

The Messenger.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1897.

VERY IMPORTANT TO WILMINGTON.

Sanitary engineering is not only a science, but a growth. There is a well equipped class of educated professionals who have done much and will do more to advance the cause of health, and to teach cleanliness and sanitary laws generally. The able Scientific American, an old and excellent journal long known to a discerning public, in discussing this branch of true progress says:

"The growth of this branch of engineering is not due to any deliberate effort to create a separate profession; but rather to the growth of intelligent knowledge of the laws of sanitation, and the demand of the public that these laws shall be followed in the construction of their homes, and is one thus affecting their municipal well-being. The public enlightenment has come as the result of the teachings of science and bitter experience. While medical men have been urging the need for pure water supply, good drainage, and abundant ventilation, the scourge of epidemic has descended with a terrible persistency to endorse their teachings."

Twelve or fifteen years ago we urged that the best thing for Wilmington that the authorities could possibly do was to begin the construction of a system of sewage, working on well defined lines year by year until the most important undertaking was an accomplished fact. We took leave to suggest to "the city fathers" that a thoroughly equipped sanitary engineer be employed at least for one year, to make the needed surveys, map out a plan, and start the work. If too expensive to retain so efficient and capable a worker for longer than one year, to employ one at less cost who was capable of working under the plans of the engineer and of completing the drainage system in a thorough way. There is no possible low rate of sickness in any town with bad drinking water, no sewage, and no other plan of effective sanitation.

These sanitary engineers look after the private dwellings also, and the perfection or defects of their drainage. The public health requires both private and public sanitation. The back lots are often pests to a city and add to the general sickness. The Scientific American says it has been clearly established by statistics of sickness and mortality "that there is an intimate relation between a city's drainage and its death rate, and that hygiene and health go hand in hand."

More has been done in the last quarter of a century than ever before to lessen the mortality rates in the cities, and to demonstrate that public health is greatly dependent on pure drinking water, pure air, and pure dwellings and lots. Great advance has been made in the water supply and its purity. Infection, death itself, comes from this cause more than from any other. You drink daily disease and death. Death is in the cup. Listen to this from the high authority already quoted from:

"The higher death rate of former years was largely due both to the scarcity and the impurity of the public water supply. It frequently happened that this supply was pumped from an adjacent river, that was carrying the drainage of towns and villages living nearer its source. The water was distributed to the city mains without sufficient filtration, and to the chemical impurities was added a larger or smaller amount of organic matter, which was an easy breeder of typhoid and kindred diseases. River supply was supplemented by so-called wells, which were often mere cisterns for the catching of surface rainfall, and such filth as might enter by seepage from adjacent sewers or the neighboring stable or burial ground. Today the water supply of a great city is gathered high up among the hills, at the uncontaminated headwaters of the rivers. The supply is frequently impounded at a point from fifty to one hundred miles from the city. New York city draws its supply from the Croton river, forty miles distant. Liverpool has its Wyrnwy reservoir situated seventy miles distant among the Welsh hills."

Birmingham is preparing to get its water from the mountains in Wales far away from that city. The river more often proves a source of contagion and death than of pleasure and health. Says The Scientific American, and let all heed its teachings, the cesspool is growing mercifully scarce (at least in America and England), and the public are fast awakening to the fact that the discharge of sewage into a river is fraught with danger to every city or hamlet that is built upon its banks. The triumphs of sanitary engineering are nowhere more manifest than in those elaborate plants which have been established for the purification of sewage and the recovery of its organic matter as a valuable commercial product.

No people are awake to their own interests, to their own well being, to their chances of living who are blind to sanitary laws, indifferent to scientific sanitation, careless as to the public health. They should read up. No town needs worse a sewage than this town of Wilmington. Ride over the place, walk about many streets at

night and get the answer. With certain houses all over the city to be counted by hundreds sending up their malodorous gases and effluvia day and night, and expect an improved health condition and a lower rate of mortality is as fatuous as to pile up inflammable material upon a burning mass and expect not to add to its heat and consuming power. The noxious gases in the dwellings mean sickness, may mean death. They should be removed. It is possible to reduce the death rate, to lessen sickness, to purify the atmosphere, to sweeten life. Sanitary science can do this. Our householders, tax payers, intelligent voters, teachers and physicians should consider well these things. Augusta, Ga., Memphis, Tenn., New Orleans and many other southern cities are striking examples of the improved health, lower mortality and more enjoyments in living from sanitary reforms instituted.

PURE BALLOT AND FREE ELECTION IN RHODE ISLAND.

You heard from the election in Rhode Island. It was all one way. The New York Mail and Express, intense republican protection tooter, said:

"At the recent elections in Rhode Island the democrats carried only one town in the whole state. That is how one of the greatest manufacturing regions of New England 'repudiated' the Dingley bill."

