

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE NEW YORK TIMES
NEW-ORLEANS, APRIL 16, 1873

Intelligence has just reached this city to the effect that a terrible and sanguinary riot occurred on Sunday last in Grant Parish [Louisiana], in the county of that name. The disturbance grew out of the increasing animosity which has existed between the negroes of Grant Parish and the whites of Rapides Parish, each color predominating in their respective localities.

All day Sunday the two factions quarrelled at the Court house in the village town of Colfax, and the riot finally culminated in the Court house being set on fire by the whites and burned to the ground, together with from two to three hundred negroes who were unable to escape from the burning building. The unfortunate colored men were literally roasted alive in the sight of their enemies.

Of all the whites who were engaged in the fight, there were only two or three who were killed or wounded, owing to the fact that very few of the negroes were in possession of arms or weapons.

The details of this sanguinary riot are quite shocking, and the news has created intense excitement throughout the city. It is understood that the United States authorities intend making a thorough investigation into the affair for the purpose of securing the punishment guilty parties, whoever they may be.

The war between the races, so constantly carried on in this distracted State, has seldom presented such a horrifying instance as this burning of a court-house filled with human beings. It is a scarcely credible, but the news is unfortunately too true for the reputation of our people.