The Liberator

Devoted to the Cause of Good Government and the Advancement of the Afro-American.

VOL. III.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., MAY, 1902.

No. 11



SPRING AND FIRST STREETS.

WEBER PIANOS ARE BEST

They cost a little more but last a life time

Bartlett Music Company, 233=235 South Broadway Los Angeles, Cal.

Another Mob Laid Out. Will Richardson Kills Four.

ATLANTA, Ga., May 1.—Four white men and three negroes dead, five white men and one negro wounded, and an entire block of building burned is the result of a conflict that began here early today between the police and blacks. Will Richardson, half Indian and half negro, the owner of a store in McDaniel street, in the suburbs of Pittsburg, and four other negroes, brought on the trouble by resisting arrest and defying the officers of Fulton county and Atlanta. The dead:

Edward Batele, a bailiff of Fulton county.

H. G. Osborne, a policeman of Fulton county.

Thomas Grant, a city policeman.

Edward Crabtree, a city policeman.

Will Richardson, the negro who killed these men.

Milton Rosby, a negro who attempted to escape from a sewer.

An unknown negro killed in a nearby yard.

The wounded:

S. A. Kerlin, beaten by negroes.

W. A. Wright, a county policeman, wounded in the left shoulder.

W. T. Jackson, a street car conductor, wounded in hip.

Owen Heard, a county policeman, wounded in the thigh.

Officer Spreadlin, wounded in the arm.

Shepard Finzer, negro, shot through hand.

The fight between the officers and the negroes occurred in Pittsburg, a negro settlement, directly south of the city limits, on McDaniel street.

WILL RICHARDSON: The killing of four white men by Will Richardson at a colored settlement in the suburbs of Atlanta, Ga., on the 17th shows the deplorable condition that mob law has brought about in the South. In this case Richardson acted just as a white man would or should have done under the circumstances. It was 1:30 o'clock when a crowd of white men knocked at his store and called upon him to

surrender. No warrant was read; the chances are that they had none. As Richardson was a merchant and had committeed no felony, there was no reason for his arrest at that hour of the night. Further, if Richardson had any desire to run off he had ample time to leave before the so-called officers arrived. He was no stranger in the neighborhood, being a merchant, his place of habitation was well known. The object of their visit being to lynch Richardson, 1:30 o'clock at night was chosen as the best time to carry out their unlawful intentions. Richardson was prepared for just such an emergency, and the manner in which he met it meets with the approval of fairminded, law-abiding citizens everywhere. The man Kerlin went out to the colored settlement no doubt looking for trouble and got it, and more-he got his friends into lots of trouble also. This last battle of Atlanta was one of the most remarkable in the history of the country. Think of it. It took one negro with a torch, 2000 white men, not counting the boys, all armed with rifles, and the destruction by fire of a whole row of buildings, all the property of negroes, to dislodge one lone negro, who was quietly working the trigger of a Winchester rifle. Every crack of his trusty rifle was followed by a shriek from some member of the mob. This was so unexpected it so demoralized the mob that Richardson bounded squirrel-like from one cabin to another, each time adding to the demoralization and excitement of the mob by sending a fresh rifle ball into some of its members, without risk to himself. Finally, to save itself the mob appealed to the governor for aid; in the meantime Richardson disappeared; the mob being too busy seeking shelter to bother with him. After the smoke of the battle cleared away a skull and the remains of a rifle were found in one of the burned cabins. These relics are supposed to be the former property of Richardson. No effort is being made, however, to prove it, the mob being happy in the supposition that either it is Richardson's skull or that he has taken up his residence elsewhere. He is not wanted in Atlanta.

