The Messenger.

THE CAUSE OF THE WAR.

The campaign of education relative to the origin and conduct of the needless, senseless war against the Filipinos is having a great effect. People are steadily learning as to the eternal infamy of the thing. If you would read a very strong, invincible exposure of the war upon the inhabitants of the Philippines you should get the article by Hon. Champ Clark, of Missouri, that appeared some months ago. It is very full, very spicy, very keen, very brave and bold, and very conclusive. It can not be answered. It as readable as a goood novel and yet there is no fiction or romance in it,save at one point. He makes the Filipinos much more ignorant and barbaric than they are. Writing probably in January he was not in possession of the testimony of Admiral Dewey and many others who have been in the Philippines and know their real worth and intelligence. Mr. Clark's elaborate paper—some thirty or more octavo pages—bristles with facts and arguments that are most telling, and the argument is clear and vigorous and relieved by something like humor in places.

If McKinley had not been elected president there would never have been heard of such a barbarity as the present war against the 10,000,000 inhabitants in the Philippines 8,000 miles away. If Mr. Bryan had been elected this great stain upon national honor would not have been given, and the good name of free institutions would not have been so blurred and brought under such suspicion. McKinley is really responsible for every American soldier's death and for every Filipino who has been ruthlessly murdered. The Filipinos did not begin to fight until they were badly treated and saw that their subjugation was resolved upon. The Philadelphia American says this:

"It was when President McKinley refused to receive, even unofficially, the representative of the Filipinos, Agoncillo, refused to receive his appeal, refused to hear him plead the cause of his people, that the Filipinos, despairing of securing justice in the court of peace, a court deliberately closed to them by our president, were driven towards war. Nor do we much wonder that President McKinley refused to receive him. For how could the president have met the calm reproaches, how answered the appeals to our own history, how stood the references to our own ideals that that Malay would have doubtless made? Could he have brazenly avowed the truth, that it was greed that kept us in the Philippines, that we saw extension of trade in keeping them and that altruistic notions of the rights of man such as we had builded our own republic upon should not be permitted to stand in the way of such extension, that our lofty principles are as nothing before the beckoning glamor of gold and trade? Such avowal Mr. McKinley could scarce have made. He the head of an empire unrivalled in resources, in wealth and power, would have to have stood before the eyes of Agoncillo with the feelings of the criminal aggressor, with the uneasiness of a guilty conscience that no knowledge that the strong had of might was at his back to carry through his policy could have relieved for an inner conscience would have whispered that might did not make right, and before Agoncillo he would have stood as the weak man, not as the strong. No wonder he shunned the interview.

"At whose doors then does the fighting lie? Who inspired the Filipinos to resort to arms? It was those who, refusing the Filipinos a hearing, denying them rights that we had written in our own Declaration of Independence as inalienable rights of man, presented to those people the alternative of abject submission or war. And be it said to their honor that they chose war."

Hon. John Barrell, late minister of the United States to Siam, has but recently returned from Manila. He is an "expansionist" of the objectionable kind, believing that this government should conquer and hold. He tells the reason why—to make money. The islands are rich and offer big returns if we conquer and hold. He does not pretend to hold that the Filipinos could not establish a government and maintain order. Not that. He does not press the "anarchy" idea, about exploded now. He says in last February the army of Aguinaldo was an excellent one and in good shape to fight, equaling that "of any European country." But the real reason, the true plea for conquest is, as he avows, because they are rich and tempting to the exploiter, because "no section of the great continent of Asia or any portion of the world of similar area still undeveloped offers such wide opportuities for the investment of capital in various enterprises," because "after traveling from one end to the other of Nippon, the principal island of Japan, and comparing what I saw of its resources with what I have seen of the island of Luzon, and I can say that in every respect, aside from mere area and population, the comparison is in favor of Luzon," because "the United States should develop to a foreign trade in the Philippine islands within the next fifteen years of $100,000,000.

And that is just the reason why. The motive is greed and not glory—the object is money and not mercy.

