A WEAYED COUNCILLOR'S PROTEST.

Sir,—If Solomon were living now he would say, "Overmuch philosophy is a weariness of the flesh." This morning I got a packet of literature relating to "the prevalence of Lynch law in the United States of America," and announcing meetings to be held in Birmingham next week to be held in Birmingham on the initiative of an American Negro lady, and an English newspaper. A list is appended for the object of the meetings, and I am limited, and I feel justified in making what possible practical wishes to dispense with the seal to or to question the motives of the lady who, having been a gentleman, I feel cannot find time to do all I should have expected to give my attention to matters of detail in a civilized country at a great distance with which English people would be an impertinence.

Birmingham, May 12.

A CITY COUNCILLOR.

On the 10th day before our meetings, the following answer appeared.

LYNCH LAW IN THE UNITED STATES.

To the Editor of the Daily Post.

Sir,—"A City Councillor" asks in Saturday's Post, "What possible practical objects can be attained by such meetings?" He refers to the meeting to be held on Wednesday, in which an exposition of lynching law in the United States of America will be given by the writer. I beg to answer that question. Resentment against the freedom and citizenship of the negro race has been continually shown by southern whites. In the last ten years the civil war thousands of Negroes were murdered for the crime of being black, and their votes were entirely nullified throughout the entire South. The laws of the Southern States make it a crime for whites and negroes to intermarry, or even ride in the same railway carriage. Both crimes are punished by fine and imprisonment. The doors of the churches, hotels, concert-halls, and reading-rooms are alike closed against the negro as a man, but every place is open to him as a servant.

The latest culmination of this war against negro progress is the attempt to make null all local laws throughout the South. The judges, jurists, sheriffs, and gaolers in these States are all white men, and thus make it impossible for a negro to escape the penalty of any crime he commits. Yet wherever a black man is charged with a crime against a white person, these men, without shame, take him from the gaols in broad daylight, and hang, shoot, stab, or burn him to death, as their fancy dictates. A coroner's jury renders a verdict that the deceased came to his death at the hands of parties unknown to the jury. In the last ten years, over 1,000 black men, women, and children have met this violent death at the hands of whites. And the rest of America has remained silent; not even when three men were burned alive in one of the past twelve months, has she opened her mouth to protest against this barbarism. The religious and moral sentiment of Great Britain we turn. These can arouse the public sentiment of America so necessary for the enforcement of law. The moral agencies as work in Great Britain did much for the final overthrow of chattel slavery. They can, in like manner, pray and write and preach and talk and act against civil and industrial slavery; against the hangings, shootings, and burning alive of a powerless race. America cannot and will not ignore the voice of a nation that is her superior in civilization, which makes this demand in the name of justice and humanity. If the moral reforms of the age have been brought about by Christianity, here is one which calls loudly for Christian and moral effort. I am in Great Britain today because I believe that the silent indifference with which she has received the intelligence that human beings are burned alive in a Christian country and by civilized communities is born of ignorance of the true situation; and that if she really knew she would make the protest long and loud. The horror and shame that have been expressed in Scotland and England, the prompt and vigorous resolutions of protest and condemnation of lynching law, have convinced me of the truth of my supposition. And I believe the people of Birmingham, when they hear the story, will not be one whit less willing, not one whit more afraid, to lend their moral influence to check what is fast becoming a national evil.

R. WELLIN

Of Memphis, Tennessee, U.S.A.

66, Gough Road, Birmingham, May 14.

This copy contains the complete text of the original document, which has been discarded because of its poor physical condition.