HIGH-PRICED LIVES: This attempt by southern mobs to cheapen the lives of negroes by denying them trials

by juries when charged with offenses had the opposite effect in the cases of Will Reynolds of Alabama and Will Richardson of Georgia. In the cases cited above it was the white men's lives that went cheap and negroes' lives that were dear. For his life Reynolds required those of seven white men. Richardson required four for his. These negroes certainly put high value upon their lives. Single-handed they killed eleven lynchers and wounded twentysix and fought fire at the same time. With an army of these kind of boys, Uncle Sam could whip the world. We have contended all along that the lives of negroes could not be cheapened without cheapening those of white men. If white men continue to set the laws of the land at defiance, negroes will do the same. No man ought to surrender to an officer whom he knows cannot or will not protect him from a mob. The officer who attempts to make an arrest under such circumstances, with the knowledge of the situation, is particers criminis, and if he loses his life in the attempt he is simply the victim of his own perfidy. As juries no longer regard mob murders as crimes the only way to punish them is for the intended victims to sell out as dear as possible, when called upon to surrender to an officer who is acting for the mob, which is usually the case in mob-ridden sections. When an officer allows himself to become the tool of a mob he should not be surprised if he pays the penalty of his perfidy. Suspend the law in dealing with a man and it will not be long before he will suspend them in his dealings. The only way to have the laws of the land respected is to enforce them. The man who joins a mob must be taught that he forfeits the protection of the laws he goes out to violate, Mob law is anarchy, and mob sympathizers are anarchists and the sooner the whole tribe is exterminated the longer the nation will live.

Four Atlanta, Ga., policemen learned too late that Will Richardson's cabin was his castle and that he had the manhood to defend it. This thing of arresting negroes and turning them over to mobs is playing out. What was once a pastime for mobs is now becoming certain death. This new plan that is being worked so successfully on Southern mobs is a desperate remedy for a desperate disease. It will cure the disease.

THAT TEXAS HORROR: In the midst of universal sorrow in which Mont Pelee plunged the world when with burning gas she put out the spark of life of 30,000 souls, with 225 miners lying dead in Tennessee, and 100 of her own men, women and children cold in death as the result of a tornado, Texas gives humanity another shock more cruel, more heartless, more fiendish and attended with far more suffering than was experienced by the whole host of those who recently went down to untimely graves amidst the sorrow of weeping world. A negro man charged with assault of some kind and attempted robbery, the charge being so vaguely stated in the dispatches as to leave the reader in doubt as to his crime, if any was committed, was chained to a stake and slowly tortured to death with hot irons and coals of fire. Special trains were run and through trains captured and forced to carry persons who desired to witness or take part in the awful torture. The hand on the dial of the twentieth century civilization was turned back and the dark ages and inquisition, with other tortures that southern mobs have acquired by long study in the arts of torture, were put into practice. White women threw away their human hearts and tried to force their way through the mob in order that they might view the nude writhing form of the tortured negro and inhale the sickening odor of his burning flesh. Morgan was tortured into a confession, then tortured for confessing. Slow and awful as was his suffering and death the mob was disappointed, for his death came too soon. When his head fell forward a wail of sorrow went up from the mob. Then the fight for the ghastly relics ensued. To the credit of the men, they were gallant enough to furnish the ladies with such of the relics as they desired. Oh, the horrible scene! The imagination, though dull, draws a picture that causes the heart to swell, the blood to run slow, language grows dumb, dries up the flood of sympathetic tears and leaves the beholder the victim of a burning thirst for revenge. Thank God, we can have no revenge. It would transform us into a brute also. Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord; I

Morgan surrendered to the officers of the law. They surrendered him to the mob to be burned alive. He pleaded to

