

THE NEW AGE

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FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1902.

This editorial voices our sentiment. We prefer to reprint this from the Miner in preference to an article of our own, for fear we should be judged of being biased:

"We condemn lynching, mob violence and all forms of illegal execution and we know that it is a disgrace to a supposed civilized state of which were introduced in the human holocaust at Lansing, Texas, as detailed in the Miner's news columns yesterday, and which attracted a large and appreciative audience of both men and women.

The wretched Negro's eyes were burned out by flaming sticks, as a preliminary to the feast of cruelties that was in store for the criminal, the woman whom he had assaulted being present to enjoy the ceremonials and demonstrate to the world what a delicate and tender creature she was.

"It is hard for the common herd in a civilized community to appreciate or understand the highly developed sensitiveness and aesthetic tastes of a female of this type, but Texas has the capacity to produce her.

"The Lone Star state brings a blush to the face of the poet who wrote that 'hell hath no fury like a woman scorned,' for Texas goes hell a little better in the case referred to.

"It is not difficult to imagine that the indignation of the people would lead to the death of the colored wretch who had perpetrated an assault upon the female in question, even though he did not go to the extreme of taking her life, as is the usual practice in such cases; but it requires a vivid stretch of the imagination to detect any good to the community that can come from the series of savage tortures and picturesque inhumanities that preceded the death of the criminal.

"It has taken centuries for the human race to rise above the innate cruelties of the animal nature in man, and administer justice for the sake of justice instead of for the purposes of revenge; and the Texas method of treating the depraved and wretched brute demoralizes the community and takes a step backward in civilization, as far as the intelligence of the mob was able to go.

"There are men in every state in the union, who, by reason of their intelligence, culture and environment deserve torture—if torture be permissible under the laws of God or man—much more than the degraded, passion-besotted animal in human form who assaulted the statue of brass that subsequently enjoyed his punishment.

"The man who leads sweet innocence astray, and places on the tramway of ruin and disgrace the tender souls of God's lovelest flowers in the gardens of the home, is a greater criminal—when measured by effects—than the colored beast who knows less of duty, less of man's responsibility to man, less of all that is great and good and glorious in human life.

"The inhabitants of Texas, who inflicted tortures that would make an Apache Indian green with envy, have destroyed the beastly body of a captured brute; but they have dragged civilization down from its lofty pedestal and trampled the time honored principles of humanity in the dirt.

"Evidently the citizens of Lansing are in training for military positions of trust and responsibility in the Philippines, under General Smith."

The upper branch of congress is being constantly degraded before the country by Senator Tillman of South Carolina, and it is not surprising to learn that his democratic colleagues left the senate chamber yesterday when he was delivering his senseless tirade against the policy of the United States government in the Philippines. It must have been deeply humiliating to democratic senators, especially

Our Position.

Believing that for many reasons, some of which we shall herein state, that there is both a great necessity and a wide and useful field for the publication of a journal devoted to the advocacy of the rights of the Negro in Montana, as well as serving the purpose of disseminating the facts and occurrences among the race in every local field, thereby keeping each in touch with the other, a medium to bring the colored people of the state closer together and establishing a greater social unity, we embark this journalistic canoe, set sail, aft the truth, fore the facts, to the wind of public sentiment, hoping not to get wrecked upon the financial shoals and have sufficient ballast on board not to be dismantled by the derelicts and typhoons which will be directed our way, but that upon the turbulent and stormy waters of newspaper life we will be kept safely buoyed by helping hands and guided by the lighthouse of solid race support and the support of the business men who are benefitted by the race, we will pilot safely into the harbor of success.

Pertinent Facts Regarding Our Position.

When all of the data which has been published and the controversies which are being carried on both upon the rostrum and in the press in reference to various phases of the Negro problem, sifted, there stands out prominently like royal gems in the constellation of truth a few incontrovertible facts. It is an axiom that the Negro is here to stay always, until the great universal Pelee eruption—any who hope he is going to emigrate anywhere are following a delusive fancy—that unlike the many races which migrated here to avail themselves of the democratic spirit and the liberality of freedom which permeates both the legal and custom laws of our land, he was forcibly and unwillingly brought here. The white man of America made it his own problem. The Negro in the evolution of time and history became a citizen. As such he has the same inalienable rights as any other class of citizens under the same conditions and circumstances, and the minute you begin to tear down the rights of any one race under our flag, you are striking a blow which is sure to weaken the whole fundamental structure. One of the chief aims and purposes of our journal which we shall endeavor to carry out to the best of our meager ability will be to at all times and in every conceivable way work and labor for the greatest political and legal rights which our race is guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States and the State of Montana, and to by every means bring the race in this State to a compact union, a fraternal spirit, free from all petty jealousies and dissensions—a perfectly united machine, adjusted in every part—in order that these rights may be attained.

Politically we shall strike hard for the best interests of the Negro and what we deem best for the Negro as a citizen of the State of Montana. Those principles which are best to dominate the official life and the public offices of the State of Montana, the County of Silver Bow and our municipality, are under nearly all conditions best for the Negro, as he is a civic factor which makes up the whole of our commonwealth.

