

The Messenger.

ARTESIAN WELLS

It was with satisfaction we saw in State Geologist Holmes's report of work for the year, so much attention given to the water question—to supply in the eastern section with better, purer water, and mainly by artesian wells, for the many. The Messenger gives attention to this matter and has contended, as others have, that it is malaria and not so much mal-aria, that is the miter in fevers and agues, and other diseases, in the eastern portion of the state. Drink none but pure water and keep the premises clean, and you will in all probability escape the mal-aria. A perfect system of thorough system of drainage (by sewers), for every household in Wilmington, will shut off nine-tenths of local diseases produced by local conditions.

Professor Holmes takes the introduction of artesian wells will be a most important thing for all of the eastern counties. We believe all south and east of Raleigh would be very greatly benefited by these wells. They would supply abundantly good, wholesome drinking water. We have long had an impression that half the state was injured both in health and pocket by bad water. Professor Holmes is doubtless correct and informed when he says that the "reputation of eastern North Carolina has suffered so seriously from the prevalence of malaria in many regions that its development has been seriously retarded in the past, and many who would otherwise have settled in that region and would have helped to build it up, have been kept away by the fear of malaria. During recent years, however, it has been shown by unmistakable and abundant evidence that at least by far the larger part of the malaria prevalent in this region was due to the drinking water from surface springs and shallow wells in which abound the living organisms now known by the specialists as malaria germs." The larger towns in a small degree have cisterns, but, as he says, they are limited in supply and confined almost entirely to "the most intelligent class," or we may add, the well-to-do. The thing to be done is to provide pure drinking water for all. Every consideration of private interest, humanity, benevolence and the public welfare appeal to all to have a change—a radical change—so complete as to put pure drinking water free as the air at every door, and to provide thorough sewage. The longer it is delayed the greater the suffering, the wider the range of sickness, the higher the death rate. Wilmington should wake up, for its rate of mortality for 1897, is very high. With the water and sewage this would have been impossible. Think on these things. Professor Holmes takes a cheerful view of the success of artesian wells in the east. He thinks that good supplies of pure drinking water will be yet secured in our city at a depth between 1,000 and 2,000 feet. He says, and it is of sufficient importance to be copied again:

"The first pronounced success in this direction was a well bored under the advice of this survey at Hope Mills, in Cumberland county, and this has been followed up by a number of successful borings in Cumberland, Robeson, Bladen, Columbus, Craven, Hyde, Edgecombe, and some other counties, as at Wrightsville beach, in New Hanover. The water at all of these deep wells does not overflow at the surface, but in such cases it comes sufficiently near to the surface by the use of ordinary pumps. The quality of the water from the different wells is now being investigated by the survey. It, of course, at different places, as it may be flavored with different mineral substances, but in all cases it appears to be free from such organic germs as could produce malaria and other diseases."

HOW TO RAISE THE WIND

As to the steadily growing Dingley-McKinley deficit the talk of Senator Allison is not without interest. He is a republican from Iowa and a man of ability. He thinks the new drag net rubber should have a chance—that it should be tried for another month or two. He says by that time "we can see where we are, coming out." He adds, with commendable candor, that he does not "regard the present prospect of adequate revenue from the act as very bright. If we find that the new law does not do all that is expected of it, we certainly ought to supplant it with additional legislation." He says there will be no difficulty "in finding things to tax if more money is to be raised." He says "we could put a tax on tea; or a stamp tax on checks, mortgages, etc.; or an increased tax on beer; or an inheritance tax; or some kind of an income tax. There are ways enough if we are obliged to resort to them." Exactly, but when you abandon the protective tariff to raise the growing deficiency by an income tax, you at once confess the failure of your pet theory, protection, as a revenue producer, and resort to a direct tax upon home products. Senator Allison has no confidence in any reduction of expenditures. The secretary of the treasury has evidently no confidence whatever in the tariff's raising a sufficient revenue to meet the great and growing expenditures, so he is asking the congress to prepare for the storm ahead by qualifying him fully for bond selling in time of peace. Oh, how the republican organs all around fished and jeered at poor Cleveland for his

bond selling. The house must propose the changes as to raising revenue, and then it goes to the senate. Mr. Allison says, as reported in The New York Evening Post, by its Washington correspondent:

"If the house gives us something to build on, or to amend, we can frame some revenue legislation in the senate, but not otherwise. In brief, if they send us one leg to stand on, we can supply the other leg, but we cannot constitutionally make the first move."

"So the panacea of the government's many financial ills is the Gage plan—to kill off greenbacks and sell bonds for gold. This is the sum of the wisdom of the present administration."

THE CIRCULATING MEDIUM

There is an immense quantity of money in the country, according to official reports and the newspapers. The abundance is great. The per capita for every man, woman and child, is put by the United States treasury at \$24. But where is all this money deposited? It does not circulate. In North Carolina, we doubt if there is a man of fair intelligence who believes there are \$10 per capita in circulation. If there is more, or even so much, it is locked up. The money is mainly held in a few great centres—in New York especially—and in the eastern banks. The south gets really but a small share. In North Carolina there are 1,700,000 inhabitants probably. Is there now in circulation in this state twenty-four times that sum? Who is fatuous enough to believe it? Multiply and then ask yourself if it is remotely probable. The sum will stagger you—over \$40,000,000. The grand totals of money, according to officials, is \$1,939,456,152. This, it is estimated, is the actual amount "in circulation." It is thus classified:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Gold: \$729,661,210; Greenbacks: \$346,681,016; Treasury Notes: \$109,313,280; Silver dollars: \$75,415,445; Silver certificates: \$72,838,519; National bank notes: \$20,132,275; Subsidiary silver: \$7,414,007.

Grand totals: \$1,939,456,152. North Carolina's part is \$40,000,000 or more. You will see how much gold is claimed, and how little it is to do the business of a great country upon that basis alone. The Houston Post sees this and says:

"The business of the United States, foreign and domestic, amounts to many thousand millions in value annually and requires for active and prosperous operations a far larger sum of money than is now in sight in the country. Scarcity of money, means dear money, and dear money means ordinarily poor trade."

Bucklen's Arnica Salve. The best salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all skin Eruptions, and positively cures Itches, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction of money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by R. R. Bell.

HOME FOLKS.

The Henderson Gold Leaf, a very neat and useful paper, is sixteen years old. Continued prosperity to it!

So far the Tsar has evaded trouble and responsibility as to Superintendent Smith and his shortcomings, and most pronounced incapacity by swapping him off and shoving him upon the unhappy members of the agricultural board, who are supposed to be brainless according to Russell. A poor dodge for the governor and unworthy.

A gold medal was awarded to the Southern Railway Company by the Tennessee Centennial Exposition for its exhibit of North Carolina minerals and ores. The forestry display also won the highest award. A gold medal was awarded to each, we suppose. Other exhibits were awarded silver and bronze medals. North Carolina, some how, manages to come out with the foremost in spite of stinginess on the part of legislatures.

We are glad to see the December number of the North Carolina University Magazine. It is a "survival of the fittest." It has done a very good work in the past for North Carolina and its history, and we trust it will do excellent work in that direction as well as in the finer walks of pure letters in the future. The most noticeable papers are "The Opening of the University on 15th January 1796," by Dr. K. P. Battle, professor of the chair of history, and "The Physicians" in the (estate) Convention of 1861, by J. G. McCormick, class of 1898. That means the graduating class next year. Terms \$1, a year or 25 cents a copy.

