

State Library

# The Messenger.

"EQUAL RIGHTS TO ALL; SPECIAL PRIVILEGES TO NONE."

Vol. 1.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., MARCH 2, 1888.

No. 43.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF NORTH CAROLINA KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

### GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH.

From a letter to the official journal of the Order, written by the General Master Workman, we copy the following in regard to a postal telegraph:

Let us allow no division of effort until we have demonstrated that we can operate a line of telegraph of our own. When we do that we can unite on another measure and put it through. Let us accomplish what we are at work on before we take any more contracts. Remember, too many irons in the fire will burn some of them.

Some time ago Mr. Green, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, made a statement before a committee at Washington in opposition to the establishment of a government telegraph. He submitted a pamphlet in which was reproduced a number of editorials from leading papers in support of the proposed plan. He did not inform the members of Congress that these papers were depending on the wires which Mr. Green held (by proxy) at one end, for the dispatches which appear every day in their columns, and that they were in all probability told to "be good" or else the news would be shut off from their pages. If, before this question is voted on, a Congressional committee will call on a few of these editors it may be discovered that fear or bribery had something to do with the writing of some of their editorials. Let me show how public opinion was made by the Western Union in one instance, and what it does in one place can be done in another.

There is in the employ of the Western Union Telegraph Company, at Chicago, a man named F. H. Tubbs; he is a local superintendent of some sort. Not long since Mr. Tubbs sent a letter, written in type writing on a Western Union letter head, to the editor of a paper in the interior of the State. It was addressed personally to the editor, and contained this language as near as can be remembered: "This company (the Western Union) is very much interested in the government telegraph question." It then went on to say that the enclosed clipping was from the Burlington *Hawkeye*, it was in opposition to the government telegraph, and it was particularly desired that it be reproduced and editorially advocated by the paper of which the recipient was the editor. If the editor complied with the request he was to send a copy of his paper to Mr. Tubbs. The editor was particularly enjoined to "regard this letter as strictly confidential."

Here is food for thought for our Congressmen to masticate. An investigating committee should be appointed by all means to ascertain how far this system of terrorism has been carried. It should be established beyond the shadow of a doubt how many of these editorials were procured in that way. To know that the Western Union or any other monopoly has it in its power to create a false public opinion in that way is sufficient to cause the government to take the power away from it. Mr. Green said the petitions which would come in from the Knights of Labor in favor of the government telegraph were inspired by Mr. Powderly, who had a spite against Mr. Gould.

I have no spite against Mr. Gould, for in all the dealings which I have had with him he has shown himself to be a very nice little man, genial, affable and polite; indeed there is no better man in

the country—for himself. I could not have a spite of any kind against him, for he has never injured me individually. I have a spite, a deep, bitter, lasting hatred against monopoly, and Mr. Gould represents monopoly more than any other one man on the American continent. The system which makes it possible to hold a club, even by proxy, as Mr. Tubbs did, over the head of a man whose duty is as sacred as that of a clergyman to his flock, is what I have a spite against. If the spite which one man feels for another will cause one million citizens of a republic to sign their names to a petition, as has been done in this instance, at the request of one man, it is pretty good evidence that more than Mr. Powderly has a spite against Mr. Gould, and that gentleman is indeed fortunate. I alone entertain feelings of an unkind nature toward him or his methods. When one million of people will take up the cause of one man without his resorting to the bribing of newspaper men here and there, without terrorism or intimidation of any kind, it is about time for the man against whom that spite is manifested to begin to reform, particularly so since one man represents millions and the other represents only—well, come to think of it—both of them represent millions, but one represents that selfish thing called the dollar, which will nestle as warmly in the thief, murderer, saint or sinner, as it will in the pocket of a monopolist. The other represents man, not one man or the million who have signed the petition, but millions of men who are opening their eyes to the fact that they all have a cause for spite against, not Gould, but Gouldism.

It may be charged that what I now say is more spite, but the way to test it is to summon the Burlington *Hawkeye* and Mr. Tubbs, if that is his real name, and go to the bottom of this thing.

LET US HAVE AN INVESTIGATION.

Congress proposes to loan bankers money at one per cent for twenty years up to the face of the bonds deposited by them as security, while the farmers of the United States are unable to borrow money of the government for one-third or one-fourth the value of their improved and productive farms even at ten per cent. Who made a banker so much better than a farmer, and who made a bond so much better than the land which pays the interest on it? There are many strange things in this world, but one of the strangest is that Congress should dare insult and rob the plow holders whose toil produces our wealth, while lavishing royal gifts corporate giants of monopoly that produce nothing but debt and misery.—*Ex*

The Springfield *Republican* remarks that the only activity displayed in favor of a postal telegraph is not as one might suppose, by the brokers and bucket shop men, but by the Knights of Labor who have the least pecuniary interest in the matter of anybody. There is nothing new or wonderful in that. The mass of men who carried guns and knapsacks in the war for the preservation of the Union had the least pecuniary interest in the matter.—*Pittsburgh Labor Tribune.*

Will the people remain silent while the national bank conspiracy is using its power to crush the labor press?

