

Rev. S. A. McNeal submitted the report of committee on
LYNCH LAW,

which was adopted as follows:—

WHEREAS, We are surrounded with such a condition of circumstances, known as lynch law, and

WHEREAS, The Negro is the victim nearly all the lynchings in this state, and all other states in this country; and

WHEREAS, It has come to your committees notice through public print, that 123 persons were lynched in the United States last year, and

WHEREAS, This unlawful and inhuman practice is becoming so alarmingly great, that we, the colored men of Georgia, in Convention here assembled, denounce the same, and offer the following:

Resolved, That it is a fundamental idea of our theory of government, that no man shall be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law. It is therefore barbarous, cruel and an alarming outrage of law, that what is known as lynch law, should, under any circumstances, be tolerated, suffered or endured.

Resolved, further, That it is the duty of every true citizen to do all in his power to break up this infamous practice and outrage of law.

Signed, L. Solomon, Chairman.

Robert Odum,	W. Paschal,	F. F. Kellum,
P. H. Lee,	R. Jackson,	Cyrus West,
George Lewis,	Madison Epps,	J. M. Gibson,
A. T. Turner,	Jackson Eldridge,	George Banks,
S. B. Burges,	S. A. McNeal,	C. Barker,
A. D. Simmons,	William Williams.	Committee.

Committee on state organization submitted their report through J. T. White, Esq., which was unanimously adopted.

COMMITTEE ON STATE ORGANIZATION.

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Convention:—

We, your committee on State Organization, after due deliberation, a free interchange of ideas and opinions, have concluded our work, and ask that while we come to you, to give an account of our stewardship, you give us your earnest attention. We have gone into the discharge of our duty, deeply sensible, we trust, of the solemn responsibility placed upon us, and sincerely anxious to so work, as to have the approval of our own consciences first; your plaudits after. The paramount consideration with your committee has been, "How can we best unite our people, so as to secure concert of action upon those things which vitally affect our highest interest as citizens of this grand old commonwealth." Realizing as we did, that the action of our committee must bear the crucial test of your criticism, we tried, so far as the power in us rested, to present that plan which would best accomplish the end desired and at the same time, meet your approval. Our people are now in an interesting, but not necessarily embarrassing, position. True, perplexing problems continually present themselves, but it is with no small degree of race pride, that I stand in my place as a member of this Convention, and declare in the most emphatic terms at my command, that there is no phase of the Negro Problem, as it presents itself in this country, which Negro wisdom cannot properly comprehend and *ably* solve, if given a fair opportunity to work out our own salvation. Work it out in "fear and trembling," it may be, but work it out; demonstrate it so plainly, that "he who runs may read." From this Convention, there must go no uncertain sound. The eyes of the country are upon us, and accordingly, as we perform our duty, will the verdict upon us be; well or illy done. All of the remedies provided by the highest civilization, must have been applied and failed to effect a cure; statesmanship must have confessedly exhausted itself, ere my race in this state, will accept as a fact, the statement of the white people, that there is no balm in Gilead. We took, it, Mr. President, that from this Convention, there would be demanded some tangible evidence that we are here for the people. Something must be done to show that we know the situation; sympathize with existing conditions; recognize the fact that desperate diseases demand desperate remedies; know our duty in the premises, and knowing it, dare to perform it, let the consequences be what they may. Momentous times are upon us. Upon our shoulders as leaders are fearful responsibilities. *Now*, if ever, in the history of our people,—"He who dallies is a dastard, and he who doubts is damned."

To the following plan of organization, we invite your attention:—