

# The Messenger

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### WILMINGTON, N. C.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 1905.

### NEEDS OF THE UNIVERSITY.

We hope the members of the legislature will read carefully and make a study of the report of President Venable of the State University which he submitted last Thursday to the trustees of the institution. This institution is in great need of increased aid from the state. It should have it. If the university is to be kept up at all it should be made efficient. There is no sense in adopting a half-way ground in the state dealing with the university. It should provide for its necessities or close its doors. President Venable's report shows what is needed, what is absolutely necessary to keep this noble and venerable state institution of learning abreast of the times. The report shows that additional annual appropriations are needed for the current expenses and that it is highly important that a building to be used as a chemical laboratory should be erected.

The university is not self-supporting. It was never intended that it should be. The running expenses are not met by the fees of the students, therefore the larger the student body the greater the deficit to be made up by state appropriations or private donations. As Dr. Venable points out in his report, if this university was intended for the rich alone the charges could be placed so high as to make it self-sustaining; but it was never so intended. It is for the young men of the state of all classes who are desirous of an education—as well for those who can afford to pay only part of their expenses as for the sons of our wealthiest citizens. They all are treated alike.

As it is, Dr. Venable shows that there are only two universities in the whole land where the students pay a larger percentage of the expenses of conducting the institution. This is a surprise to us, for we thought Chapel Hill would be found to be low down on the list. The university not being self-supporting, of course it takes more money from outside sources to maintain it now with its six hundred and sixty students than it did a few years ago when there were only five hundred present; and as the student body increases in size there must be enlargement of facilities for instruction.

We feel confident that neither Dr. Venable nor the trustees would ask the legislature for additional appropriation for the annual expenses nor for a special one for the building said to be so much needed if there were not absolute necessity for such appropriations. We hope the legislators will view the matter in this light.

To refuse to give the university proper support would greatly hamper it in its work. To hamper it to such extent would be to greatly curtail its usefulness. The university was established by the state and has been kept up by it for the benefit of our young men and for future generations of young men.

If the state is not going to properly provide for it it would be better to cut off all appropriations; for keeping it up in a half-handed way and in a cramped condition is a useless expenditure of the state's money. The good work of this grand old university should not be allowed to lag because of the lack of a few more thousand dollars a year from the public treasury. That it is performing a noble work no one can deny. That it will be crippled in its usefulness unless these appropriations are made we cannot see how any one can deny who reads President Venable's report.

Too much has already been expended on the university now to leave her to mold and dry-rot for the lack of a few more thousand dollars each year.

It should not be necessary to make an earnest appeal to the legislators in this matter. All that should be necessary is to place the facts before them and tell them what is needed to remedy the unsatisfactory conditions.

The senate won't have much time for listening to long-winded speeches in the Swayne impeachment trial.

Chicago wants a "business" mayor, remarks an exchange. But it seems that the people who do the electing do not.

### TO DEEPEN THE BAR AT MOREHEAD.

It looks as if Morehead would at last be made a first class port, or rather that its entrance is to be so improved that this naturally fine harbor can be utilized. The greatest trouble all along has been the shallow water on the bar. This passed, there is found one of the finest harbors on the South Atlantic coast. There is plenty of depth of water and a good roadstead. Now that the committee of the house of representatives having charge of the preparation of the river and harbor appropriation has decided to provide for the deepening of the water on the bar we may look for great things for Morehead in the near future. This action of the committee is due, no doubt, to the influence of certain persons connected with the government who want to see the plans of the Howland Improvement Company and its backers carried out. We still think the state did well in making the lease of the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad and that the lessees will in time bring about great improvement of that section of the state. This effort to act deep water over the bar at Morehead is the most important step yet taken by those interested in the development of the town and of that part of the state. Taking into consideration some recent events we have little doubt of the success of those who are trying to secure this appropriation.

