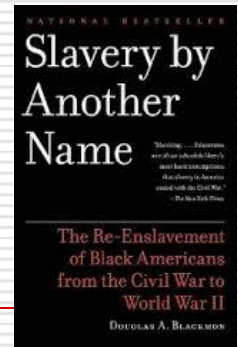


# Slavery in the New Century:

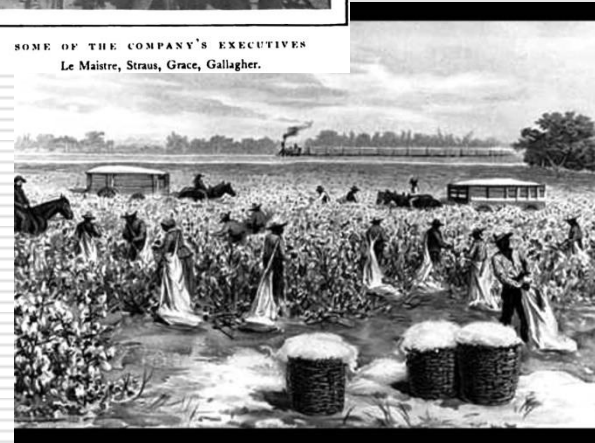
## Chapter 5: A Tale of Two Alabama 'Farms'



- ❑ In 1900, John Case and Fletcher Turner were two of the most powerful men in Coosa and Tallapoosa counties in Alabama.
- ❑ They owned large cotton farms, worked by convict labor and fitted with their own private prisons.
- ❑ They each controlled a local 'inferior court' run by their own 'Justice of the Peace,' and worked a deal where each would try the captured Black men, and a few women, find them guilty, pay the court costs to each other, and thence 'own' the convicts.
- ❑ The two not only used enslaved labor for cotton, but also lumbering and mining. The women were used sexually, not only for themselves, but to 'control' captive men.



SOME OF THE COMPANY'S EXECUTIVES  
Le Maistre, Straus, Grace, Gallagher.



What's going on here? Convict labor picking cotton, typical of the Turners and Case 'Farms'. Coosa County Jail for enslavement, and 'executives' to run slave camps

# Teddy Roosevelt Comes to Power

## Chapter 6: Slavery Is Not a Crime

- **Teddy Roosevelt, after only six months as Vice President, became President after the assassination of William McKinley in 1901**
- **TR was an imperialist and a racist. 'I don't go so far as to think that the only good Indians are dead Indians, but I believe nine out of ten are, and I shouldn't like to inquire too closely into the case of the tenth. The most vicious cowboy has more moral principle than the average Indian.'**
- **But regarding African Americans, he broke with the past dogma. 'I have not been able to think out any solution of the terrible problem offered by the presence of the Negro on this continent, but of one thing I am sure, and that is that inasmuch as he is here and can neither be killed nor driven away, the only wise and honorable and Christian thing to do is to treat each black man and each white man strictly on his merits as a man, giving him no more and no less than he shows himself worthy to have.'**

