assert that the reconstructed state governments at the south were the best governments these states ever had before

## Think on These Things

"Smile awhile, for while you smile another smiles—and soon there's miles and miles of smiles, and Life's worth while because you smile."



MAJOR JOHN ROY LYNCH, U. S. A.

or have ever had since. There never was a time when there was actual physical "Negro domination," or even carpetbag domination, in any one of the reconstructed states.

The play to which you refer, instead of being "grounded on historical fact," is grounded on historical misrepresentation, without having a single actual fact as the basis of its existence. It is fiction pure and simple, painted from a diseased and prejudiced imagination, with a false and deceptive background as a basis upon which to stand. Such a play could not be otherwise than mischievous in its inception and dangerous in its results, even if the scenes depicted were a truthful reproduction of actual occurrences. But when it is or ought to be a well known fact that the alleged scenes are pure fabrications with not a single background of truth to support them, their production can hardly be

less than criminal. In the main they are false, slanderous, and malicious. They are calculated and intended to engender and intensify race prejudice and race hatred. In the interest of peace, order, truth, justice, and morality they should be suppressed. No good can come but much harm may result from them. It is, therefore, the duty of the authorities to suppress them, just as they would suppress any other nuisance that is calculated to incite crime and general disorder in the community.

In this connection allow me, as a southern man, to say, and to say whereof I know, that there are just two classes of white people at the south who keep this so-called race problem constantly before the public. The first class is composed of those who commercialize race prejudice simply for the dollars and cents they

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## AMERICAN CIVILIZATION AGAIN IS DISGRACED

### Two Innocent Men Murdered by a Blood-Thirsty Mob—Ponder the Facts.

Macon, Ga., July 9.—The hot-headed spirit of the mob has again besmirched the state of Georgia. Silas Turner, a white planter of Gray, Ga., was found dead on Thursday at his farm home. Immediately, as is always the case, it was concluded that he had been murdered by colored men. A posse was immediately organized, and search was instituted. Colored Americans, of course, were their prey. Not far down the pike road leading to Macon, Will Green and his son, a boy of 17 years, were encountered. Their color was enough to prove their guilt. They were immediately "roped" by the infuriated mob, and notwithstanding their pleadings and protests, they were strung up on the limb of a nearby tree and their bodies ribbed with bullets. Contented with having avenged (?) the murder of their white brother the mob dispersed.

#### Lynch Wrong Man.

According to information received here today, the authorities have made an investigation and positively learned that Green and his son were innocent victims of the mob. It is said that they were at their home miles from the scene of the murder when it occurred. Now suspicion has been directed to John Richey and Thomas Brooks, whose whereabouts on the day of the murder have not been satisfactorily accounted for by the authorities. This information has again aroused the mob spirit, notwithstanding the accepted view that two innocent Americans have been executed by the mob for the alleged murder.

#### Governor Is Not Immune.

At this writing the authorities are undecided on the question as to whether farmer Gray committed suicide or met his death by foul means.

Meanwhile the mob spirit is rampant, and it is feared that if Richey and Brooks are caught they will meet the same fate as did Green and his 17-year-old son.

Verily, Georgia is cursed with the spirit of the mob. Even the Governor of the commonwealth is not immune, as witness the mob's conduct in the case of Governor Slaton on account of commuting the sentence of Frank.

## CHARLES ROSS OPENS OFFICE IN LINCOLN.

Mr. Charles Ross, who was graduated from the law course in the University of Nebraska in June has opened an office in Lincoln. He was for three years guard on the 'varsity football team and three years weight man and high jumper on the 'varsity track team. When Kansas university drew the color line on Ross, Nebraska forced them to yield by threatening to break athletic relations.