HOME FOLKS

It is announced that Dr. Walter H. Page is to edit a new cyclopedia to be issued by the Harper-McClure company. He is well qualified for that work—to select writers for special topics, and to superintend the publication. He may also write, we suppose.

The Raleigh Post mentions in connection with the "negro town" in Alabama that "North Carolina has had such a town for years; Princeton, across the river from Tarboro. It is peopled by colored people, entirely, and had its own municipal government, and the last time we heard of the place it was a peaceable, quietly governed community, never interfering with white people, and white people never trespassing upon them."

We received a letter from a well known citizen of Warren county in which a depressed view of conditions in that fine old county is given. His account is based upon observation, upon knowledge. Prior to the war Warren was the largest slave-holding county in proportion to population in North Carolina, and probably the wealthiest. It is not so now. Fine farms are not prospering now. We can furnish excellent authority to show that the once most prosperous of counties, Granville, is now suffering much from present conditions. Real estate has in many instances depreciated one half in the last two decades. In fact hundreds of farmers are in a bad way. The oppressive, gouging, devouring tobacco trust has done the destructive work.

Ex-Judge J. C. MacRae, of Raleigh, was elected by the trustees of the university to fill the place as professor of law, vacated by the death of the able, learned and greatly lamented Dr. John Manning. We suppose the trustees elected the best qualified man for the place among the half dozen or more seeking it. Mr. MacRae has served both on the superior and supreme court bench. He is regarded as a good lawyer of large experience and was graduated at the university. He was elected on the second ballot. The News and Observer states that he will receive $2,000 a year, the salary of a regular professor, with an additional income of $250 a month for the summer school." He is a native of Fayetteville and was born in 1838, and is sixty-one years old. He served in the great war as Major, and has been in the legislature. The university made him an LL. D.

HOW TO PROTECT HOUSES AGAINST LIGHTNING.

We did not know until Saturday that the weather bureau had issued a circular about lightning. It corrects a widely prevailing false opinion as to the lightning flash. It says lightning is really like an avalanche, a landslide, or the breaking of a dam. The whole force is exerted instantly and there is no after current.

The flashes vary very greatly in power, but it is true that a well-constructed lightning rod will convey away a great deal of electricity and thus often either prevent a flash or very much reduce its power. For this reason strokes of lightning are comparatively rare in cities. Spires and tall structures drain over-charged clouds of much of their electricity. We know that the late very eminent Professor Joseph E. Henry, of the Smithsonian Institute, held that a rod only protected an area twice the length of the rod above the object to which it was attached. Perhaps forty years ago it was that he published his views in the celebrated American Almanac where it may now be found. To protect a dwelling or other building with appropriate security it should be well covered with rods and their connections. The signal office publishes now that there is no absolute protection from lightning as it is impracticable unless a building is itself a good conductor as a steel building would be. Still a large measure of protection is easily obtained. A chimney, a church spire, or other point, high in air, is almost perfectly protected by a good lightning rod, and will reduce the danger from lightning to a wide roof beneath it very greatly. It is added that there is no definite "area of protection," as Professor Henry held. But who really knows now better than that rarely endowed man of science knew in his day? As to the rod the weather bureau states that either iron or copper may be used, and iron is as good as copper, provided the section of the iron rod be enough larger to compensate for its inferior conductivity. A rod of iron weighing 35 ounces per foot is held to be equivalent to a copper rod weighing six ounces per foot. A flat conductor is recommended. Glass insulators are useless. The rod may be fastened directly to the building to be protected. The matter of greatest importance is the condition of the two extremities of the rod—a matter often neglected with disastrous results. A rod is perfectly useless—in fact a source of danger—if its lower end is not carried down into the ground far enough to reach wet earth. It should be connected with a good sized piece of iron buried at the lowest depth reached by the rod. The top of the rod should be pointed and plated for protection from rust.

This is about the sum of all that is communicated by the Washington office, as we gather it from an exchange that has condensed it. In protecting buildings you may learn something valuable from the above.

REPUBLICANS MAY LOSE.

