

GRIM TRAGEDY IN WOODS

**"I Think More of My Wife
and Mother Than of
My Life," Frank Said.**

HAD BEEN ASKED IF GUILTY

**Made No Plea for Mercy and
Was Cool and Stoic—Wild
Scenes Around Body.**

PROTECTION FOR LYNCHERS

**Marietta Determined None
Shall Suffer—Governor Offers
\$500 Reward for Slayers.**

How Marietta Regards the Killing of Frank

Special to The New York Times.

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 18.—The feeling in Marietta over the Frank lynching is illustrated by a jeering, sarcastic telegram sent today by the Chief of Police to Detective William J. Burns, who was employed by Frank's friends and was run out of Marietta after an attempt to lynch him. The telegram reads:

William J. Burns, Burns Detective Agency, New York.

Leo Frank lynched here yesterday. Come quick and help investigate.

H. H. LOONEY,
Chief of Police.

From a Staff Correspondent.

MARIETTA, Ga., Aug. 18.—The murder of Leo M. Frank will go unavenged by the law if it is to be punished in the county where it was committed. No jury in Cobb County would convict the murderers, no Grand Jury would indict them, no official would undertake to prosecute them.

This is not to say that Cobb County is terrorized, for it is not; it is to say that the vast majority of its people, even those who deplore the lynching as a violation of law, believe that Frank got no more than his deserts, and that the mob simply carried out the verdict of the law after it had been arbitrarily set aside by a Governor who was a law partner of Frank's lawyer.

The word mob does not seem descriptive, although it is correct, for these men did not display the ordinary characteristics of a mob. There was no outburst of rage, no disorder; the whole thing was done with order, method, and precision, and with a military attention to details. Lynching mobs are usually composed of riff-raff, with a few leaders of a higher order; but this one consisted of leading citizens in the community, men prominent in business and social circles, and even in church.

Liquor played no part in it, as it does in most lynchings. The lynching had been planned for months, and the plans of the conspirators contemplated its carrying out on a night several weeks ago, but the authorities learned of it in some way and it was postponed until last Monday.

These leading citizens are today taking their leading parts in the city's business and social affairs, with no sign upon them of guilty consciences, for they have none. Their consciences approve them, and what they hear from their fellow citizens wherever they go adds to their self-approval, for the city approves them.

Held to Have Vindicated Law.

They are regarded not merely as men who can plead justification, but as men who prevented a miscarriage of justice and saved the law from being set aside and mocked by a man who happened to fill the Governor's chair. There are in Marietta men who do not approve their act because of a respect for the forms of law, but even these believe that the spirit of it was set at naught by the Governor, and not one of these men—who are few—would think of refusing to shake hands with one of the lynchers or introducing him to his wife or revealing his identity to an officer of the law.

Elsewhere than in Marietta there is much of the same sentiment, but there is a division. There are, but outside of Cobb County, men who fear the growth of the mob spirit after such a dramatic and spectacular exhibition and who would like to take measures to curb it. Many of them are in Atlanta. Many even of these believe Frank guilty and are concerned not with him but with the future of the State. They are considering the taking of steps to bring about the punishment of his slayers for that reason alone, but they do not know what steps to take.

Frank was carried through four counties by his captors, and some of those who would like to have them punished

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