

sentence. One such case as that does away with the confidence in the law engendered by a hundred cases where justice is accomplished, and the mind of the people turns to lynching as the only certain remedy.

If you call their attention to the fact that lynching does not stop rape, their answer is, No, but it prevents it more than any other process would do.

The thinking men of the South realize the horror of their situation; they see that mob law is coming to be the law for all sorts of crimes, that it is beginning to be used even in private quarrels and against

the whites themselves. They think it is a cruelty to serve them with condemnation, when they need the sympathy and assistance of that portion of our people who live securely amid a predominant white population. It is easy to prescribe practically impossible premises, but you can by such means get no satisfactory or adequate result.

It will need the best wisdom and the best conscience and the best heart of our whole people, of the North and of the South, to lead us out of the darkness and the horror of the present situation.

Houston, Texas.

## The Negro in Business

By Isaiah T. Montgomery

[Isaiah Montgomery, the Mayor of Mound Bayou, and, we believe, the only colored Mayor in the United States, spent his early life on the plantation of Jefferson Davis in Mississippi as a house servant and later as valet for Jefferson and Joseph Davis. In this way he obtained the rudiments of an education, and during the war was depended upon by the servants to read them the news in the papers which came to the household. After the war Montgomery drifted North, and by hard work and economy accumulated a little money, with which he returned and purchased a few acres of land in the Yazoo Valley. Upon it he induced several families of former slaves to locate, and by his natural shrewdness and attention to business gradually enlarged his holdings until now he owns several thousand acres, including all of the town site of Mound Bayou, a community of about six hundred people. He has been the Mayor of Mound Bayou since it secured a charter, owns several of the principal stores, and is interested in lumber and other industries in the vicinity. This town has become an important market for the products of the country in the vicinity. It has a public school, several churches, and has the reputation of being one of the most prosperous communities of its size in the Gulf States.—THE EDITORS.]

**I**T is my opinion, based on experience and observation, that, with proper qualifications and reliability, a colored man may successfully conduct almost any kind of business in an average town; he must, however, have tact, grit, and sufficient backing to hold on till his business is well understood; experience proves that he can secure fair patronage from the public generally.

I think the education and training that Mr. Washington is endeavoring to give will help the progress of the colored people anywhere, whether North or South. The negro is possessed of bright talents and is readily attracted to the higher pursuits, whether in mechanism, business, or the professions, but has a tendency to shun the restraints of training and the comprehensive study of basic principles. I believe the plan adopted by Mr. Washington is the best now offered to overcome this defect. The colored man is ubiquitous in a large measure, and some will go

everywhere; but, so far as I can see now, the South, notwithstanding its tirade of abuse and slander waged against him, is his land of promise. The South is just upon the threshold of her development, and the negro is indispensable. He is so intricately interwoven into all of her industries that she cannot successfully supplant him, or go forward without the aid of his brawn, and necessity compels her to appreciate his intellect, thrift, and energy. She cannot stay the onward march of progress, and she cannot rise without lifting the negro also. Despite the political circumstances which render the lives and property of colored people insecure all over the South, they are gaining a respectable hold upon the business interests of the country; and just as they adapt themselves to sound business principles, more and more will come to them the recognition that is due to every useful and upright citizen.

As to their prominence in communities

and as holders of public office under present conditions in the South, it could not be expected that a colored leader would be able to exercise as much influence over a mixed colony as if all were practically colored. We have a few whites in our community (they are of the working class and settled here previous to our coming). They have prospered materially and advanced intellectually in like manner as we have; our relations have always been cordial, and though some are removing to neighboring towns for greater advantages in a social and educational way, they are disinclined to part with their realty holdings among us. We have never objected to whites on the ground of color, but unless they are in sympathy with or can become interested in the underlying principles and purposes of a colony, their fixed presence is very likely to prove detrimental.

In regard to the success of communities composed exclusively of the colored race,

that depends largely upon the interests by which they are brought together. At Mound Bayou we have experienced but little trouble in the matter of administration. The acquirement of homes and general development, morally and materially, were the incentives held out, and settlers were encouraged to strike out on their own responsibility; the success of some stimulated others. In education and church work there is a community of interest. Our people are largely of the agricultural class, with some storekeepers. We have considered the idea of establishing industries, and situations for manufacturing have been reserved convenient to the railroad, but as yet sawmilling and brickmaking are the only ones operating. I am considering cottonseed and cotton manufacturing, dressed lumber and other woodworking machinery, also canning and dairying establishments. Colored people have the capacity for almost any industry, but are very deficient in experience.

## The Man from Glengarry<sup>1</sup>

By Ralph Connor

Author of "Black Rock," "The Sky Pilot," etc.

### Chapter XXIII.—A Good, True Friend

IT was springtime, and the parks and avenues were in all the dainty splendor of their new leaves. The afternoon May sun was flooding the city with gold and silver light, and all the air was tremulous with the singing of birds. A good day it was to live, if one could only live in the sunny air within sight of the green leaves and within sound of the singing birds. A day for life and love it was; at least so Kate thought as she drew up her prancing team at the St. Clair house, where Harry stood waiting for her.

"Dear Kate," he cried, "how stunning you are! I love you!"

"Come, Harry, jump up! Breton is getting excited."

"Stony-hearted wretch!" grumbled Harry. "Did you hear me tell you I love you?"

"Nonsense, Harry, jump in; I'll report to Lily Langford."

"Don't tell," pleaded Harry, "and do keep Breton on all fours. This isn't a circus. You terrify me."

"We have only time to make the train; hurry 'up!" cried Kate. "Steady, my boys."

"Some day, Kate, those 'boys' of yours will be your death or the death of some of your friends," said Harry, as he sprang in and took his place beside Kate. "That Breton ought to be shot. It really affects my heart to drive with you."

"You haven't any, Harry, you know that right well, so don't be alarmed."

"Quite true," said Harry, sentimentally, "not since that night, don't you remember, Kate, when you—"

"Now, Harry, I only remind you that I always tell my girl friends everything you say. It is this wedding that's got into your blood."

"I suppose so," murmured Harry, pensively; "wish it would get into yours. Now, seriously, Kate, at your years you ought—"

"Harry," said Kate, indignantly, "I

<sup>1</sup> Copyright, 1901, Fleming H. Revell Company.