Socially it is our purpose and intention to establish a system of reporters in all of the larger cities and towns of Montana, who will weekly send in the items and occurrences among our race in their respective cities, so that we will all know what each others are doing.

By keeping in contact with social news throughout the country, and with all of the colored journals of the country, we will give our readers fresh all important race happenings and facts relating to the race which will interest them. Our first issue is by no means complete, as our force is not as yet in working order, and we ask the indulgence of our friends until we get in working harness. We first have to start before much can be accomplished, but in time and in a few issues we hope to be able to publish one of the best journals in the West. Our next issue will be enlarged, and we hope to publish eventually a journal of which our many friends will be proud.

those from the South, to hear the senator from South Carolina boast of the corruption of the ballot box and the wanton killing of Negroes. "When we get ready to put a nigger's face in the sand," shouted this blatant demagogue, "we put his body there, too."

There are, of course, thousands of black men in the South who are superior intellectually and morally to Tillman, and a little of the "Negro domination" which he so greatly fears, if it could send him and men like him to the rear, would advance every material interest of the South. It is the malign influence of such men as Tillman which makes the race problem in the South so difficult of solution, and may yet bring on results of the most serious nature.

When President Roosevelt entertained a colored man at his table and withdrew such invitation from Senator Tillman he placed a relative value on the latter's character which the country appreciates.—Inter Mountain.

Special to the New Age:

Butte, Montana, May 29, 1902.—Please to allow me a short space in your valuable columns to relate a few things in reference to our church.

The Baptist territory in this city among our people need to be cultivated and that with care.

We were late in coming to this field, notwithstanding the Lord will establish His house in due time.

We have two departments organized as auxiliaries, viz: the Band of Hope and the Band of Gideon. The officers of the Band of Hope are as follows:

President, Miss M. Withers.
Vice President, Letha Esters.
Secretary, Claudie Bell.
Treasurer, Grace John son.

The Band of Gideon officers are as follows:

President, Mrs. E. H. Johnson.
Vice President, C. C. Laws.
Secretary, Miss Gladys Brown.

Treasurer, Mrs. Duicilla Lewis.

The Bethel Baptist church is progressing nicely. Preaching every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.

We have about fifty Baptists in this city besides over one hundred well wishers, and if they all would be Gideon men we would make the devil tremble in his tracks.

B. Y. P. U. has been started at Bethel Baptist church every Sunday evening from 7 to 8. All are invited to attend these services.

Officers of Literary Society:
President, Mr. E. J. Brown.
Vice President, Mr. L. B. Jones.
Secretary, Mr. H. B. Jacobs.
Treasurer, Mrs. Parthenia Bell.

The Erodus literary society under the leadership of President Brown has been wonderfully successful. We shall pray for good leaders to stay at the helm.

We regret the absence of Mrs. Jacobs, chairman, from the programme committee. She has filled the position with such high honors that we are at a loss to know where to hitch on without her services.

We hope sincerely, she having filled that station so royally, that she will return and take her place in the ranks.

An agent is wanted to canvass for Booker T. Washington's and Prof. Crogman's books. Both of them are good selling books.

One can make good money without a great deal of talk. I have the prospectus with a number of the books.

The Methodists of this city will soon be ready to dedicate their new church. We ask God's blessing upon them.

The Baptists are behind in the pace and are coming up the hill gradually.
CLYPTIC.

The Acme Shining Parlor, for ladies and gentlemen; tan shoes dyed; open until 8:30 p. m. Polite attention. H. E. Fletcher, proprietor.

For many years Susan B. Anthony has been collecting material for and planning an exhaustive history of the woman suffrage movement in this country. She is now at her home in Rochester, N. Y., writing the history. She has not appeared on the public platform for a year and seldom goes out, wishing to reserve all her strength for the conclusion of this work, expecting to make it a monument to the cause in which she has made such a long and valiant fight.

Saint Pierre has been generally compared to Pompeii. The comparison is imaginative, but not exact. In St. Pierre destruction has been plutonian. In Pompeii it was relatively slight. Pompeii was a town of about 12,000 inhabitants. Of these all save a few hundred escaped. The latter were asphyxiated.

There had occurred a hail of little stones. Then ensued a rain of ashes. It was that which suffocated those who remained. Thirty years ago the same sort of thing happened at Naples. But with this difference: For protection umbrellas sufficed.

A comparison between St. Pierre and Pompeii is not therefore admissible. Lisbon perhaps would be more to the point. The catastrophe which occurred there was due, however, not to an eruption, but to an earthquake.

It may be worth noting that in modern Greek earthquakes and eruptions are synonymous. They are called theonemia, literally God's anger, a term probably suggested by Psalm, civ., 32: "He looketh on the earth and it trembled. He toucheth the hills and they smoke."

Statisticians estimate that through theonemia 14,000,000 have lost their lives. To these must now be added those that have perished in Martinique. Yet, though the loss there is prodigious, it is less than that which Lisbon knew.