In reference to the proposed appropriation for dredging the bar Congressman Thomas, of that district, makes the following statement to the Washington correspondent of the Charlotte Observer:

"This amount includes a cash appropriation of \$45,000 for deepening and dredging the harbor bar to a depth of twenty feet at low water. The tidal range being from three to four feet, this will give a depth upon the bar of from twenty-three to twenty-four feet at high water, making the depth upon the bar equal to the depth of water in the channel leading up to Morehead City and the piers of the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad, now leased by the Howland Improvement Company. Recently Senator Aldrich and a party of capitalists visited Morehead City with a view to the improvement of this harbor. After making a thorough examination of the records at the war department, they found an estimate by the engineers would give a depth of twenty feet at low water upon Beaufort bar and a depth of twenty-four feet at high water, at a cost of \$45,000 by means of a new system of hydraulic steam dredging. For many years past but little work had been done upon Beaufort harbor and no work, in fact, except keeping up existing jetties at Port Macon and on the banks at the entrance to the harbor. This appropriation in the house bill which is an available cash appropriation, will immediately begin the work of deepening the bar to a depth of twenty-four feet at high tide, which is desired by citizens of Beaufort and Morehead City and by the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Company. It was at first supposed a larger sum would be required, but the engineers' estimate for a depth of twenty-four feet at high tide is specific and Chairman Burton, at my request included it in the bill."

### THE AVERY MEMORIAL VOLUME.

We are glad to note that the plans to publish the "Avery Memorial Volume" are progressing so satisfactorily. This book will contain the choice articles written for The Charlotte Observer by the late Isaac E. Avery, whose "Variety of Idle Comment" afforded pleasure and amusement while running in that paper to so many of its readers—and of readers of other state papers also, for they were republished in many of The Observer's exchanges. The book is to be gotten up in attractive style and will make a handsome souvenir and memento of this gifted North Carolina writer. We hope the promoters will meet with even greater success than they expect. There should be ready sale for this book, and no doubt will be. In addition to the intrinsic value of the book the object of its publishers should recommend it to the people of our state. Besides preserving in book form the writings of this gifted North Carolinian it is the purpose of those in charge of the work to devote the proceeds to the establishment of a memorial scholarship at Trinity College, from which institution Mr. Avery graduated in 1893. The board of editors is to meet in Greensboro next Saturday to make selections of such of Mr. Avery's writings as will be reproduced in the memorial volume. We wish success to them in this movement. They deserve the moral and financial support of the people of the state.

It does not look like there is going to be much improvement of the divorce law by the present legislature.

### NOT MEDICINE

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### McCUE MUST HANG.

When the governor of Virginia rescripted until February 19th Dr. McCue, who had been sentenced to hang on January 20th there was criticism of his action in some quarters. The following reasons given by the governor for granting the rescript show that the sentence was not deserved and that he was acting in aid of the judicial branch of the state government instead of attempting to usurp its functions.

His words have the true ring. It is a pity some other governors do not take the same view of the exercise of clemency in the cases of men who have been given a fair trial and declared guilty of the offense charged by those who are by law required to investigate such matters and declare the guilt or innocence of the party on trial.

Governor Montague gave these reasons for his conduct, and any one reading them will be pretty well convinced that he will not again take action on the case:

"The guilt or innocence of those charged with crime is to be determined by the judicial tribunals. The executive should aid and not arrest the judgments of courts or the executions of law, save for supreme reasons. For the executive to review the opinions of courts or the verdicts of juries, no matter how he disagrees with them, would be plain usurpation of authority. But the supreme court of appeals has this day been petitioned for a rehearing of the application for a writ of error, and the executive has since been requested by this eminent tribunal to grant a rescript of the death sentence that sufficient time may be had for such further consideration of the case as justice and law may require. In granting this request the executive is aiding and not obstructing the administration of the law, and he, therefore, will direct a rescript until Friday, the 10th day of February, 1905."

Latin-American countries are to be given to understand that they may furnish the entertainments hereafter, but that Uncle Sam will have charge of the gate receipts.—Washington Post.

But when the performances close who will pay the bills if the gate receipts fall short of the expenses?

Wouldn't it be well for Russia and Japan to declare an armistice long enough for them to take a hand in settling on the plans for the peace palace at The Hague?

Congressman Littlefield of Maine says we must either reduce appropriations or face a deficit. How about getting out of the difficulty by increasing treasury receipts through proper adjustment of our tariff laws?

The news the czar is permitted to receive as to what is going on in his capital seems to be as effectively censored as is that allowed to be sent to foreign newspapers. He apparently has very little idea of what is going on around him. There are strong indications of a widespread plot among the nobility to depose him and raise Grand Duke Vladimir to the throne.

The Winston Sentinel gives utterance to the following sensible opinion on the South Dakota bond case:

If North Carolina owes that money it should be paid. If the claim is not a just one, as is believed by a great many people, some method should be taken at once for repudiating it. Entirely too much time and money has been spent with reference to the matter.

