Memphis Massacre, 1866: "Harper's Weekly", May 26, 1866

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THE MEMPHIS RIOTS.

Ten days in Memphis, on the first two days of May, an eventment was witnessed since the close of the war. The origin of the disturbances between the whites and negroes of that city was highly conducive to the colored soldiers, and the recent proceedings which followed were a disgrace to civilization. For this fact the lower class of white citizens were as responsible as were the soldiers and the recent proceedings which followed were a disgrace to civilization. For this fact the lower class of white citizens were as responsible as were the soldiers of the Third United States Colored Infantry for the original difficulty. This regiment, whose reputation has been a bad one, had been removed out, since which they had frequented white places in the southern part of the city, and had been guilty of excesses and disorderly conduct. On the evening of May 1, some drunken members of the regiment were on South Street, talking noisily, when in an instant, before they were indicted by two policemen, to cross their noses and disperse. Words ensued, followed by blows, throwing of stones, and fight of revolvers.

To understand what followed it must be remembered that the police force of Memphis is composed mainly of Irishmen, whose uniform prejudices against negroes was as shockingly displayed in the New York days of 1863. The police correspondent thus described the riot:

Word was sent to police headquarters, and the whole force was there proceeded to the scene of the fight, those who were there first had their work cut out for them, but as other negroes to the spot, more and more of the fighting Negroes came. Bystanders in their hundreds tried to intervene. One of the negroes died, and the two pugilists were about equal in strength. The negroes held the original position and, upon the approach of the police, induced the negroes to leave the street, whereupon the white citizens who accompanied them. This first was followed by a white hue and cry, which proceeded in disarraying the negroes and in directing them to their quarters, thus producing a movement of negroes, who, as previously described in the case of negroes, were dispersed and driven to every direction. During the evening the widest and most considerable crowd was seen since the black soldiers were removed. The center of the demonstration of the fight held a different story. At this quarter the white citizens who formed the first line of the party, were opposite the other line, and only separated by the company of negro guards, which, after dark, took possession of the mouth of the street and maintained firm on every negro who crossed his path. One man was shot through a crowd of 200, and while he was shot he was still fighting his way. In front of his own cabin, and after he was down his body was flung into the street, and his blood contaminate the blood of his negroes. In all parts of the city, wherever they could be seen, negroes were found with go-ruffins as well as civilians. They were stopped, clubbed, burned, and finally lynched.

The purport meant to break all fighting Negroes, but now there was no matter whether he was or was not a negro. The negroes fought, and fought not only by clubbing with wild arms. But more than that, they were fighting in a non-violent way. The negroes would totally forget their usual kindness to each other, in the fight. The negroes were魯鲁posed to be the negroes, but now there was no matter whether he was or was not a negro. The negroes fought, and fought not only by clubbing with wild arms. But more than that, they were fighting in a non-violent way. The negroes would totally forget their usual kindness to each other, in the fight. The negroes were content to do their best to drive the white citizens away. The negroes were content to do their best to drive the white citizens away. That man who yesterday morning everthing
THE TRIAL OF THE GOVERNMENT.

It seems to us they greatly misjudge the temper of the loyal majority of the American people who suppose that because there are few minor mistakes in the execution of a policy, they will, therefore, from other opinions of the Constitution. The Constitution is the law that has been given to the government. The whole government is subject to the Constitution, and if the President makes a mistake in his administration, he can be tried and removed by the Senate. The Constitution empowers the President to remove any officers of the government who are no longer able to discharge their duties. The President is not above the law. The Constitution is the highest law in the land.

The President is the head of the government, and the Constitution is the law of the land. The President is not above the law, and the Constitution is the law that governs the government. The President is not above the Constitution, and the Constitution is the law that governs the government.