

THE LYNCHING OF JESUS

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The lynching of Jesus by E.T. Wellford

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E.T. WELLFORD

**THE LYNCHING
OF JESUS**

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The Lynching of Jesus

A Review of the Legal Aspects

OF THE

TRIAL OF CHRIST

—BY—

✓
E. T. WELLFORD

PASTOR FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA.

Newport News, Virginia.

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1905

SECOND EDITION

DEDICATED
TO
MY FATHER
WHO FOR MORE THAN THREE DECADES
GRACED THE
VIRGINIA JUDICIARY
AND
MY MOTHER
OF WHOM WORDS CANNOT SPEAK

PREFACE.

It is not to write a book that I presume to impose upon the public this treatise. With deep conviction, however, of a grave injustice, a broad ignorance of it, and a yet more general apathy towards it, I venture to present the legal aspects of the Trial of Christ.

I have not deemed it necessary to quote more than a single authority for the various positions taken; they exist in such abundance that to chronicle all would be impossible, and one is sufficiently suggestive. My indebtedness to all available sources of information is freely acknowledged, especially to those facts so ably presented in the works of Dr. Joseph Salvador, M. Dupin, and Simon Greenleaf.

My quotations from the word of God are to be found in the Revised Version.

The modern appellation of mob rule and violence seemed eminently appropriate as expressive of the treatment Jesus received in the dawn of the Christian era, and is chosen as none too strong to convey a sense of the injustice He suffered.

E. T. WELLFORD.

Newport News, Va., U. S. A., March, 1905.

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THE LYNCHING OF JESUS

I

THE SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENTS.

Judge Lynch sat in one hundred and four cases in 1903. His circuit included every Southern state, except Virginia and Maryland, with an even dozen executions at the North. One Chinaman, seventeen whites, and eighty blacks were hurled into eternity by his orders. Two women were among the victims. Mississippi heads the list with eighteen to her discredit.

Chicago
Tribune

The total number of legal executions during the same year was one hundred