

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1898.

H. A. LONDON, Editor.

THERE may be war between Spain and the United States, and yet we cannot think so. Each country is actively preparing for war, and many persons and papers in both Spain and the United States are clamoring for war, and yet we hope that the people of this country are too civilized to permit so unnecessary a calamity. If war should come many of the persons now so clamorous for it would never go into it, just as was the case during the war between the states. Many of our readers will remember that so many persons in 1861 were clamorous for war, and yet when war did come they could not at home and let their more powerful neighbors do the fighting. And it would be just the same thing if war should be declared between Spain and the United States.

We have no more idea that the Spanish government had anything to do with the destruction of the *Mine* than the British government had. It is much more probable that it was the Spanish work of the Cuban insurgents, in order to cast the responsibility on Spain. In a war with Spain the United States could gain nothing, but might suffer much loss. If one country should quickly win Spain there would be no more peace in it, than when a large and powerful man beats a small and weak one. And Spanish vessels and privateers would almost ruin American commerce and drive American ships from the high seas. In addition to the loss of human life a war would greatly increase the public expenses and add to our public debt many millions. No, no, let there be no war, but let calmness and conservatism prevail. Let wise statesmanship and a Christian civilization guide and govern the rulers and people of both Spain and the United States.

Thus far it has not been made known what caused the blowing up of the *Mine*. A naval officer of inquiry is still in session taking testimony, but no information has been published as to what that testimony is. It may be a week or more before the court makes any report. In the mean time our people should not become unduly excited over the sensational publications that are daily being made.

It now seems probable that Judge Ewart will not be the successor of Judge Dick, as Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina. It has been a month, or more, since President McKinley nominated him, but as yet the Senate has not acted on his nomination, and Senator Butler says that the Senate will reject Ewart. Butler is doing his best to defeat Ewart's nomination, and while the motives prompting him may not be commendable yet we do commend his opposition to Ewart, who is not a fit person for that judicial position.

Nor is Ewart a fit person for the position he now holds—Judge of the western criminal district—which he was elected by the Fusion Legislature of 1896. And although then elected as one of Butler's "non-partisan" judges, Ewart has proved utterly unfit for the Bench because of his intense political partisanship. He is the only Judge in North Carolina who ever made political speeches while a Judge, and he has been very aptly called the "Ermine Tractor."

The murder of the colored postmaster and family at Lake City, South Carolina, is one of the most brutal and inexcusable crimes that we have ever heard of. Human seems almost too light punishment for the inhuman wretch who committed so terrible a crime.

The Washington Post Almanac for 1898 contains over 500 pages of facts and figures of much interest and value for the office, home and farm. Get a copy. Only 25 cents.

The annual fish and oyster fair at New Bern is now being held, and its opening was a great success, upon which we congratulate its enterprising promoters.

The Raleigh Gazette, James H. Young's paper, has suspended publication for lack of proper support.

Vegas Hidden New Bern.

A correspondent of the Fayetteville *Observer*, writing from New Bern, thus describes the effects of fusion in that city:

In this city there are five negro policemen, and two negroes on the Board of school commissioners; the city attorney is a mulatto; the Register of Deeds and his assistants are negroes. All this has come about since the last election and was the result of fusion between populists and republicans. Craven is irreconcilably republican, so long as the populists and republicans continue their evolution. Why the populists are with the republicans is not clear, but it is due to the fact that the populists are attempting to knock the legislature declaration through by attaching a rider to an appropriation bill. He added that he had voted for the bill, knowing that the Senate adopted last May—was it not his mother—and that he was not only ready to vote for the same thing again as an independent measure, but was most anxious for a declaration of war against Spain which he regarded as a proper cause attempting to knock the legislature declaration through by attaching a rider to an appropriation bill. He added that he had always believed that Spain and the United States would fight over Cuba and that he still believed it, that he had always believed that it was Spain to blame that at last Cuba would not allow us to turn for guidance around to Spain. It is to be noted that the populists are not the only ones who are in favor of war, and that they will vote the same way as the Republicans.

Things are looking directly better in Washington, to those who believe that it is better to right them to be brought up and put upon, than to water down.

The Richmond correspondent of the *Charlotte Observer* gives the following statistics as to the value of property lost in North Carolina of the Cuban insurgents. In order to cast the responsibility on Spain. In a war with the United States could gain nothing, but might suffer much loss. If one country should quickly win Spain there would be no more peace in it, than when a large and powerful man beats a small and weak one. And Spanish vessels and privateers would almost ruin American commerce and drive American ships from the high seas. In addition to the loss of human life a war would greatly increase the public expenses and add to our public debt many millions. No, no, let there be no war, but let calmness and conservatism prevail. Let wise statesmanship and a Christian civilization guide and govern the rulers and people of both Spain and the United States.

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Go to your nearest newspaper.

Emerson, Feb. 25.—John F. Pitt has come to Washington to see Congress. His transmittal is written in a short, direct, forcible style, and it is evident that he has received personal help from God to present his views to the members of Congress, and expects to succeed.

He has spent two weeks here, and made one hundred converts among the people of standing.

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