the mob in vain to shoot him. He could have made them glad to shoot him, but he let the opportunity slip. His cries from the stake told the negroes in tones louder than thunder, "Never surrender to officers in mob-ridden sections when charged with crime. Make them shoot you as Reynolds and Richardson did and save the country from mob outrages. We have said before that "the brute who assaults a woman is as brutal as the mob that burns him at the stake." If Morgan was guilty he was an angel besides those who put him to death. If he was guilty he would have been punished to the full extent of the law as he deserved. If guilty he was spurred on by an insane desire for that which was not his. Color prejudice had abridged his rights. curtailed his opportunities to acquire a Christian education, had denied to him the attributes of man. Because his skin was black society made him an outcast, a thing with no rights that white men are bound to respect. It conspired to make him the brute that it was claimed he was. He was a negro and had no more rights to lofty aspirations than an educated, refined negro woman had to desire admission into the Federation of Women's Clubs. If guilty, society made a success. To the white men who murdered him society denied no opportunity for mental and moral development, withheld from them no good thing; churches, schools, lectures, theaters and all places of amusement were opened to them. Every ambition was petted, every aspiration encouraged. To them no avenue was closed. Compare Morgan's crime and opportunities with theirs and choose between them. Their deed was born of disregard for God and man, law, order and decency, a savage thirst for human blood, a fiendish desire to inflict untold misery upon their fellow man that they might revel in the music of his dying groans.

THE WHITE PRESS of the country has had nothing to say as far as we have learned. In encouraging mobs they have wrought greater than they know. Either they have no words with which to express their disgust and condemnation, or they are afraid of the monster of their making. Oh, no, the press is silent; the church and state are as silent as the grave. The South is lighting a torch that will burn more people than all the volcanic erup-

tions ever did since the world began. "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap."

HEREDITY AND CRIME.

NEW YORK, May 22.—Startling statistics on criminalogy have been presented at the annual convention of the New York County W. C. T. U. One of the delegates presented a statement to the effect that a woman of criminal tendencies, whose name was not made public for obvious reasons, died in 1827.

"Her descendants have been traced," continued the speaker. "Seven hundred were criminals convicted at least once; thirty-seven were murderers and were executed for their crimes."

"This family," the speaker concluded, "has cost the nation \$3,000,000 for trails and executions."

If the descendants of one lawless dissolate woman cost the country \$3,-000,000 what will the descendants of the 125,000 persons who have taken part in lynching in this country in the past fifteen years cost the nation? Great heavens! Think of the white women and girls who have witnessed the burning of nude negro men at the stake. What will their children be? What can they be? In the cases of such women and girls the practice of prenatal murder that is so popular in refined circles would seem to be a stroke of legal economy. Like begets like.

J. L. Edmonds has bought five acres of land at Sawtelle, where he will go with his family next September, and engage quite extensively in vegetable gardening. The soil of his recent purchase is well adapted to the growing of vegetables, and we may expect Mr. Edmonds to make a name for himself in the growing of fine specimens, as he is a splendid gardener.

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J. L. Edmonds, the farmer-journalist of South Pasadena, will please accept our thanks for a fine sample of onions and potatoes of his growing. He produces some of the finest potatoes we have seen in this state, and declares it is a shame to use such good land just to build houses on, when it will produce such good vegetables. But can everybody grow such perfect specimens, neighbor?—South Pasadenan,

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CALIFORNIANS TREAT THE NE-GROES WELL.

What we have said on several occasions we reiterate now, that no state in the Union offers its colored citizens better opportunities to earn and enjoy wealth or treated them fairer than this state. In no part of the state does the negro get better opportunities than he has in Southern California. treated with exceptional kindness and is given every reasonable inducement to acquire education and wealth. The white people encourage all of his business enterprises. He not only has a chance to spend his money as he pleases, but an opportunity to make and save it, The churches, schools, lectures and places of amusement are open to him. The people take pleasure in his success and aid him if misfortune overtakes him. Everywhere you go about the city you find him at work, working for white people. whether his profession is stenography, law, medicine or hodcarrying. He is

treated as a man in proportion as he regards himself as such.

