

the most ignorant men the sheriff could find were to be selected to act as jurors in murder cases; and the courts virtually decided that the stealing of a pony was a crime deserving of more severe punishment than the killing of a man. Then intelligence was transmitted long distances by means of the old-fashioned and cumbrous telegraph-wires; and the best motive power we had to run our railroad-trains, and all kinds of heavy machinery, was the dangerous and expensive steam-power that you have, no doubt, read about.

"But you, in this year of grace, have inherited the grand inventions of the last one hundred years,—inventions that are equal in power and usefulness to those of all the preceding years in the world's history. The generation now taking hold of the politics and business of the State has benefited by the magnificent public schools that were established twenty-five years ago, and that have been nurtured and perfected by wise legislation since. The intelligent, the educated, the best men in the State aspire to seats in the legislative halls, and you, therefore, enjoy the blessing of intelligent and just laws; and, as a consequence, the name of Judge Lynch is now only a tradition. Of all the 'goodly heritage' that has been bequeathed to you, there is nothing that you should be more proud of than the sight that greets your eyes as you look over to yonder hill, and see the towers and domes and spires of the Texas University,—a seat of learning that has no superior, except in age, in the United States. My son, you have much, very much, to be thankful for."

We left the old man and the boy on the monument, as we passed over the State House, built in 1890, and which, in beauty of architectural lines, vastness of extent, and richness of material, is a great contrast to the old State House that formerly stood on the same spot. On, over plains covered with waving corn, and past fields white with cotton-bolls, where mechanical cotton-pickers were each doing the work that formerly twenty negroes did not do as well,—out to the mining-regions of the West, where the hills are pierced, drilled, and honey-combed with shaft and tunnel and pit; where tens of thousands of mines are rifling the strongholds of the everlasting hills of their treasures of gold, silver, copper, coal, and