

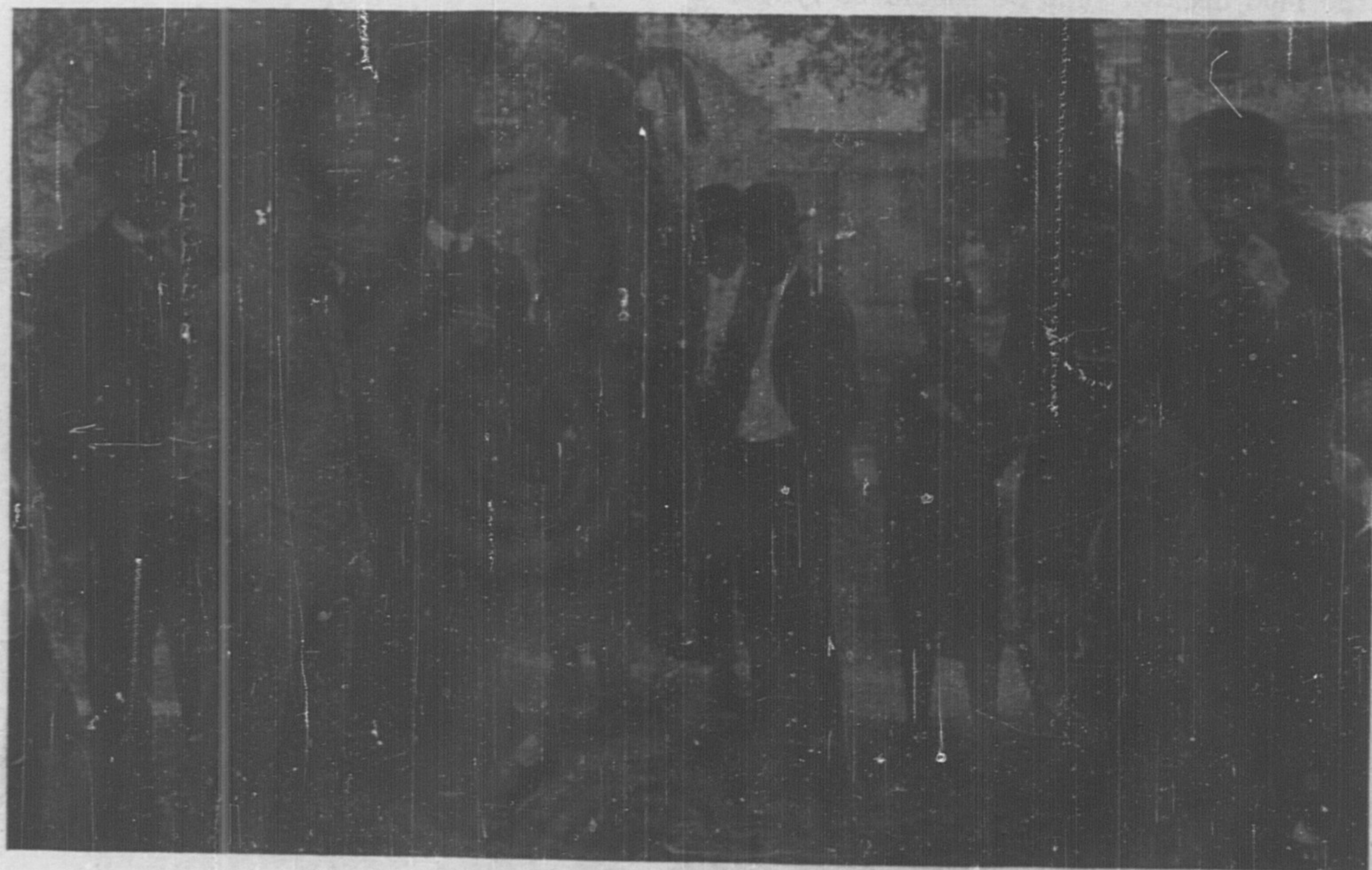
ish glee, this was taken and McIlherron was unsexed.

The unspeakable torture had now been going on for about twenty minutes and the Negro was mercifully getting weaker and weaker. The mob seemed to be getting worked up to a higher and higher state of excitement. The leaders racked their brains for newer and more devilish ways of inflicting torture on the helpless victim.