Cardinal Newman says "a gentleman is one who never inflicts pain." Then, we suppose, French duelists are all gentlemen.

A long-time and highly esteemed subscriber of the Messenger residing in one of the eastern towns of the state, in writing to renew his subscription, adds:

"Please do your best to stop legislation that is threatening to make paupers in our own state by excluding all help for cotton mills until youths are fourteen years old. Can't you get the legislature to adjourn and arrest turning our state over to the republican party?"

We hope it is not as bad as our good friend fears.

### Tonic to the System.

For liver troubles and constipation there is nothing better than DeWitt's Little Early Risers, the famous little pills. They do not weaken the stomach. Their action upon the system is mild, pleasant and harmless. Bob Moore, of LaFayette, Ind., says: "No use talking, DeWitt's Little Early Risers do their work. All other pills I have used gripe and make me sick in the stomach and never cured me. DeWitt's Little Early Risers proved to be the long sought relief. They are simply perfect." Persons traveling find Little Early Risers, the most reliable remedy to carry with them. Sold by R. R. Bellamy.

### A Congressman With Cheek.

Congressman J. Adam Bede of Minnesota looks like a Scandinavian, but is not. Nor can he talk in their native tongue to citizens hailing from "the land of the midnight sun." Therefore, he was rather embarrassed while campaigning last fall on finding himself face to face with an audience composed almost entirely of Swedes. Trying to find a way out of the difficulty, he asked how many of his hearers were born in this country. Only two hands went up. Mr. Bede felt dizzy, but braced up and asked: "How many of you speak English?" All hands went up, whereupon he said with great dignity: "Of course, I speak the Swedish tongue, but for tonight I shall use English, having prepared my address in that language."

### A. Jeremind.

(Correspondence of The Messenger.)

Hope Mills, N. C., January 28.

"Who so stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor shall also cry himself and shall not be heard."

I believe that David when uttering the above was as wise a man and as near a Christian as any man that was elected to any office in any state of the union in the last forty years.

I have written to our legislators and even to the governor at different times, asking them to use their better judgment and influence to get certain laws passed for relief and to lift somewhat the burdens off the poor women and children; and in all these years Senator J. D. McNeil, of Cumberland county, has been the only man whose heart could be touched with a feeling for the infirmities of the women and children of the poor and common people. But he, like Moses, after hearing the truth of the matter chose to suffer the abuse of a few richer men and refused to set his unholy foot on the necks of the poor to take away what God in his mercy had given them to live on.

But the legislators of two years ago turned a deaf ear to the same cry and to please a few men took away the rights of many poor to increase their suffering only because one rich man commanded and they must obey at any cost.

Why is it that of over two hundred men elected two years ago that only eighteen have been returned this year. There may be something wrong when a man is only chosen for one term.

I am now sixty years old. I have seen many mistakes in our party and I greatly fear that without a great change two more years will put us back without any voice in matters once more, and if our people manage so as to lose the power again we will be in bad shape. I fear, for many years to come.

I am poor and without even a common school education, but I think I know more about the necessities of the poor and common people than the rich can find out were they to try. The great trouble with the rich is that they do not know and can not know how bad the poor in this country suffer. If they could know and realize the condition of the poor they and the poor would all thrive together and all be richer and better people. By not knowing the necessities of the poor they pass laws which make the poor man so poor and helpless that he cannot work.

One of the worst things for all that could be done is passing stock laws in the legislature to please a few men while fully nine tenths of the people are bitterly opposed to them. I am not afraid to say that this is the leading cause of the poverty of the south, and unless it is stopped it will destroy the democratic party. This stock law causes nearly double the cotton to be planted that would otherwise be planted. The people have to give up raising stock. A poor man can not make a living in the country if you take away his rights to raise stock that the state guarantees to him in his land deed.

When a man gets so stingy that he doesn't want a poor widow's stock to run on his land he has passed the grade of religion or even civilization, for God made the stock and put them in the woods and made something to keep them alive before he made man at all; and later on he says:

"Woe unto them that lay house to house and field to field until there be no place left."

When the stock law is imposed on a poor man he gives up, moves to town or to a cotton mill where his children are soon worked to death, being treated meaner than the horses and mules, having to work before day and after dark, which is the greatest sin against God and the poor that has ever been committed in America.

Talk about whiskey sellers! I know whiskey sellers are great sinners, but they are saints beside men who will force women and children out in the mud, water and snow an hour before day, half naked and bare-footed. Same and sin!

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