While the democrats are in bad shape in some southern states, the republicans are not so well off as they flatter themselves. They have troubles in some states, and it may grow rather than diminish. The Germans constitute a large part of the republican vote in the west, and are strong in other northern states. They do not like, it is said by that aggressive republican, negro organ, the New York Independent, the the cruel treatment which their ceived at the hands of McKinley and his tribe. In addition, many are Roman Catholics, and do not fancy at all thecruel treatment to which their brethren in the Philippines, the Catholics, have received from the ridiculous and cruel administration. It also sees danger in the threats of the negroes. The New York Evening Post, gold organ says:

"It certainly will be a serious matter for the republicans if they shall lose next year their old hold upon the Germans and the negroes, and there is ample warrant for the apprehensions expressed by the Independent."

The negro vote did much in 1898, to help Hanna and his ballot stuffers and vote buyers to put McKinley in, which was a very great offence against morality, decency, patriotism and good government. Money will be to the front full handed next year. If plutocracy does not win and control the country it will be because the voters fail to sell out.

BREVITIES

General Mercier is becoming even a laughing stock in France. The boys in America would call him a "rotten egg."

Is it you? The heirs of Matthias Sittler, a German nobleman who settled in Maryland in 1738, are wanted. There are $75,000,000 awaiting claimants. Do not all apply. W. J. Sittler, of Effingham, Ill., is the man to write to.

A writer in the New York Times says there are no Caucasians in the United States "who admit the negro to be their equal." That will be news indeed. It is thought in the south that there are big "lots" of people in New England and other states who are dreadfully sweet on the Africans and take them to their bosoms on terms of much intimacy. Not "equal." Pshaw!

The negroes held a meeting at Chicago, threatening their party if it does not protect their race and saying they will desert if it is not done. They say nothing of protecting the white women in the south. The rascals, the murderers, the house-burners, the robbers and the rapists must be protected in their villainy or the negroes "will know the reason why."

The New York Independent praises General Joe Wheeler's book on the Santiago campaign. Upon general principles after that we would say to the hero look out.

Agnes Lide, aged twelve, died from neglect at Darlington, S. C. She lived in a family of "faith curists" who did not cure. The case will be investigated.

Democrats in Kentucky are greatly divided. A house divided against itself can not stand. Abuse of each other runs violent.

The lascivious and wanton W. C. P. Breckinridge, is down on Goebel, the regular democratic nominee for governor. And so is that very dead failure as a soldier and politician, Simon Buckner. Their opposition ought to unite the democrats.

HISTORY RESTATED

The gold papers for the most part either do not understand the principles of the democratic party or they deliberately misrepresent them. The democratic party is a bimetallic party and has been from the way back. The Washington Post is a republican, high tariff, gold only, expansion organ. It has grace enough to tell the truth when it says this:

"It is quite in order at this time when efforts are being made to reunite the regulars and bolters of 1896, to restudy the history of "the great schism." It is not true that the coinage plank of the Chicago platform of 1896 was or is un-democratic. It is a fact that a declaration for the gold standard would have been un-democratic. Was the flat money plank of the democratic platform of 1868 undemocratic? Did it create schism? On the contrary, was it not accepted as the faith and policy of the party? Who, looking at that tenet of the democratic creed of 1868, will venture to assert that free coinage of silver, at the old ratio, was heresy in 1896?

"For twenty years prior and up to 1896 the democratic party in all the reliably democratic states had been stoutly contending for free coinage. On every possible occasion a majority of democrats in congress voted for free coinage."

That is historically true. In the seventies after the republicans had demonetized silver by the cunning trick in 1873, John Carlisle, now a goldbug of the Wall Street metalic kind, made his terrible speech of arraignment against the republicans and foretold just what would happen from the cruel blow aimed at the people. The democratic party stands for bimetallism—both gold and silver. If its platform in 1900 should repudiate that financial principle it will go back upon its record for a quarter of a century in the congress and in its state and national conventions. The Post says this, and it speaks words of soberness and truth:

"Old issues are changing and new issues are arising from year to year. Settled issues are dropped and new ones are taken up in national platforms. The tribunal that decides what is democratic, what is republican, or what is populistic doctrine is the national convention. If, therefore, the free coinage declaration of 1896 had been a new issue, instead of well established democratic policy, a majority vote in the Chicago convention would have sufficed to put it into the creed and make it democratic."

