

The Crises

June, 1914

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THE COLOR OF THE LORD.

SEVERAL persons have written us object-
ing to the intimation in our advertising
columns that Jesus Christ was not a white
man. We confess to a certain lack of interest
in the subject, but are forced in self-defense
to publish this note from the Cambridge
Encyclopedia Company concerning their coin
collection:

“Among other rare pieces our collection
contains a gold solidus of Justinian II. (circ.
A. D. 705), which was purchased from
Lincoln & Co., the well-known numismatists
of Oxford Street, London, after having been
verified as genuine by the coin department
of the British Museum.

“The obverse is stamped with the full-
faced bust of Justinian, with robe carrée and
cross; legend: Justinianus, Serv. Christi
(Justinian, Servant of Christ). Reverse,
full-faced bust of Jesus Christ with *woolly
hair*. Behind him, the cross. Legend: D. N.
IES CHS. REX REGNANTIUM (Dominus
Noster, Jesu Christo, King of Kings).

“Whatever the *fact*, this coin places beyond
dispute the *belief* that Jesus Christ was a
Negro. The coin is otherwise of great his-
torical interest; for it was the cause of a war
between Justinian and Abdul Malik, 5th
caliph of the Ommiads, the former demand-
ing tribute to be paid in these same coins and
the latter refusing.”