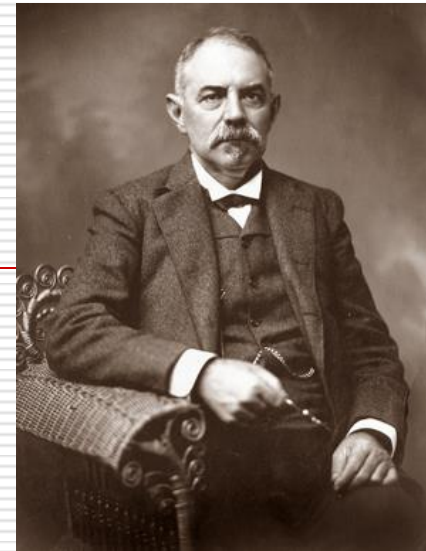


**Left: Booker T Washington. Above: Young TR as 'Cowboy'. Below: TR's 'scandalous' White House dinner with Washington.**



# TR's Secret Service Takes on 'Peonage'

- ❑ The Peonage Abolition Act of 1867 was an Act passed by Congress on March 2, 1867, that abolished peonage in the New Mexico Territory and elsewhere in the United States.
- ❑ Designed to help enforce the Thirteenth Amendment, the act declares that holding any person to service or labor under the peonage system is unlawful and forever prohibited.
- ❑ It defines peonage as the "voluntary or involuntary service or labor of any persons . . . in liquidation of any debt or obligation." Violations were punishable by fines and imprisonment.
- ❑ TR appoints Thomas Goode Jones as federal judge, with advice from Booker T Washington



Left: SS detective sent South. Above: Judge Jones. Below: Scandals over peonage reach Northern and Southern Press.





# Indictments and Trials: Chapters 7 and 8

- ❑ By the time John Case and Fletcher Turner came to trial, and that the court was serious, they changed tactics and pled guilty.
- ❑ Their purpose was to pay a minor fine, then win on appeal that the 1867 peonage charge was never meant to apply.
- ❑ As to the charge of enslaving workers, they would argue that there was no law against it, despite the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment.
- ❑ Bailey vs Alabama, a Supreme Court Decision in 1911, did outlaw peonage, ie, imprisonment for debt.

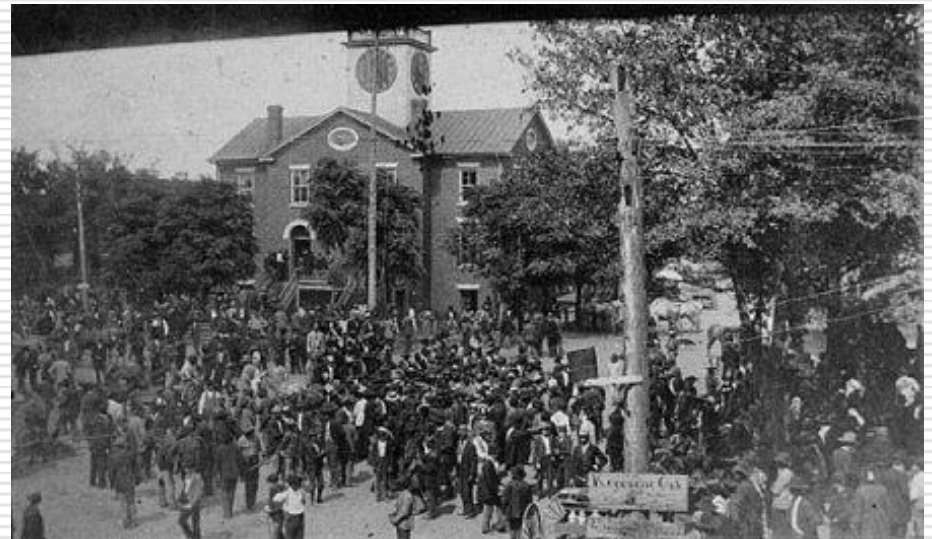
**WARREN REESE, JR.**  
**(1866 - 1953)**

**#SOCIALIMPACT**

- US Attorney in Alabama (1897 - 1905 & 1909 - 13)
- Prosecuted Peonage (aka Slavery By Another Name) Cases From 1903 - 1940

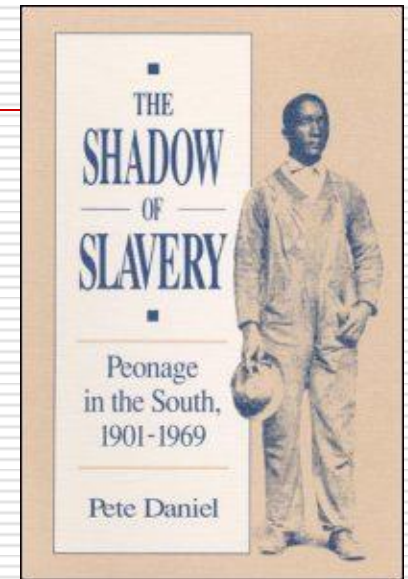


Having a fair judge was not enough. A fair prosecutor was needed as well, and Warren Reese Jr rose to the occasion. Mass pressure from African Americans at the courthouses, below, also made a difference.



