

Lynch Law in the South The grand jury at Atlanta has indicted Walter Edmonds, a white man, for killing Frank Smith, a negro, during the recent riots, as the latter was fleeing from the mob. Edmonds has been arrested. Several negroes have been indicted upon the charge that they killed a policeman named Heard on the second day of the riots. This is the grand jury that, in a presentment on the 27th ult., "severely condemned" the sensationalism of the afternoon newspapers of Atlanta, and especially the extra issues and editorials of the *Negros* (which is controlled by Colonel English, Governor Terrell's chief of staff), saying that these publications suggested lawlessness and promoted the formation of mobs. During the riots, eighteen negroes and one white man were killed.—A mob attacked the jail in Mobile, on the 2d inst., demanding a negro named Richard Robinson, who had been arrested for assaulting a young white girl as she was returning from school in the outskirts of the city. Robinson had been taken secretly to Birmingham. During the attack upon the jail, the mob shot and killed Roy Hoyle, a

policeman who was trying to preserve order. Governor Jelks came to Mobile that evening and sent for three companies of militia, and at the request of the Mayor no extra editions of the newspapers were issued. On the 6th, Sheriff Powers started to return from Birmingham with Robinson and another negro named William Thompson. The two were accused of assaulting four young white girls. A mob of two thousand had waited for the Sheriff that morning at the station in Mobile, expecting that he would arrive on an early train. A few hours later, sixty white men, wearing masks, left Mobile on a train to meet him. They stopped his train a few miles from Mobile, disarmed him, took the two negroes to the woods and hanged them. The conductor held the train for a time in order that the passengers might see the negroes lynched. The lynchers said that they hanged the negroes to avoid race riots in Mobile. Governor Jelks explained that by telegram he had directed the Sheriff to travel by way of Montgomery, where he intended to give him a military escort. Not having received the telegram, the Sheriff had made the journey on another railroad.—On the same day, at Argenta, Ark., near Little Rock, two negroes named Colum, defending themselves in a house against the police, wounded a policeman named Lindsay, and killed his father. In the evening the house was destroyed by dynamite, but the negroes escaped. This affair followed a recent conflict at an inquest upon the body of a negro who had been killed by a white man. At that time Lindsay's brother was shot and a brother of the two Colums was killed. On the 7th, the disturbance continuing, a negro named Blackburn, who had been arrested, was taken from jail and hanged.—Three companies of militia have been guarding the jail at Macon, Ga., owing to an attack upon it by a mob searching for a negro who had shot two white men. He was taken to Atlanta secretly. After his departure the mob opened every cell in the jail, thereby releasing several white men accused of murder. One negro was shot, but not mortally wounded.—In a public address at Augusta, Ga., on the 7th, Senator Tillman predicted many bloody race

riots in the near future. Lynching had failed, he said, and he suggested that negroes should be controlled by a system of passports. The proper place for depraved negroes was in the North. If they remained in the South, those who could not produce passports should be placed in chain gangs. He denounced white men who were guilty of unlawful association with negro women. "The superior race should protect many millions of innocent negroes from false teachers and bad leaders." In conclusion, he remarked that Southern whites should go ahead and do what they believed to be right, "regardless of all the Yankees between Cape Cod and hell!"

—Owing to the killing of negroes in Atlanta, Bishop Walters, of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, on the 2d, at Louisville, issued an address calling upon the negroes of the country to observe the 7th as a day of prayer. In a communication to the press of the country he said: "In the name of humanity, help us to find some Garrison, Sumner or Lincoln, who will stand squarely for human rights in these days of lawlessness."