

PRISONERS SHOT.

Victims Had Been Arrested For Attempts to Burn the Town.

Four Were Killed and Five Badly Wounded—Work of an Infuriated Mob.

Palmetto, Ga., March 16.—Four dead negroes lie in Johnson's warehouse. Beside them, groaning in agony, are five of their race, all victims of an assault made by white men of this neighborhood at an early hour this morning.

This little city has had two fires, which have almost destroyed it, since January 1, and the negroes who were shot down while begging for mercy lie where they fell on the bloodsoaked floor of the improvised jail.

The dead are:
Bud Cotton.
Henry Bingham.
Tip Hutson.
Ed Brown.
Dying:
John Bigby.

Wounded: Clem Watts, shot in abdomen; George Taylor, wound in thigh; Isham Brown, shot in body; John Jamison, arm fractured.

The mob was composed of 150 men. Where they came from is a mystery so far as the people of the town know. That some of the people of Palmetto, but not the better class, were in the mob goes without saying. Every face was masked, and when the warehouse was reached the special guard of five men were covered without a word. In a minute the mob was in the big warehouse and the fusillade opened. The frightened negroes sent up yell after yell, begging for mercy, but it had no effect on the mob. When its work was finished the masked men turned and quickly disappeared as it had come—on horseback.

Two fires of incendiary origin have occurred here this year, one on February 23 and the other five days later. Fourteen business houses in all were destroyed.

Nine negroes were arrested on suspicion and taken to Johnson's warehouse to await preliminary trial, which was to have taken place this morning. Yesterday the leader of the gang, Bud Cotton, is said to have made a written confession of the guilt of himself and associates. He was the first to die in the mob's bloody work.

WHY WE EXPAND.

Explanation of the Working of Providence in the Late war.

[BAPTIST WEEKLY STANDARD.]

Q. Why did the United States go to war with Spain? A. To help the Cubans.

Q. What was the matter with the Cubans? A. Spain would not let them be independent.

Q. What else? A. Spain treated the inhabitants cruelly in trying to suppress rebellion.

Q. How did the war result? A. Spain was badly defeated.

Q. Why was she defeated? A. Because we had better guns and better men to aim them.

Q. When the war was over, what did the Government do for the Cubans? A. Not much of anything, except to allow charitably disposed citizens to feed a few of the starving people.

Q. Then the war was not an entire success? A. Oh, yes, for it opened a way for us to expand.

Q. Why did we need to expand? A. Because there was not room enough in the United States for all the politicians who wanted jobs. This is not the reason usually published.

Q. How did it happen that the opportunity to expand came just at the time when it was needed? A. Some say it was providential.

Q. How can we be sure that it was providential? A. Because Dewey sunk one Spanish fleet without losing a man and Schley sunk another with the loss of one killed.

Q. What does that prove? A. It proves that it is our manifest duty to expand.

Q. What connection have these two naval victories with expansion? A. The one gave us control of Manila, the other of Cuba and Puerto Rico.

Q. What kind of control? A. Possession by right of conquest.

Q. Did we declare a war of conquest? A. No; we declared war to help the Cubans, and the President said that we did not desire to acquire territory; but that was before we knew what we needed to expand.

Q. When did we find that out? A. The newspapers found it out during the week beginning May 1, 1898; the religious newspapers and the ministers (some of them) found it out about July 4; the President found it out when he heard the crowds applaud his remarks at various railroad depots in the West.

Q. Are you sure that was the time the President made up his mind to expand? A. The newspapers say so.

Q. Why do the religious newspapers and the ministers want to expand? A. Because they think missionaries should be sent to the Philippines.

Q. But why cannot missionaries be sent to the Philippines under a United States protectorate without annexing the islands? A. Nobody knows.

Q. What other argument is there for expansion? A. The commercial argument. The annual revenue of the Philippines under Spanish rule has been about \$14,000,000.

Q. What has been the net revenue after expenses of administration were paid? A. It is stated at less than \$300,000.

Q. What is the largest revenue that the United States can expect under the best government? A. Possibly as much as \$10,000,000.

Q. What would be the cost of the army and navy necessary to conquer the rebellious savages of the Archipelago? A. Not less than \$60,000,000 a year, and probably much more. After the islands were pacified the annual expenses would be at least \$30,000,000.

Q. Where is the profit of the United States coming from, especially as she has promised Spain \$20,000,000 in advance? A. Nobody knows.

Q. Who will pay the bills? A. Everybody who buys tea, patent medicines, money orders, or uses checks or express receipts or telegrams.

Q. Will these taxes be sufficient? A. Probably not; they will have to be increased or new ones added.

Q. Is there any other argument for expansion? A. Yes; the American flag must never be hauled down.

Q. Does that depend on the reason for which the flag is hauled up? A. No.

Q. What is the logical support of this argument? A. There is none, but it sounds well.

Q. If we annex the Philippines what shall we do with them? A. Govern them as a colony.

Q. Will their representatives have a voice in the Government of the United States? A. Of course not, except possibly one educated voter out of several hundred inhabitants. The rest are not fit for citizenship and never will be, according to our ideas of Democratic government.

Q. That will be "taxation without representation," will it not? A. You may call it that if you choose to be troublesome.

Q. Did Americans ever object to that principle? A. Rather vigorously about 122 years ago.

What is the strongest and most unselfish argument offered by the expansionists? A. That we, as a strong nation, should govern those who cannot govern themselves, simply for their own good, when Providence opens the way.

Q. Have we had any experience in that line? A. Yes; we have been trying to govern the Indians for about a century.

Q. How? A. With unprincipled agents, bad whiskey and army rifles.

Q. How have we succeeded? A. We have killed a good many of them, at large expense. Those that are left are doing their best to be respectable in spite of the Government.

Q. This proves that we are ready now to undertake the enlightenment and paternal care of 8,000,000 Philippines as permanent wards of the United States in one of its territories? A. Yes; mistakes may have been made in the past, but those should be forgotten when the nation contemplates undertaking so large and generous a task.

Q. Do the Philippines want to be annexed? A. None that have given their views to the press.

Q. If they protest, what shall we do? A. Annex them anyway.

Q. What will people say of this business 50 years from now? A. They may say mean things, but we shall be out of the way.

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