# Bailey vs Alabama: One Step Forward, One Step Back

- ❑ Alonzo Bailey was an African American from Alabama who agreed to work for The Riverside Company for one year at \$12 per month. He received an advance of \$15. After 5 weeks, he stopped work but did not refund any money.
- ❑ According to Alabama law such refusal to work and refund the money was prima facie evidence of intent to defraud. The evidence presented against Bailey at trial was testimony that he stopped working, without cause, failed to repay the \$15 advanced to him and that he was a Negro.
- ❑ Analyzing the law by its effects rather than its pretense, the Court held that a contract may expose a debtor to the responsibility for his debt but not enforced labor. Thus, the creation of a statutory presumption to facilitate convictions for failure to pay a debt that could not be otherwise prosecuted was found to be invalid.
- ❑ Nonetheless, Fletcher Turner got a hung jury in his peonage trial. But before retrial, he plead guilty to avoid the cost and a second trial, with likely the same result, and was let go with a \$1000 fine. After that, peonage trials ebbed.

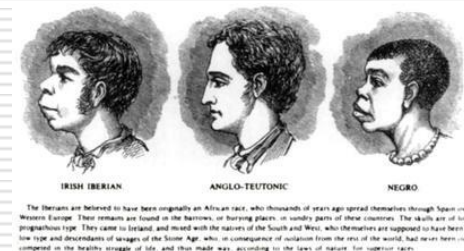
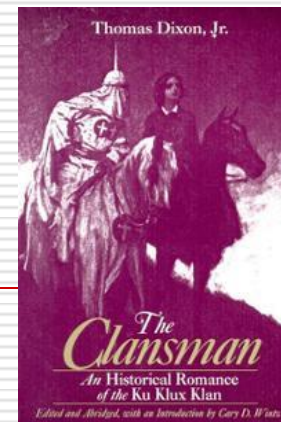


Upper left: Couple bound to sharecropping. Upper right: Alonzo Bailey. Left: Convict workers in a 'turpentine camp' "The supreme authority in the camp is the foreman. To the niggers he is the law, judge, jury, and executioner.

# White Supremacy Mutates to More Virulent Expressions

## Chapter Nine: Rivers of Anger

- ❑ After the Civil War, racism shifted from religious to 'scientific' explanations
- ❑ As Darwin's 'Origin of Species' supplanted the Bible's accounts of origins, the false doctrine of 'Social Darwinism' arose.
- ❑ Hierarchies of 'racial types', with the white Anglo-Saxon on top, was the supposed outcome of the 'survival of the fittest.'
- ❑ Darwin's theory of natural selection proved the opposite: there was only one human race with trivial physical distinctions.



Left: Four 'races' with subdivisions.

Top: 'The Clansman,' a best-seller novel demonizing Radical Reconstruction, turned into a play seen by millions.

Above: 'Head Types' proving Irish were not 'white'.



# Lynch Law Reaches a New Peak:

## Chapter 10: Disappropriation of God

- ❑ In 1918, mobs of whites hunted in Brooks and Lowndes counties for Sidney Johnson rounding up and killing in what historian Meyers called "a lynching rampage."
- ❑ Mary Turner, the married mother of two young children, was brutally murdered in Lowndes County. Her husband had been lynched the day before, although neither had anything to do with the white planter's death.
- ❑ None of the lynching participants were prosecuted.



Young Blacks held in a 22,000 acre slave camp, Kinderlou. Nearby in Brooks and Lowndes Counties, more than a dozen men and women were lynched, following a revolt against Hampton Smith, a holder of the enslaved, who was killed.



