

NOVEMBER • 1904

the number of lynchings for that year being 236. The next highest number was in 1885, under the Presidency of Grover Cleveland, when they numbered 210. In 1893, also during the Presidency of Grover Cleveland, there were 200 lynchings. These periods represent the high-water mark of lynching. During the two years in which Mr. Roosevelt has been in the White House there have been fewer lynchings than in any year since 1885; in 1902 there were 96 lynchings, and in 1903 there were but 104. These two years represent the smallest number of lynchings since 1885.

We make the prediction that before he leaves the White House the South will learn that it has never had a warmer or more consistent friend in the Presidential chair than Theodore Roosevelt.

*Outlook*, 78 (Oct. 29, 1904), 511-13.

<sup>1</sup> For proof that BTW wrote the unsigned editorial, see BTW to Roosevelt, Oct. 17, 1904, above.

<sup>2</sup> Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus Lamar (1825-93), Confederate veteran and former congressman and senator, was associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1888 to 1893.

## From William Reuben Pettiford

Birmingham, Ala., Nov. 7th. 1904

My dear Sir: If Mr. Roosevelt, on tomorrow is elected with a larger electoral vote than Mr. McKinley was, our people can claim that the "Negro Question" injected by the south has popularized his campaign instead of reducing the vote. The frequent references to yourself by J. T. Heflin, of the fifth district is becoming distasteful with a number of the best citizens, and I write to say to you to be of good courage, and go forward in the even tenor of your way, with a determination as strong as life itself; and God the father of all will see that you accomplish your purpose. I am not, nor will I be discouraged. We are praying for you that God may continue to use you in accomplishing great things. I am, sincerely yours,

W. R. Pettiford

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