DEAN OF THE LAW SCHOOL

General Satisfaction at the Election of Judge MacRae—Crops in the East Damaged by the Storm—The Public Printers Docked

Messenger Bureau.
Raleigh, N. C., August 21.

There is very general satisfaction felt here in the appointment of Judge MacRae to the chair of law at the university. The salary is $2,000, and, besides that, the incorporation of the summer school with the university to be taught by the regular faculty gives $250 per month each to the professors who teach the summer school.

Persons coming up from the eastern part of the state report great damage to the crops, corn, cotton and tobacco being blown to the ground in many sections. Even as far up as Goldsboro the crops felt the effects of the storm.

The incorporators of the Raleigh and Great Eastern railroad met Saturday afternoon and elected Julian S. Carr, president; N. W. West, vice-president and C. B. Barbee, secretary and treasurer. Mr. West and M. Barbee are both from Raleigh. Work on the road which is a local one, will begin at once.

The members of the corporation commission and the clerk to the commission have returned from the convention of railroad commissioners at Denver and report a most pleasant and profitable trip.

The August bulletin of the agricultural department was issued Saturday. It is a 48 page pamphlet and is devoted to the industrial and stock raising interests of the state.

The public printers are four days behind with the state printing. The law gives the secretary of state the priviledge of fining the printers $50 per day each day for forfeiture of contract. This has been done and it is the first time on record that this law has been taken advantage of.

The treasurer today received the proof of the bonds for $110,000 which were issued May 22nd.

NEW NORTH CAROLINA ENTERPRISES

More machinery for the Salisbury hosiery mill came in this week and the mill will turn out more work accordingly. The last shipment of machines is soon to be made and the mill will be put to its full capacity.—Salisbury Sun.

The Elkin Times says there is money to be made in the honey industry in that section. Several citizens have gathered from 1,000 to 2,000 pounds of the sour-wood variety this season.

A roller process flour mill with a daily capacity of forty barrels is to be established at Murphy.

There is a movement on foot by a few of the substantial business men of Mocksville to secure subscribers to stock sufficient to establish a furniture factory here and we are thankful to say they are succeeding nicely, as about half of the amount wanted has been secured with little canvassing.—Mocksville Times.

Mr. John H. Hays, the chief engineer of the Erwin Cotton Mills Company, with his corps of assistants, has established a camp near the old John Williams mill, on the east side of Haw river. They will be busily engaged there for several weeks in surveying and making estimates preparatory to the construction of a dam and canal for furnishing the water power for the cotton mills, which are proposed to be built on the property recently bought by that company on Haw river.—Pittsboro Record.

The walls of the new cotton mill are nearing the top. It will add a great deal of business to the town, and we are glad to know that the machinery is expected to be in operation by the end of the year.—Newton Entrprise.

Work at the site of the cotton seed oil and fertilzier mill is being pushed. The foundations of the buildings are being laid. The well, although not forty feet deep, has an output of fifteen thousand gallons of water per day. An engine has to be kept running all the time to pump the water out of the well so that the workmen can work in it.—Monroe Enquirer.

Rescued by American Warship

Rio Janeiro, August 21.—The United States cruiser Montgomery, arrived here last night from Montevideo reports having rescued all the crew of the British steamer Nettleton, Captain Vigers, from Norfolk, July 25th for Rio Janeiro, which went around twenty miles east of here.

The vessel's forepeak and forehold are full of water, but the second hold and the after hold are tight.

A ROW IN ATLANTA

Mr. Atkinson, of Boston, Resents Denunciation for Vile Criticism of Atlanta Councilmen

Atlanta, Ga., August 21.—Owing to a denunciation of Harry M. Atkinson, formerly of Boston, Mass., and a nephew of Edward S. Atkinson, of that city, by W. S. Thompson, councilman from the fourth ward, at a meeting of the general council this afternoon, the police reserve was called out to preserve order and quell what threatened at one time to be a riot.

