

SCORES CUMBERLAND POLICE

Attorney Found Them Locked In Station During Lynching.

[Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Sun.]

Cumberland, Md., Oct. 6.—Mr. Benjamin A. Richmond, the well-known lawyer, tried to prevent the lynching, and tonight he denounced the action of the mob and the police.

He says:

"I arrived at the jail about five minutes after the first lynchers came, and there found not more than 50 or 60 altogether. Two-thirds of them were bystanders, who were taking no part, and most of the persons present were standing on the opposite side of the street. About 10 persons were at the door trying to break in. Of these 10 only 4 or 5 seemed to be active. Never more than 20 took part in the actual violence.

"The conduct of the police of Cumberland was simply shameful and disgraceful. Although the disorder was going on for more than half an hour, not one of them appeared on the scene until after the negro was dead, and would not have come then but for my action.

"As soon as the trouble started both myself and my daughter tried to telephone the police station, and, although the telephone exchange made frantic efforts to get the police station, no answer could be gotten."

Mr. Richmond said he later found Officer Goss, but the latter declared he knew nothing of the riot, although Mr. Richmond says he heard the noise of the riot at the point where he found Mr. Goss.

He says:

"I demanded that he go. He said he would go to the police station and get help. I accompanied him. Arriving at the police station, we found the light burning low, the door locked and not a soul around the building. I demanded that he open the door and go in, and there we found four policemen Lieutenant Schmutz being one of them. They were there, sitting quietly inside, with the door locked."

Mr. Richmond says upon his demand that they go to the riot they moved in rather a leisurely fashion, he following:

"Of course," he declared, "they arrived too late. The man was dead."

Mr. Richmond says that had two or three policemen of nerve been on the spot when he first arrived they could have prevented the lynching.