CLEVELAND, OHIO 1922 ?

Traitorous Folly

LAST spring the National Republican, a paper published in Washington, D. C., heard that one "Pink Parker" had erected a marble monument in honor of J. Wilkes Booth, the murderer of Abraham Lincoln, and that this monstrous thing had been done in Troy, Ala., the county seat of Pike county, a town of about 5,700 inhabitants, which boasts an industrial academy for colored pupils, in addition to ordinary public schools.

The National Republican afterward explained that the story seemed almost incredible, but investigation proved that it was absolutely true. The inscription on the monument is given thus:

ERECTED BY PINK PARKER
IN HONOR OF WILKES BOOTH
WHO KILLED
OLD ABE LINCOLN.

According to the National Republican there is considerable public sentiment in Troy against this amazing monument to a murderer, but nothing has been done to remove or destroy the piece of marble that bears witness to the shame of the community which tolerates such glorification of an assassin. Hence the Washington paper thinks that Congress ought to enact a law which would make the erection of any monument or memorial, in honor of any murderer of a President of the United States, an act of treason against the nation and punishable accordingly.

It is a lamentable thing to admit that there can be need of such legislation against folly so crass and disloyalty so shameless as "Pink Parker" has displayed, but the fact appears to be beyond dispute that his infamous praise of Wilkes Booth does affront every decent American who visits Troy, Ala., and sees the monument Park has erected, and there seems to be no way of bringing him to punishment. In spirit, his deed is treasonable. It ought not to be immune from the penalties of treason.