White people who love North Carolina and appreciate native authors are buying their Christmas presents, do not overlook that nice little volume of poems entitled "Fugitive Lines" by Henry Jerome Stockard. He is a Christian poet, a faithful Presbyterian, and richly deserves remembrance. The volume will be a choice gift to any one who really loves true poetry and of "native woodnotes wild." Take the following brief clippings very favorable to the merits of "Fugitive Lines," and then remember the young and genuine poet:

Hood's Pills. Are gaining favor rapidly. Business men and travelers carry them in vest pockets, ladies carry them in purses, housekeepers keep them in medicine closets, friends recommend them to friends. See

"Some of the sonnets in his volume are distinctly above the common level."—The Atlantic.

"Some of these poems are marked for survival."—Washington Star.

"The poems are thoughtful, well expressed."—Baltimore Sun.

"It contains many lines of thoughtful verse, melodious and penetrated by true imaginative feeling."—The Hartford Courant.

"Many a poetic soul will find in his verse the sympathy and mood and the refinement of its expression."—The Sunday School Times.

Mr. W. W. Ashe, forrester of the North Carolina geological survey. In his report, says of the waste lands in this state, that they number 2,000,000 acres in the southeastern counties alone. He thinks if they were well timbered they would bring into the state treasury each year a half million dollars. This is deplorable "waste" of opportunity and money if well based. He says:

"This great area of waste land lies in Richmond, Moore, Cumberland, Hatter, Bladen, Brunswick and other southeastern counties, which have a considerable area of the loose, sandy soil. It is unsuited for general agricultural purposes, that is, for ordinary field crops, on account of its poor soil, and it will certainly be a great many years, at the present rate of utilization, before even one-half of it is demanded for trucking or fruit culture."

As it well known, this land was once all timbered with long-leaf, or yellow pine, but as the pine was destroyed by fires, or the timber removed in lumbering, not only did no young growth of this pine spring up, but it was followed by the growth of no valuable or even large sized tree, thickets of scrub oaks took possession, which can yield only a limited amount of fuel, and nothing more. That this condition is due to the frequent burnings, which are more destructive to the young growth of the pine than to that of the thick barked oaks, together with the ravages of the hogs, that eat the roots of the young pines as well as the seed, is a fact too well known to be more than mentioned.

Writing in the agricultural bulletin he points out the way to better management and to restock the lands with proper growth of trees. The Messenger is an advocate of tree planting, and those "waste lands" should be utilized by the state and promptly.

CURES TO STAY CURED.

Thousands of voluntary certificates received during the past fifteen years, certify with no uncertain sound, that Botanic Blood Balm, (B. B. B.) will cure to stay cured, Rheumatism, Catarrh, Ulcers, Sores, Blotches, and the most malignant blood and skin diseases. Botanic Blood Balm is the result of forty years experience of an eminent, scientific and conscientious physician. Send stamp for book of wonderful cures, and learn which is the best remedy. Beware of substitutes said to be "just as good" and buy the long-tested and reliable Botanic Blood Balm, (B. B. B.) Price only \$1.00 per large bottle.

EFFECTED AN ENTIRE CURE.

For over two years I have been a great sufferer from Rheumatism, affecting both shoulders to such an extent that I could not put my coat on without help. The use of six bottles of Botanic Blood Balm, B. B. B., effected an entire cure. I refer to Rev. W. W. Wadsworth, proprietor Coweta Advertiser, and to all merchants of Newman. JACOB F. SNODGLER, Newman Ga.

SNAPS.

Three negroes were lynched in Louisiana for murder.

It is reported that there are more than 1,000 cases of smallpox in Atlanta, and nearly all are negroes.

Three Cincinnati legislators announce that they will not vote for Hanna for senator. He tried to defeat them. Turn about is fair play.

In the Virginia senate the committee on general laws voted against football playing by a vote of five to four. Ladies were before the committee.

Good, but not enough. Three Princeton students were "suspended" for persecuting a brother student. They ought to be expelled and made examples at once.

It is announced in the northern papers that a posthumous work by the late Henry George is to be published, and it is believed to be the ablest production that ever came from his pen.