When the capital of Portugal fell Europe shook. The Alps tottered. The Pyrenees quivered as leaves do in a storm. The convulsion was felt in Africa. Near Morocco an entire city disappeared. The earth opened. Then it closed. The city had gone.

The vibrations of the earthquake extended to Finland. They reached Canada. They affected even the Antilles. Meanwhile, at Lisbon, in just six minutes, 60,000 people died.

The catastrophe in the Caribbean is therefore more comparable to that than to the accident at Pompeii. Investigations have shown that in Pompeii there was no lava, no fire, none of the horrors which the southern sea has seen. But as investigations have also shown there have been mistakes.

The sentinel, for instance, who perished nobly, a martyr to duty at his post, has turned out to be a footpad. Through an error of antiquarians the honors due to a hero have been usurped by a thief. It is comforting to conclude that in honors as in horrors it is human to err.

Washington, May 26.—Mr. Patterson of Colorado, one of the minority members of the Philippine committee, occupied the floor most of the day in a discussion of the Philippine question. Mr. Patterson said the editorial in his paper, the Denver News, quoted by Mr. Foraker several days ago, had been written prior to the time mentioned by Mr. Foraker. Mr. Foraker and Mr. Hoar had a brief debate over President McKinley's proclamation to the Filipinos. Sixty-two private pension bills were passed.

Resolution on Lynching.

Soon after the senate convened Mr. Gallinger of New Hampshire offered a resolution providing that the judiciary committee of the senate should make an investigation into the subject of lynchings, with a view of ascertaining whether there was any remedy for them.

Mr. Gallinger said he introduced the resolution in full view of the fact that he might be charged with precipitating a sectional controversy, but nothing was further from his thoughts. He said lynchings were not confined to the South. Horrible cases had occurred in the North and white men, as well as black, had been the victims.

An Awful Record.

During the past ten years 2,658 lynchings have occurred in the United States. If the strong arm of the law could prevent such occurrences, he deemed it wise to do so. He read the

associated press account of the Negro burning in Texas a few days ago. He said history did not furnish a more fiendish instance of mob wrath and Fox's "Boo kof Martyrs" was tame in comparison. The whole wretched business, he said, was a disgrace to American manhood, in the light of which the alleged atrocities in the Philippines paled into insignificance. The Spanish inquisition did not furnish a case exceeding that one in inhumanity. He apprehended that it would be said that the federal government was powerless and that the states had exclusive jurisdiction. If so, the American people desired to know it.

Not Confined to Texas.

Mr. Bailey, of Texas, said he had no idea of being drawn into any sectional controversy by the senator from New Hampshire, and he would be willing to have the people judge the men who perpetrated such outrages. He desired, however, to discuss the question whether the government had tried to go into the several states and take charge of the peace and good order. He asked, therefore, that the resolution go over. "There can be no objection," said Mr. Bailey, "to a report from the judiciary committee on the subject, because I am sure there can be but one conclusion reached. But in the course of its investigation if it should undertake to parade before the country all the lynchings and burnings that have occurred in any section over a nameless offense and all the murders of women and children, and all the abductions which have occurred in other sections of the country, the only result it seems to me would be to make us think less of ourselves as a people and as a nation, and I have little disposition to indulge in that pastime myself."

A Case in Kansas.
The resolution went over. Subsequently Mr. Culberson of Texas had read the story of the burning of a Negro near Leavenworth, Kan., in January, 1901, saying he wanted the fact understood that these crimes occurred in other states than Texas. He hoped the New Hampshire senator when reciting examples of these crimes in the future would not confine himself to one state.

Mr. Hoar, chairman of the Judiciary committee, said his committee had had the subject under consideration. The matter had been considered as a question of constitutional law and duty.

The conference report on the fortifications appropriation bill was agreed to without debate.

(Special to the New Age.)
Washington, D. C., May 13.—Tomorrow morning Representatives Crumpacker of Indiana, General Aethard of New York, Dick and Southard of Ohio, Roberts, Gillet, Barney, Brown, Jenkins, Dalhe, Davidson, Smith and Connor leave in a special car as the guests of Representative Thompson of Alabama to make a tour of the South and investigate thoroughly from close personal contact the race conditions and problems in the Black Belt. Congressman Thompson, who owns a large plantation near Tuskegee, employing over 500 Negro hands, is an ardent believer in Booker T. Washington's system of industrial education for the masses and of his views on other phases of the race problem. He desires the leaders in congress and his personal friends who have an influence in shaping the legislation at the capital to study the negro at close range. It is understood that the main object of the tour is the collection of data and arguments in order to successfully push the Freeman Inquiry Commission bill in congress.

The Right Solution.

A colored girl, Miss Accool, the daughter of a clergyman in the Afro-American church of New York city, has just graduated at the head of her class in the Girls' High School at Brooklyn, and says she will spend her life teaching. This is the proper solution of the race problem—education.—Iowa State Editor.

The status of the civilization of the country is lowered every time a Negro or any citizen is lynched, or burned, or executed, without due process of law.