

## THE MESSENGER.

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BY

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### A Blasphemers Doom.

In a recent sermon the Rev. Dr. Talmage discussed blasphemy and its consequences. His most striking illustration is an incident that he declared happened only last August. A man he said got provoked at the continued drought and the ruin of his crops and in the presence of his neighbors cursed God, indulging in the most horrible blasphemy. And while he was speaking his mouth and nostrils and the heat of his body was so intense it drove back those who would come near. Scores of people visited the scene and saw the blasphemer in the awful process of expiring. Mr. Talmage was asked for a circumstantial account of the blasphemer who was miraculously burned to death. His response was as follows: "I appreciate the desire for further details in this matter but I purposefully avoided locating the event and the reasons that actuated me then impel me now to keep the affair from the public. Such an event is a terrible thing for the family and friends of the man who was punished, and it was out of consideration for them that I omitted to state where the scene was laid. That it is strictly true, however, I have conclusive evidence. I forget just how it was brought to my attention, I heard it reported by somebody, or got my first information from a private letter. I cannot say which, but I am inclined to think it was the latter. But no matter. I asked a trusted friend of mine to investigate for me, and he did so. Some correspondence ensued, which he turned over to me, and from it I am assured that the affair did actually take place as I describe it. I have the correspondence still but I think I had better keep it to myself.

### Killing of D. M. Bull.

On last Tuesday 26th inst., our people were started about 2 p. m., by the reports of fire arms. Dave Bull was shot to death by Dr. J. F. Morris. It was the result of an old feud with an unfortunate woman at the bottom of it. The men had had more than one encounter already, and always went armed. The whole community expected a tragedy and were little surprised.

Bull was killed with a shot gun, dying a few minutes after the shooting without saying a word.

We regret the unfortunate affair as it must injure the reputation of our town and section.

Dr. Morris went to Opelousas and surrendered, and was released on a bond of two thousand dollars.—Acadia Sentinel.

### Brutally Tortured.

#### Terrible Treatment of an Aged Couple by Masked Burglars.

A horrible outrage is reported from Mount Pleasant, Ohio. The perpetrators were six masked men, while the victims were John Parker, an aged farmer of reputed wealth and his equally aged domestic, the only person who shared his dwelling with him. About 10 o'clock Monday night after the old man and his servant had retired for the night the door of the house was burst open by six burglars. The men dragged the couple from their respective beds into the kitchen and demanded a large sum of money they suspected Parker of having in the

house as the proceeds of a sale of cattle made Saturday. Parker declared there was no money of consequence in the house but he was declared unanimously a liar as the men at once set about torturing him and the woman with fire as a means of ascertaining the hiding place of the cash. The couple were bound to a bed and for two hours every species of torture which ingenuity could devise was resorted to but all to no purpose, as the man could only say that the money had been sent away. Blazing papers sticks and matches were applied to the naked skin of the two until their bodies were covered with blisters and the room was filled with the odor of singed flesh. Baffled at last the robbers looted the house and departed, leaving the couple tied and almost unconscious. Their plight was not discovered until after they had suffered 12 hours of terrible agony Parker may die. There is as yet no clue to the perpetrators of the crime.

### "A Axiom."

In a small plantation village on the Teche there stands a frame building upon the front of which is "4th Justice Court" rudely painted in lamp black. The day was extremely hot, and halting to rest we chanced to visit the court which was in session pro tem. A fat, bald headed old negro Justice was sitting upon a nail keg with a dry goods box for a desk, and standing before him was a small group of negroes seemingly concerned. As we entered His Honor rose from his seat and calling the house to order he demanded the cause of his being called upon; which proved to be on account of Joe Blossom stealing one Doc Carter's oxen. There being no lawyers nor jury the judge faced the plaintiff and inquired:

"Misto Carter, saar, how many ob de gemmens befo' us, saar, cin yo' call to prove dat Misto Blossom stole dem oxes saar.

"Two saar, Jim Slinger an—  
Dat'll do saar. Misto Blossom saar, how many witnesses, saar, am dar in dis house dat cin swaar dat yo didn't stole dem oxis saar.

Fo saar, George Sugarfoot—  
Dats ernuff saar. I dismisses dis case an' Misto Carter yo, saar, am bound ober to keep de peace till de nex' ball. saar, and yo mus pay de cost of dis here cote, for hit am a *axiom* saar, dat fo' lyin' niggers cin do mo' swaarin' den two saar; waluable time of dis here augus cote. mus not be waste onto sech a circumlocuted case saar. Misto Carter, hit am fo bits saar; an' befo' you leebes dis house let me give yo a pinter; de nex' time yo' sues a nigger fur stealing lum yo' mus' be sho an git mo witnesses den he's got er yo' am gwine to git lef' ag'in saar. Dis cote is now adjurnt an' will prepaar fur de coon hunt to-nite.—Youthful Idea.

### THE PARTY BOUND TO WIN.

Pittsburgh Dispatch.

What are the prospects of success up in your district this fall? inquired a politician of a visiting statesman.

"First class!" was the enthusiastic reply.

Why I had heard your candidates chances were very poor.

So they are; I referred to the party not the candidate.

How is that.

Well you see there are some objections to the candidate, and if he is defeated it will be a case of the party rising superior to and triumphing over him."

Ye—es? inquiringly.

And if he is elected you see it can't be anything but a straight out party triumph.

Ah!

Yes sir; the party's bound to come out on top any way you fix it.

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