If charged with violation of the law the presumption is in his favor and gives him the benefit of the doubt. Judges and juries are absolutely impartial in dealing with him and will not convict him of a crime unless his guilt is clearly established. In spite of frequent attempts of miguided people to malign him and create a sentiment antagonistic to his interests. public sentiment in favor of giving him fair play seems to grow fat on these efforts. If he commits a breach of the peace there is no attempt to magnify it. He is thought to be no better than white men and if he commits a crime he receives the same punishment for it that a white man would receive for its commission. This policy puts him upon his merits and emplants in him respect for law and order. The law-abiding Christian people of this state, by their humane treatment of their colored citizens, are doing great work not only for them, but for humanity.

PROF. MOORE OF KNOXVILLE, TENN.

We had the pleasure of meeting Prof. Moore, principal of the Knoxville Industrial school for colored youths. He made an extended tour of the West, especially the Pacific coast. The object of his visit being to see how the land lay and what opportunities the West offered the intelligent thrifty negro. At the conclusion of his tour he expressed himself as well pleased with the many business chances for colored men here that are slipping by almost unnoticed. Prof. Moore possesses a strong personality, is a man of a few words and a close observer. Everybody whom he met took a deep interest in him and everything was done to make his visit pleasant and profitable. He met several teachers and others in terested in educational work in the city and county, among whom Prof. Foshay, superintendent of the city schools. The impression he made upon them was indeed favorable. Accompanied by Rev. Donohoo, Mr. H. Boone of Pasadena and the editor, Prof. Moore visited Sawtelle. The trip from the city took us through the lands lying between here and the ocean. At Sawtelle Mr. Tucker, a veteran of the civil

war, and one who marched with Sherman to the sea, hitched up his rig and took the party for a drive through the beautiful country around the Soldiers' Home. It was a pleasant drive through a beautiful fertile country. Its splendid crops everywhere bespoke a bountious harvest.

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The North and South are again united, but the price paid by the North for the union may prove as costly in the end as all compromises do that are obtained by a sacrifice of principle. To say "we are united" the North has agreed practically to allow the South to nullify the constitution and amendments so for as the Negro is concerned. The results of the war have been set aside; it is now admitted that Davis was right and Lincoln wrong. Truly the righteous are repenting to sinners. Jackson wanted to hang Calhoun for advocating nullification. It was a crime then, but it is a virtue now. How little Jackson knew! --0-

If the admission of a few educated colored women to the Federation of Women's Clubs will cause the South to secede, this union of the North and South of which we hear so much nowadays is a very delicate affair.

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If Christ had been at Simpson auditorium when those Christian ladies voted that Negro women are not to be included in the Federation's work of elevating womanhood, and that the Golden Rule does not extend to Negro women, it would again be said of Him "Jesus wept."

-0-So rapid has been the advancement of the Negro woman in intelligence, virtue and refinement during her thirty-five years of Freedom that the Federation of Women's Clubs at their recent Biennial decided that no test would prevent her from entering and occupying a prominent place in the Federation but the color test. If given an opportunity, the Negro woman could and would surmount all other obstacles. That is what the vote on the color question says, as the voters were all intelligent, cultured women, their decision is a good endorsement of the Negro woman's splendid qualities. Even the color test will fall to the ground unless the white men quit giving us 30,000 mulatto youngsters annually.

Rev. Kelley Heard From Again.

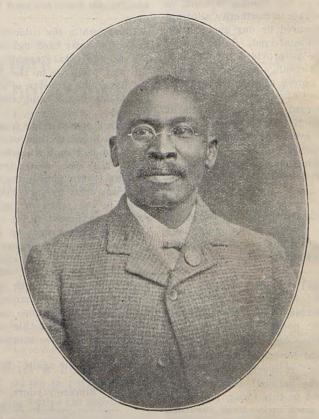
BASE HYPOCRISY.