# Keeping Hope Alive: The Mary Turner Project

- ❑ **White and black newspapers covered the lynching of Turner differently; white newspapers failed to mention her pregnancy or the brutal murder of her child, while black reports emphasized it.**
- ❑ **After the incident, the Associated Press wrote that Mary Turner had made "unwise remarks" about the murder of her husband, and that "the people, in their indignant mood, took exception to her remarks as well as her attitude."**
- ❑ **In 2008, the Mary Turner Project was formed. It is "a diverse, grassroots volunteer collective who are committed to racial justice and racial healing." They have conducted memorial events, lectures to educate students and citizens about the events of the May 1918 lynchings and the larger stories of racial injustice.**



The Great, and Great Great Grand Daughters of Mary Turner  
Audrey Grant and her daughters Regina and Katrina Thomas



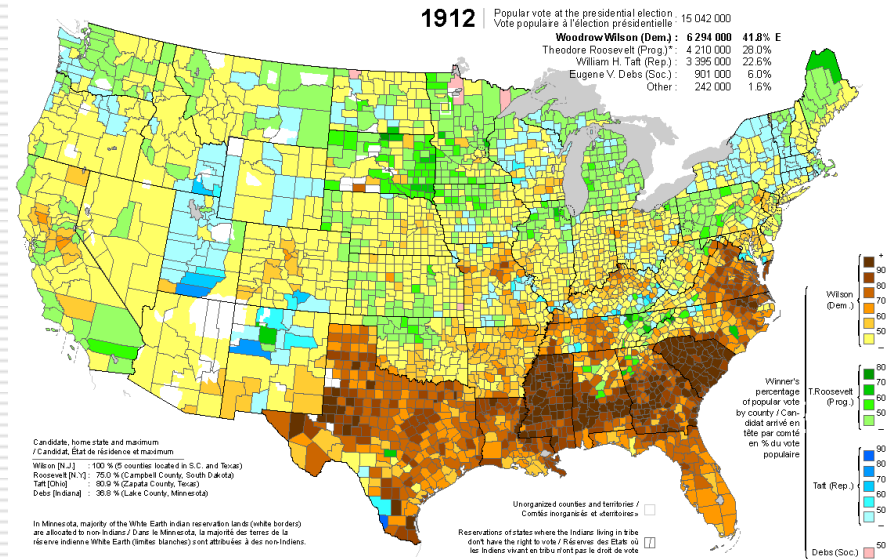
Welcome to the Mary Turner website which documents South Georgia's  
"lynching rampage of 1918" and the work of the Mary Turner Project.

Zey'Jor Images

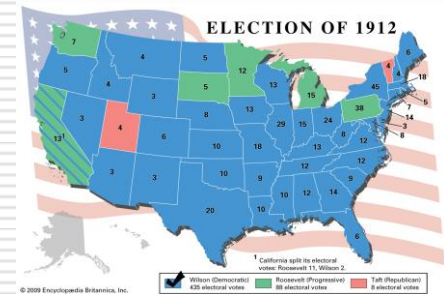


# Teddy Roosevelt Goes Down Fighting—But Not Against Racism

- After the outrage over his dinner with Booker T Washington, and the relentless resistance to his anti-peonage efforts, TR backed away from Civil Rights.
- He skipped the 1908 election, since he had promised not to seek a 2<sup>nd</sup> term. In the 1913 GOP primary, however, he tried again, but most Black delegates supported Taft.
- TR started a new Progressive Party, the Bull Moose, and it was actually the 2<sup>nd</sup> party, winning over the GOP



TR's chief advisors in the South insisted the Progressive party had to be a white man's party there. Rival all-white and all-black delegations from four southern states arrived at the Progressive national convention. Roosevelt decided to seat the all-white delegations. He ran a "lily-white" campaign in the South.



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