The newspapers stated that McIlherron lost his nerve and cringed before the torture, but the testimony of persons who saw the burning is to the effect that this is untrue. It seems inconceivable that any person could endure the awful torture inflicted, however great his powers of resistance to pain, and not lose his nerve. The statements of onlookers are to the effect that throughout the whole burning Jim McIlherron never cringed and never once begged for mercy. He was evidently able to deny the mob the satisfaction of seeing his nerve broken, *although he lived for half an hour after the burning started.* Throughout the whole affair he cursed those who tortured him and almost to the last breath

derided the attempts of the mob to break his spirit. The only signs of the awful agony that he must have suffered were the involuntary groans that escaped his lips, in spite of his efforts to check them, and the wild look in his eyes as the torture became more and more severe. At one time, he begged his torturers to shoot him, but this request was received with a cry of derision at his vain hope to be put out of his misery. His plea was answered with the remark, "We ain't half through with you yet, nigger."

By this time, however, some of the members of the mob had, apparently, become sickened at the sight and urged that the job be finished. Others in the rear of the crowd, who had not been able to see all that took place, objected and pushed forward to take the places of some of those in front. Having succeeded in this, they began to "do their bit" in the execution. Finally, one man poured coal oil on the Negro's trousers and shoes and lighted the fire around McIlherron's feet. The flames rose rapidly, soon enveloping him, and in a few minutes McIlherron was dead.



GEORGE McNEEL, LYNCHED IN MONROE, LA., MARCH 16, 1918.

THE GRAND JURY FOUND "NO INFORMATION SUFFICIENT TO INDICT" THE LYNCHERS, BUT THIS POSTCARD WAS SOLD ON THE STREETS "TO WHITE PEOPLE" AT 25 CENTS EACH.

# The Looking Glass

## LITERATURE.

EDGAR M. CULLEN, former Chief Justice of the State of New York: "It will not be tolerated that when New York is forced to obey an Eighteenth Amendment, Mississippi may ignore or evade the Fifteenth Amendment."

Benjamin Brawley, author of "A Short History of the American Negro" and of other works, has brought out "The Negro in Literature and Art in the United States" (Duffield & Company, 8 vo., 176 pp., \$1.35, postage extra). This is an amplification of the last chapter in his short history. It supplies a want and is done in the author's painstaking and readable style. His first chapter on Negro genius emphasizes the distinct art element in the Negro's gift to



BENJAMIN BRAWLEY

the modern world. The five following chapters are devoted to individual colored writers, while Chapter Seven is a review of Negro literature. The last five chapters are devoted to orators, the stage, painters and sculptors and music. An appendix contains an essay on the Negro in American fiction and an excellent bibliography. We welcome this book not only for its picture of the soul development of a race but,

also, for its own contribution to the new Negro literature.

The *North American Student* has an article by Channing H. Tobias: "Shall America Be Made Safe for Black Men?"

We acknowledge the receipt of a book of poems in Spanish by Luis Felipe Dessus: "Flores y Balas."

## THE WAR.

THE *London Spectator* quotes from Sir Harry Johnston's "The Black Man's Part in the War":

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland rules more or less directly some 44,700,000 Africans, about 1,700,000 Afri-mericans in the West Indies, Honduras and Guiana, and about 338,000 Oceanic Negroes, Melanesians and Polynesians in the Pacific archipelagoes. And in addition the Daughter Nation of the South African Union governs another 4,000,000 of Bantu Negroes, Hottentots and half breeds; lastly, the Commonwealth of Australia and the Dominion of New Zealand are responsible for the safe keeping and welfare of about 400,000 Papuans, 150,000 Australoids and 100,000 Polynesians, Melanesians and Micronesians.

Our Asiatic subjects are more than six times as numerous, but our fifty-one million Negroes are not greatly inferior in numbers to the sixty-one million white people within the Empire, and their help, freely and loyally tendered, has been most valuable. The author proves his case by taking each Negro country in turn, describing its races, and showing what they have done in the war. British West Africa naturally comes first. Nigeria alone contains over sixteen million Negroes, some of whom are among the best native troops that we have. The French Senegalese battalions have done magnificent service on the Western Front, and their southern neighbors under our rule have an equally fine record in the African campaigns. The Hausa of Nigeria and the Mandingoes of Gambia and Sierra Leone make first-rate soldiers, and have faced German troops and their machine-gun fire without flinching.

Ebrima Jalu, a Mandingo sergeant-major in the West African Frontier Force, received the D. C. M. in 1916, for his gallantry in a severe action in the Cameroons. When his white officer had been killed, he took command of his sector and directed the guns for several hours until another officer could reach him. Sergeant-Major Ebrima Jalu is not the only hero of his race. It is good to know that all these West African troops, perhaps thirty thousand in number, are volunteers, and that they enlist with the warm approval of their people.