This community has been much wrought up during the past week over the case of Rev. J. H. Kelley. While many are willing to give him the benefit of a doubt on the charge of seduction, there was so much damaging testimony adduced against him that his usefulness as a minister is gone. No matter what the final outcome of the present case, it will be the basest hypocrisy for such a man to pose as a teacher of the religion of Jesus Christ. The blow is a most unfortunate one, not only to the Third Baptist church, and the colored citizens of this community, but to religion itself, and there should be no attempt to shield or condone the offense. Better no church at all than one whose atmosphere threatens the downfall of young girls and the loss of that purity which true religion teaches and which should be dearer to them than life. The future usefulness of the Third Baptist church is threatened, and its members have a duty to perform, and they must do it like true Christian men and women. During the past two years there has been too much rottenness going on under the cloak of religion, and the characters of too many young ladies smirched, and, since a case is now in the courts, and therefore public property, action can be deferred no longer. It is a very bad state of affairs, and the only way to purge the church of the dark stain that now attaches to it is to meet the issue squarely, and show to the world that it stands neither for seduction nor fornication.-Western Outlook.

The above editorial from the Western Outlook meets our hearty approval. If the atmosphere of a community is to be kept pure the pulpit will have to be kept above suspicion. No church can afford to keep in its pulpit a minister who cannot avoid even the appearance of evil." It makes little difference which way this case teminates, Rev. Kelley's usefulness as a minister on the Pacific coast is gone.

The testimony of a Mrs. Harris that Rev. Kelley paid the young girl's expenses at a private hospital puts him in a very bad light. Rev. Kelley's friends are not surprised, for, although he always showed a remarkable fondness for the softer sex, he never spoke of marriage except with a sneer. This "laying on of hands" on handsome young church women by amorous ministers to frighten off other evil spirits always leads to trouble. Rev. Kelley has managed in some way to keep himself before the public in an unenviable light, either in a rat swallowing fake or as defendant in a nauseous law suit. Go east, parson, and cool off.

THANKS: Mrs. C. C. Flint and others will please accept our thanks for contributions kindly sent us to assist in defraying expenses of several hundred copies of the April Liberator that were sent to the delegates who attended the biennial. Several sent expressions of appreciation. The Liberator was the only colored journal that found a place among the hundreds of journals that appeased the intellectual appetites of the ladies while sojourning in our midst.



MR. J. H. JAMISON, Treasurer of the Business Men's Association.

The Negro never had better opportunities for bettering his condition than he enjoys today. That's why the Negro haters are so active. There are more Negroes employed at good salaries in business houses now than ever before in this city. The Negro is giving more time to business, money making and money saving. In other words he is acting in the living present. He is embarking into all

sorts of business enterprises, combining his money, buying lands and building homes. Through the good work of The Liberator he is beginning to give his trade to merchants who employ colored help and advertise in the columns of such able, up-to-date race champions the Liberator is everywhere known to be. God and all of the first-class white people are with us. Let the devil and the others how!

OUR FIRST RECOGNITION.

The election of Rev. F. L. Donohoo by the Southern California State Sunday School Association as one of its delegates to the tenth session of the International Sunday School Convention, which meets in Denver, Colo., June 27, records the first official recognition to the colored wing of the association. For which we are more than proud. We cannot now state the importance of this recognition. But our people chould not forget that the bearing of all uor Sunday Schools, in fact, all our race in Southern California will be measured by our appreciation of this honor conferred. So let us send our delegate so provided with finance as to reflect credit upon our great enterprising people of this the greatest state in the Union for one Negro.

Let us attend the union rally at Sixth street M. E. church, cor. Sixth and Maple ave., at 2:30 p. m., fourth Sunday, June 22.

Come with your dollars, and let us put in our delegate's hand at least \$100.

Don't forget to go to the Broadway Department Store and buy one dollar's worth of goods and get a large handsome thermometer free.

GREAT IS THE TIMES.

The lynching of negroes still goes on, and the normal American continues to blush for some sections of his country, and for some portion of his countrymen. It seems to be about time for the national government to take a hand in this thing, looking to a stop to such proceedings as disgrace this people, and their flag, which is presumed to stand for law, order and good government.—Times.

The editor's acknowledgment of the editorial from the Times herewith published.