Several days ago a card was published in one of the newspapers in this city, supporting a petition for franchises which Mr. Atkinson was asking from the city. In the card several members of the council and board of aldermen were said to have collars around their necks branded with the name of the opposing corporation—the Atlanta Railway and Power Company.

Mr. Atkinson is a capitalist well-known in Boston and is secretary of the Collins Park and Belt Railroad Company. Councilman Thompson resented what he termed an insult and said of Mr. Atkinson, after intimating that the latter had falsified regarding certain statements before a committee: "He is the meanest of all creation—Plutarch said 'lying is the vice of slaves.' Men who marched to the cannon's mouth where blue bellied yankees were as thick as hops are here told by one of that ilk that we have a master. It makes my blood boil. The idea that a man can come from that seat of learning and say that we have a master! Oh, it makes by blood boil to be singled out for the venom of this viper and then know what a cur he is, breath the whip of this master—money. And then he thinks he is the equal of gentlemen. What insult could be greater than this?"

Mr. Atkinson was also denounced by Alderman Turner. After the session adjourned, Mr. Atkinson accosted Colonel Thompson and before words could pass they started for each other when the reserve of police interferred and prevented blows.

The Bond Case Appealed

Richmond, Va., August 21.—The Union Bank of Richmond has instructed its counsel to apply to the supreme court of the United States for a writ of certari in the case of the board of commissioners of Oxford, N. C., versus the Union Bank, of Richmond, which was decided in favor of the former in the United States circuit court of appeals on the 11th instant.

The case involves the validity of the railroad aid bonds issued by Oxford. The circuit court of appeals decided that the failure to record the yeas and nays on the second and third readings of the act authorizing the bond issue invalidated them.

There are several other railroad aid bonds and other important cases on which the final decision will have an important bearing.

Kruger Replies to Great Britain

Capetown, August 21.—The report that the Transvaal government had handed its reply to the British agent at Pretoria, to be forwarded to Sir Alfred Milner, British high commissioner for South Africa and governor of Cape Colony, is confirmed. It is believed, however, that the proposition of Great Britain for a joint commission to investigate the effect which the franchise reform legislation would have on the Outlanders, has not been accepted, but that fresh proposals have been advanced.

A Fatal Family Row

Gadsden, Ala., August 21.—A family row occurred at Seaborn, Ala., today in which Joe Ward, an ex-convict, brained his sister with a two-gallon churn. The girl had found employment with a neighbor, but her brother objected. Another brother of the girl, infuriated by the ex-convict's act, armed himself and went in search of the murderer. They met in the road and a duel ensued with the result that the criminal is badly wounded.

Killed by a Town Marshal

Jacksonville, Fla., August 21.—A Hampton, Fla., dispatch to The Times-Union and Citizen says that Town Marshal Richardson shot and killed N. E. Roberts, a prominent farmer, in self-defense at Lake Butler today. Roberts' friends swear revenge and guards are now protecting Richardson. The affair was the result of the killing of Deputy Marshal Kite by the Richardson brothers on Saturday night. Sheriff Denmark is on the scene trying to restore peace.

A Circus Tent Falls on the Audience

Richmod, Va., August 21.—A special from Winchester, Va., says that during a violent wind storm there this afternoon, the big tent of John Robinson's circus was blown down upon the vast crowd in it. A general panic ensued and some forty people were more or less injured by being trampled on. Fred O'Brien, an acrobat, was the most seriously injured. His right thigh was broken, and he received other injuries. While the struggling mass was under the canvass thieves reaped a harvest.

Diamond Shoals Lightship Adrift

Norfolk, Va., August 21.—A telegram was received by the weather bureau today via their seacoast telegraph line, stating that Diamond Shoal lightship No 69 had been broken adrift from her moorings during the late storm and driven into Hatteras bight, around the hook, and was now lying there—damage unknown.