All for the robber system. But attend. What are the facts? What happened in "Little Rhody"? What fine methods prevailed? What honorable course was pursued? Read and learn. The fact is the working men were bought just as they had been bought through the north in the November election of last year. They were treated as "dumb driven cattle" and taken to the political slaughter pen of principles and desires. Do you know what sort of a paper is The Boston Herald? It is the largest circulated paper in New England, is independent, and able and with character. It is essentially a great paper. It is a good witness and is close by the little state. There was gross corruption in the election in Rhode Island. Take this evidence of The Boston Herald:

"The regular quotations for votes in the Rhode Island election this year were below the usual price, chiefly for the reason that things were all one way down there. There was a brisk demand in some of the senatorial and representative districts, however, and the price of votes was \$10 each, or \$5 down and \$5 more if the election resulted all right. That money was used by both sides in an assertion based not only on the signs, which were patent to the most obtuse, but also on the admissions of the men who peddled it and those who received it. In one town where there are 620 voters it is calculated that there were not more than 250 whose votes were not for sale to the highest bidder. There was no attempt to stop bribery. It was accepted as a matter of course, and the regret apparently was not that money was being used, but that so much of it was being used to beat good men."

This is at the close of the nineteenth century. The scene is boastful New England—rich, literary, educated New England. Rhode Island is the scene of the play. The democrats had but little showing from the start, really made but little fight, but the rivalry was between republican factions. The price for votes ruled rather lower than usual as The Herald states. It was all one way—for a high robber tax. Here we see how the "free ballot" is preserved and a pure election is guaranteed. Men are bought as you would buy ducks and geese, at so much the head. This is corruption of the very worst kind. It deprives the voters of manhood and free suffrage, it humiliates and disgraces the voters, it outs the control of everything in the hands of the moneyed class, the factory owners, the bosses. We have seen no comments upon these outrages in either northern or southern newspapers that supported Cleveland and the ghost ticket or went over to McKinley and robber protection. Perhaps they just overlooked it—of purpose.

HOME FOLKS.

If "Judge" Purnell did draw those "extremely defective" insane asylum bills they show he is a very bad drawer, and if he is no better lawyer than legislator he would be over-burdened with a judicial robe.

Mr. Frank B. Wimbish, of Oxford, who gets a piece of pie as penitentiary bookkeeper, was not long ago a democrat—was, if we remember correctly, chairman of the county committee. He later on—but before the election—"jined the radikils" and now is up at the counter with a slice of pie.

The Chicago Electrical Journal has a brief biography of a Wilmingtonian—Dr. Francis B. Bishop—that will interest some of our readers. He was born in this city 13th August 1853. He had a common school education. His parents were poor, he began to seek his living at fourteen. He clerked for years for John Dawson, married at 21, studied medicine for five years under

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Dr. H. S. Norcum, graduated in 1883, at the medical college of Charleston and from the University of Maryland. Located at Southport, went to Washington after two years where he has since practiced, "with Neurology and Electro-Therapeutics as a specialty, and has built up one of the largest and most lucrative practices in this line in his section of the country. Dr. Bishop is president of the Medical and Surgical Society of District of Columbia, having been elected in September, 1896, during his absence in Boston while attending the meeting of the American Electro-Therapeutic Association, of which body he is one of the vice-presidents. In the spring of 1896 Dr. Bishop was elected director of the Electro-Therapeutic Clinic at the Eastern dispensary at Washington."

This shows energy, go. ability, success. The Messenger likes to record the success of North Carolinians, young and old, at home or abroad.

SNAPS.

Dr. Hunter was so guilty of offering bribes to get elected to the United States senate from Kentucky, he could not stand the pressure, the exposure, and has withdrawn. He is the republican nominee.

Ah! The intendendant of finances in Cuba, makes a bad showing for the administration. He places the expenditures for 1897-98 at \$121,000,000, and has estimated the receipts at \$30,000,000, much of the latter being expected to come from new imposts.

The Spanish government has decided to withdraw 40,000 troops from Cuba? What does that portend? Is it a confession of failure and a move for conciliation, or has Weyler's lying reports so deceived the Spaniards at home that they think "the rebellion" will nigh end?

Report from Washington is that the silver republican senators will vote with their party for the awful tariff. Some democrats are also counted on in the senate. With a high protection tariff and a single gold standard what is lacking to make the country perfectly happy?

The great merchant of Chicago, perhaps the greatest in this country, Marshall Field, was in Washington recently. He is brainy, wise, experienced. He came to confer with the senate committee on the tariff. This occurred:

"When asked if he had anything to say on the subject, he replied: 'No, except the one general remark that it is the worst tariff bill I ever saw, not only as regards the rates of duty imposed, but in the methods of imposing them. There is scarcely a line in the bill that will not have to be interpreted by the supreme court.'"

That was an awful account of the butcheries of helpless men, women, and children given by Mr. William Law, of Worcester, Mass., but now in the Cuban army. It is most sickening and shows how terribly merciless and devilish the Spanish soldiers are. Take this:

"I saw last week the bodies of three beautiful little Cuban girls, aged 8, 6, and 4 years respectively; of their mother, a woman about 30 and two old women, possibly 60 years of age, all in one heap, with their throats cut. The oldest girl had been ravished by the soldiers of General Weyler. Their war seems to be on women and children."

SHARPS AND FLATS.