Editor The Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, Cal.

MY DEAR SIR:

For the editorial against the lynching horror, published in today's Times, please accept, through me, the sincere thanks of ten million colored American citizens. The silence of the press and pulpit with regard to these horrible burnings at the stake and cruel

tortures perpetrated upon negroes suspected of crime, has been not only a mystery, but a source of great sorhow to the negroes of this country.

The history of the negroes in this country seems to merit for hem better treatment. In every great sorrow the people of the United States have had our sincere sympathy. In every struggle for their advancement they have had our aid and hearty co-operation. In every struggle in which the country has engaged we took the country's side. Wherever its flag has been assailed we have defended it with our lives.

Today, while the colored troops are in the far-away east, fighting the battles of our great republic to protect life and property in the Philippines. the lives and property of their brethren at home are being ruthlessly destroyed.

The cry of our dying from the stake or some other method of slow death, sends to heaven an almost unbroken wail. With the destruction of our constitutional rights in the South complete and trial by jury suspended, we stand in the midst of our dead and dying with bowed heads and broken hearts, overshadowed by a profound scrrow, surrounded by our white fellow citizens in the full enjoyment of peace and prosperity, with none to drop for us a sympathetic tear.

In the name of humanity and the rising generation, I hope and pray that the white people of this country will do something—do something right away.

Thanking you again, I have the honor to be,

Sincerely yours,

J. L. EDMONDS, Editor The Liberator.

200 SHARES.

The Business Men's Association has placed 200 shares of its capital stock on the market. These shares are \$10 each, the purchaser paying \$1 on each share purchased and \$1 per month on each share until the full amount of his purchase has been paid in. The association will advance the price of shares as soon as those placed on the market are sold. Already there is a number of applications for shares ranging from one to ten. One lady desiring ten shares proposes to pay the whole amount cash. The confidence our peo-

ple are displaying in the association is very gratifying and shows a healthy desire to combine their means for their common good. This marks the beginning of great business activity among us, which is bound to inspire in the colored people of this city confidence in each other. That great good will be done goes without saying. So mote it be.

The howl of Tillman and Carmack about cruelties in the Philippines will deceive no sensible, honest voter in this country as long as they champion the cause of those who mob and burn colored American citizens on account of their color.

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The murder of innocent Negroes for spite because a brave Negro lays our a mob, as was done in Atlanta, Ga., the other day, will only make bad matters worse. It will ultimately force every Negro to die with his gun smoking when he hears that a Negro in his locality has fired upon a mob. It is simply deplorable, but it is the only fruit that mob law, produces Mob law is anarchy, and he who slays a mob, whether it comes in the capacity or not, renders his country immortal service. Will Reynolds took seven and Will Richardson four to the eternal camping ground. Oh. the pity of it! But it is the only way

The catastrophe at Martinique was the most appalling in modern times. It shows the utter helplessness of man in the face of nature's upheavals. How insignificant is man? When Mother Eearth trembles mountains appear and disappear as bubbles and man and his handiwork are annihilated in the twinkling of an eye. Then there is a mighty calm, profound silence reigns and things move on as though man had not been. There is nothing certain but death, nothing real but God, the architect of nature and its stupendous To man things are, and are works. not. Today the world is not large enough for him, tomorrow he is "pathetic dust." "What is man that Thou art mindful of him or the son of man that Thou visiteth him?'

Peace and order reign in Atlanta, Ga., and it is agreed that "the colored troops fought nobly," even though in a mighty bad cause. These racial outbreaks, if such they may be termed, are one of the greatest sorrows of the south.—L. A. Times.

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THE RACKET STORE.

The readers of the Liberator, especially the ladies, will find it to their interest to call and examine stock and prices at the Racket Store, 111 and 113 East Colorado street, Pasadena, Cal., before purchasing. They carry a full line of first-class goods. Their five and ten cent counter is unexeclled. Headquarters for toys and children's goods.

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