### SHAMELESS ACCUSATION.

The same journalistic organ of corporations and defender of monopolies that denounced the Pacific Railway investigation as a "stock jobbing operation," now has the shameless effrontery to proclaim the Reading Investigating Committee to be "dishonest and corrupt."

There are not two men in Congress more free from suspicion of dishonest motives or more innocent of Wall Street speculations than Judge Tilden of South Carolina, and Mr. Anderson of Kansas, the members of the investigating committee who have taken the most prominent part in the inquiry; and the other members of the committee, so far as their general reputation and their action in this case go, are above reproach. The attack on the committee is a piece of the same old story that we have seen so often in the past. It is a public and every body's enemy. It is a piece of the same old story that we have seen so often in the past. It is a public and every body's enemy. It is a piece of the same old story that we have seen so often in the past.

The Congressional Committee has succeeded in showing up the character and operations of the Reading railway and coal combination. It has secured the admission of its officials that the coal barons "do not consider the consumer" in regulating the output or fixing the price; that other collieries are now paying the 8 per cent advance denied by Czar Corbin, and that the will of the managers, not the demands of the market fixes the price of the people's fuel.

The committee likewise secured the admission that "the necessities of the miners" are relied on to force them back to work at reduced wages, while the price of coal is still away up. It has shown how or whom "protection" protects. Hence the attacks of these monopoly organs. Abuse in such a cause, from such sources, is a tribute to the feeble public service rendered by the committee.—*N. Y. World.*

The *Journal of United Labor* says of the Reading strike:

"As we go to press there are mutterings of a greater storm as the result of the alleged treachery of the agents of the company in discharging large numbers of men for no apparent reason than that they refused to aid non-union miners in their attempts to take the places of the strikers."

"The Philadelphia papers, with the honorable exception of the *Record*, are abusing the Congressional Committee for presuming to do what it was appointed to do—investigate. That it has done its duty with success is best proved by these very attacks."

"On Tuesday the news came of the alleged treachery of the company, after agreeing that no discrimination should be shown. Yet not a paper but the *Record* breathed a word, editorially, in condemnation of this treachery, though some of them had the usual slush about Knights of Labor, hired agitators and the like, by which their sycophantic toadying to the corporations is usually shown."

The Master Workman of District Assembly 51 suggests the following as a subject of debate: "That in bringing about improved industrial conditions we possess more power as consumers than as producers; in other words the boycott is a more effective weapon than the strike."

### COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF VALUABLE LAND.

By virtue of a decree of the Superior Court of Cumberland County made in a special proceeding entitled *J. M. Beasley and wife, B. O. Frost and wife, et al, ex parte, I will, as Commissioner appointed by the Court for that purpose, sell at public auction on Monday, March 12th, 1888, at 12 o'clock m., at the Market House in Fayetteville, N. C., a tract of land fronting 87 feet on Franklin street and running back 100 feet, adjoining the lands of J. B. Starr, Henry Holmes and others in the town of Fayetteville, and more particularly described in the petition filed in said cause.*

Terms of sale, Cash.  
HENRY L. COOK, Commissioner.  
This Feb'y 7th, 1888.

### THOSE CUSTOMERS

And friends, and the public generally, who have expressed such satisfaction with our purchase of

### FRESH CARLEN SEED

Am respectfully informed that I am already in receipt of a full and fresh supply from

**D. LANDRETH & SONS,**  
**A. B. CLEVELAND & Co.,**  
**Johnson, Robbins & Co.**

For sale at wholesale and retail.

H. R. HORNE.

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Note Heads,	THE	Pamphlets,
LETTER	MESSENGER	NOTES,
HEADS,	JOB	RECEIPTS,
Bill Heads,	PRINTING	Tags,
Statements,	OFFICE	Dodgers,
Envelopes,		Cards,
Circulars,		Tickets.
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J. R. LEE

### REAL ESTATE AGENT

Parties wishing to sell property should call on me. I have sold over \$9,000 worth of property in the last few months.  
Call at Messenger Office.  
Respy, J. R. LEE.

I have just received a first-class lot of

### MOUNTAIN BEEF

FROM ASHE COUNTY

YOUNG, JUICY AND TENDER

### Beef-Sausage

AND

### BEEF AND PORK SAUSAGE.

Don't forget that I buy for cash and will have to sell for the same. I thank the public for their past patronage, and beg a continuance of the same.

Respectfully,  
W. H. TOMLINSON.