Opposition to Hanna in Ohio is increasing, so says a Columbus dispatch to The Washington Post. Mark is finding a steep and rugged road. Rumor says twenty-five republicans will go against him.

General Julio Sanguilly, the supposed Cuban patriot, has betrayed his companions and sold out to Spain. Another traitor added to the vile list. He wishes now to fight against the patriots.

The anti-cigarette law goes into effect in Tennessee. It meets with opposition, of course, for there are strong backers of the dangerous, youth-killing cigarette as there is of the death-dealing football.

The newspapers are killing Prince Bismarck again. The greatest German is not far from eighty-one, and perhaps his race is almost run. But the great Gladstone will be eighty-eight this month. Both are marvellous men.

It is quite reasonable and natural for our paternal government to send relief to the reckless people who rushed to Alaska in search of the "golden fleece," with emphasis on the latter word, when it can send help to people in other lands.

If the Spaniards keep on fooling over the United States and their doings, they may get up a "rucus" by land and sea that may be mortifying to the lofty pride of the Dons. Now they are excited over the movements of one of our squadrons. There is no war on.

The house committee reported unanimously a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution providing for the election of senators of the United States, either by a direct vote of the people or the legislatures of the several states as now provided.

In New Orleans, there is a republican member of the state committee, a negro politician by the name of Wilson, who declares that he will vote for the constitutional convention, as he desires to see the ignorant masses disfranchised. This is a sign of returning reason.

We mentioned some fortnight since that there was to be a heavy cut in wages in the great cotton mills at Fall River. It is recently announced that the reduction will begin early next year. The men who will suffer by the reduction may think it more of a tidal wave of destruction than one of prosperity. It has begun in some mills already.

His Character All Right Yet. The following cross-examination of a witness in a court in western North Carolina is sent us as an actual occurrence: District Attorney. "Now, Mr. Binkins, you swear before this court and jury that you know the defendant's reputation in the community in which he lives and that he is generally reputed an upright, peaceable, lawabiding citizen?"

Witness. "Yes, sir."

District Attorney. "Now, Mr. Binkins, don't you know that Late Higgins has never done anything but loaf around and drink moonshine whiskey and fight?"

Witness. "Yes, sir."

District Attorney. "And don't you know that he broke up the Pigeon river camp meeting last winter and whipped the circuit rider?"

Witness. "Yes, sir."

District Attorney. "And don't you know that he kicked his old father down the steps and out of the yard and nearly killed him?"

Witness. "Yes, sir."

District Attorney. "And don't you know that he was once accused of stealing a horse, and that the owner of the horse and the principal witness for the prosecution were killed just before the trial was to be had?"

Witness. "Yes, sir."

District Attorney. "And don't you know that his neighbors all know these things?"

Witness. "Yes, sir."

District Attorney. "Then how can you sit there and swear that this defendant's reputation is good in the community in which he lives?"

Witness. "Why, mister, a man has to do a heap worse things than that to lose his character in our neighborhood."

The Dingley Tariff as it is

The people of Wilmington who want oranges for Christmas have a practical illustration of the Dingley bill. Under the Wilson or Cleveland tariff, the duty on oranges was \$1.50 per 1,000 oranges. Under the Dingley bill the duty is one cent per pound or the equivalent of \$5 per thousand oranges.

The British schooner Mabel Darling arrived here a few days ago from Nassau, New Providence, with a cargo of oranges and they have been selling at \$20 per thousand at the vessel. When she came here during the operation of the Dingley bill oranges sold at \$7.50, \$10 and \$12 per thousand, and never exceeded \$15 per thousand.

This is but a sample of the effect of the Dingley bill on hundreds of other articles poor people buy to eat and wear.

