8034

Edmond A. Tree
Sept 16 1944
Judge Albion
Tennessee

I have shown undivided interest in the bystanders notes that appear in the Inter Ocean, but the notes that appeared in the last issue has aroused more than the usual amount of interest. I was in Memphis Tenn at the time those three colored men were taken from the jail by an armed mob and shot to death.

It was proved openly that the judge of the criminal court was a participant in that atrocious crime. His own conscience would not let him rest. He had to cease staying at his residence on account of the frightful dreams that encountered him. What are we to do when the officials of the law, the only source from which we expect redress, participate in such crimes. Things may change but I doubt it. I think, ere long the colored race will become extinct. They will be exterminated by villianous Whites.

I was at that time a member of the Chickasaw Guards of that city. The city officials took the precaution to break into our armory and take away our guns before they dared to take our men from jail.

Public sentiment in the South is against the negro to such an extent that we were not allowed to speak of it. I would rather be a Northern White man's dog than to be a Southern White man's favorite.

I am a native of Ohio but having a roving disposition I came to the South and stayed 1½ years prior to the outrage that caused so many people to leave there.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

I have also had the honor of being a personal acquaintance of Miss Ida B. Wells.

If I could get the back Kers I would assist her in her work by lecture in the south at my own risk.

Something may be accomplished by working steadily and untiring.

God grant that a change will soon be made.

Respectfully yours in the cause

H. T. McCall

to

Edmond

Judge Albion W. Tourgee O. K. Tex.

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