

~~no reply expected~~

Green Cove Springs, Fla.
July 8 - 92

Hon A. W. Foysee

Dear Sir

It is pleasant to note, as an item of unpublished history, carefully omitted in newspaper items, that the would-be dictators of Jacksonville Fla., have received a check - more severe than they will care to admit. The facts are, two employees, one white & the other colored, had an altercation on July 4th, words & blows were exchanged & the death of the white man followed in a few hours. The colored man offered no resistance, or objection even, to arrest & was speedily lodged in jail. Hot-headed friends of ^{the} slain man claimed that "niggers must be taught a lesson & c. c." & have it clearly understood once & for all that the ground Caucasian must be considered sacred & c. c. Therefore it was

2/
proposed to organize a Reserve party
& settle the matter that night.

This incensed the colored population & it proceeded to arm itself as best it could & prevent any attempt at lynching if possible. Alarm spread throughout the city & even beyond the State, & small militia companies kept pouring into the city, & it was ~~noted~~ ~~that~~ The combined military & civil forces counted noses & evidently concluded to defer lesson-teaching of any kind for the time-being & the public was given assurance that lynching would not be permitted & it is hoped that the short reign of terror is over —

Notwithstanding the apologetic resolutions there exists a strong feeling of uneasiness on one hand & determination on the other, & it seems to be understood by many thinking people that an inexorable lynching will put the existence of the city in jeopardy.

Respectfully,
Wm. Roberts