A Steamer Disabled at Sea

Liverpool, December 20.—The British steamer Florida, Captain Bullock, New Orleans on December 1st, for this port, has arrived here and reports having passed on December 16th in latitude 50 and longitude 22, the British steamer Appomattox, Captain Foall, from London on December 8th for Newport News. The Appomattox signaled that her shaft was broken. The British steamer Virginian, Captain Prentice, from London on December 8th for Boston, was standing by the Appomattox and preparing to take her in tow.

New Italian Cabinet Formed

Rome, December 20.—In the chamber of deputies today, the Marquis Di Rudini announced the formation of the new cabinet and the debates on the subject opened. A vote will be taken tomorrow. After criticisms upon the composition of the ministry, Signor Colombo, former minister of the treasury, submitted a resolution of want of confidence in the new government, but the chamber rejected it by a vote of 200 against 184.

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DR. MOTT'S PENNYROYAL PILLS. The only safe, sure and reliable Female PILL ever offered to Ladies, especially recommended to married Ladies. Ask for DR. MOTT'S PENNYROYAL PILLS and take no other. Send for circular. Price \$1.00 per box, 6 boxes for \$5.00. DR. MOTT'S CHEMICAL CO., Cleveland, Ohio. For Sale by W. H. Green & Co

SOON OLD SANTA CLAUS!

Will be on full dress parade, going from house to house, carrying presents to the little people. He has made my store his headquarters this season and he welcomes the letters from the children, telling him what they want. Come and get your selections before he has bought them all.

Toys. Toys.

Well, Dolls for little girls is the principal toy, and we have very nice Dolls, with hair, jointed, pretty eyes, at 5c; longer Dolls, jointed, at 10c; indestructible Dolls, 8 inches long, with gown and ruffle, at 15c; kid body, bisque head, hair, at 15c. All prices in jointed Dolls. A lovely Doll, 14 inches long, at 25c; a large dressed Doll at 25c; very fine kid body Dolls from 25, 50, 75 cts., \$1 and 1.25. I have about 100 Dolls that I brought over from last season that I will sell at half price. Dolls, 24 inches long, kid body and bisque head and hair, worth \$1.00, now at 50c; worth 50c., now 25c. We have all kinds of Toys—Pianos at 25, 50, 75 cents and \$1. Skin covered Horses and Carts, Milk Wagons, Drays, Delivery Wagons, at prices, from 25c to \$1.50. A B C Blocks, Picture Blocks, Doll Carriages, from 25, 50 cents, \$1.25 and \$1.50. Express Wagons, 50 and 75 cents; fine large Express Wagons, iron axle, with seat, at \$1.00. Tea Sets, in China, from 10c to \$1.50; a set of China Cups and Saucers for 10c; metal Tea Sets from 10 to 25 cents; Japan Tin Sets at 25c. Furniture—Bureaus, Beds, Cradles, Chairs, Horses, Swings, all prices, from 25c to \$1.00. Tables, Stoves, Iron Trains, Hook and Ladders, Trucks, Guns. All kinds of children Santa Claus. We want your Christmas trade and stand ready to divide the profit at all times, with you.

Handkerchiefs.

We have just received a big lot of Xmas Handkerchiefs for the Christmas trade. We have nice embroidered Handkerchiefs at 5, 10, 15 and 25 cts; Silk Handkerchiefs at 15, 25, 35 and 50 cents; Children Cotton Handkerchiefs at 2, 4 and 5 cents; Ladies' and Gent's Handkerchiefs, hemstitched, at 5 and 10 cents; Linen Handkerchiefs at 25 cents.

Capes.

We are selling Silk Push Capes for next week at \$2.95; our \$5.00 line at \$4.25; our Flannel Fur Trimmed Double Capes, full size, grey, at \$1.25; black at \$1.50; Velvet Trimmed Beaver

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P. P. P. Purifies the blood, builds up the weak and debilitated, gives strength to weakened nerves, expels diseases, and insures health and happiness where sickness and despair once shut out the light of life.

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