Hark! hear! The extreme goldbug New York Evening Post says this and it admits just what all the bimetallic papers have asserted time and again, with an important qualification, however. The Evening Post says: "We had good times till the panic of 1893. We have had bad times since, as compared with the years immediately preceding." The "good times" prior to 1893 were threatening times and for years were growing worse, so that the course of Cleveland in 1893, intensified the bad and invited worse times, which came. Yes, the New York gold tooter is correct—"we have had bad times since." Alas! how true, and tens of millions of our people can certify to the truth of the statement.

The Wilson tariff was not remotely an ideal or a desirable tariff, but was a combination of protection, low tax and free trade. It was loaded with wrongs and absurdities, and The Messenger condemned it from the start. It was "a makeshift." The fact that it was nearly 40 per cent. average on thousands of articles, shows it was not a democratic tariff in a true sense, and not as much of a "revenue tariff only" as the party promised and expected. But is produced more revenue than the lying republican organs state. It paid our debts abroad very considerably. It did not produce as to revenue that a better bill would have done, but it has produced a better balance of trade for the United States than any other bill has done. The difference in 1896 of exports over imports was nearly 50 per cent. For this year it is altogether probable that the excess will be \$300,000,000.

The following table makes the showing, the present year, as yet unexpired, being only an estimate:

Year	Excess of Exports
1892	\$6,314,802
1894	278,849,695
1895	122,735,028
1896	212,521,529
1897	325,000,000
Total	\$1,046,422,054

This is a very large balance in favor of the United States for five years.

President McKinley is so fond of fish that he uses a Dolphin on his little recreation trips.—Jacksonville Times-Union.

THE WORLD'S DEBTS.

The Messenger gave recently statistics showing the growth of expenditures in the United States. It is instructive to learn of what the indebtedness of our country is and of the other nations. There is a vast indebtedness and it is growing daily. The increase in the last twenty years is enormous. If great debts are good and show prosperity and permanency of institutions and government then all the nations are well based and extremely sound. In 1873, the world's debt in English money was \$4,200,000,000. In 1875 it was \$4,275,000,000—an increase in two years of \$75,000,000. It is estimated in England that the world's debts today are \$5,800,000,000. Of all countries France is the heaviest burdened. Its many wars, and particularly its last war with Germany has left France sorely burdened. The latest estimate is \$1,200,000,000—or in our money over \$5,500,000,000. This is double the debt of Great Britain. Here is the table published in The London Pall Mall Gazette:

Country	(Estimated) 1875.	(Estimated) 1895.
France	\$900,000,000	\$1,200,000,000
Great Britain	780,000,000	660,000,000
Russia	340,000,000	575,000,000
Italy	300,000,000	565,000,000
United States	440,000,000	325,000,000
Spain	375,000,000	275,000,000
Austria-Hungary	350,000,000	505,000,000
Germany	200,000,000	440,000,000
Australia	46,000,000	240,000,000
Turkey	135,000,000	180,000,000
Portugal	69,000,000	153,000,000
India	130,000,000	127,000,000
Brazil	84,000,000	118,000,000
Egypt	750,000,000	105,000,000

Total \$4,324,000,000 \$5,172,000,000
It will be seen that these nations pile up debts with age and growth in population. Some have reduced their debts in a score of years, the increase being \$848,000,000 or \$4,440,000,000. The interest to be paid each year upon the enormous debt is more than \$1,000,000,000, at low rates. Greece owes about \$145,000,000, and Turkey some \$600,000,000. The interest on the public debt of the United States is about 43 cents per capita annually. This is lower than that of the European nations with perhaps the one exception of Germany.

The Southeastern Freight Association Formed.

Atlanta, Ga., April 22—The Southeastern Freight Association is the name of the new traffic organization which, May 1st, will take the place of the Southern States Freight Association. Representatives of all the leading roads in the south, except two, have agreed to sign the new contract which simply provides for a rate adjusting bureau. Every road is left free to act as it sees fit. Traffic Manager T. M. Emerson, of the Atlantic Coast Line, presided at today's meeting. He says that nearly every southern railroad and steamship line will sign the new agreement. A meeting will be held in Washington, April 29th, to sign up and elect officers. Sam Parrott, of Columbus, Ga., will probably be nominated for chairman. The old Southern States Freight Association agreement was modified in a way to bring it under the law. This association will remain nominally alive until the bureau gets to work. A new agreement was also adopted for the passenger association which will meet in Washington, April 28th, to elect a committee. There is no opposition to Commissioner Joseph Richardson.

The Romeyn O'Brien Trial.

Atlanta, Ga., April 22—The third session of the Romeyn court martial was held today. Lieutenant Heavy testified as to the personal encounter between the two officers and with the end of his evidence the judge advocate rested the prosecution. Dr. W. V. Kellogg, son of Colonel Kellogg, the late commandant, testified that his mother had declined an invitation to Mrs. O'Brien's much quoted dinner party.

Charles Sisson stated he had heard members of the garrison criticize the conduct of Mrs. O'Brien and Lieutenant Bamford.



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NEWEST LACES. - NEWEST LACES.

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