

[Communicated.]

Can Calcasieu be Made an Agricultural Parish?

This question has been often asked, but as yet has never been satisfactorily answered. And so long as the citizens of the parish follow the method of farming that they do now, the question will not be answered.

The people (especially those of Lake Charles) seem anxious that emigrants would settle upon the vast prairies of the parish, open farms and make it a fine agricultural parish. When people from a distance visit the parish, and are desirous of purchasing homes for their families, see the vast prairies in the condition that nature formed them, they ask in some wonder why this fine looking land is not cultivated. They want to know if the land is worth anything for cultivation. They are told that the land is good, the soil rich and adapted to the cultivation of all kinds of grain, cotton, vegetables and fruits. O yes, all it needs is to break, fence and plant, and you will reap an abundant harvest. The stranger looks over the broad prairie and sees nothing but grass and cattle. It naturally occurs to him, if all this is so, why is not this land put in cultivation.

In traveling over the land once in a great while he will see a small house with a small field planted in corn that looks sickly, small stunted stalks with perhaps a few very small ears of corn.

He wonders at this after having been told that the land was rich. He becomes satisfied that there is a mistake somewhere, and naturally thinks that the land is no account, and goes to some other locality to buy a home.

This is the cause that hinders the settling up of the parish. What little farming is done in the parish, is so poorly done that it is really a drawback or hindrance to the development of the soil. Those who plow and plant, plow so shallow that, after three or four years, the life of the land is worn out, and then abandoned; whereas, if they would plow deep, they would stir up a rich soil that has never been used, give the corn and cotton roots an opportunity to penetrate deep and draw sustenance from the virgin soil.

So long as the so-called farmers do their work in the slovenly, slipshod manner they do, it will be a long time before they will or can induce emigrants to settle upon the prairie lands of the parish. There can be no doubt but, with deep cultivation, our prairies would be very productive. It matters not what kind of a crop you plant, to succeed well you must plow deep, even if it is rice.

I will give you an instance in proof of this. A young gentleman of this parish was preparing his land for rice and plowed deep, his neighbors, who plowed shallow, told him that he would not make anything, he was plowing too deep; he did not believe it, and continued to plow deep; the season proved a dry one, his neighbors' rice suffered from this cause and produced nine or ten barrels to the acre, while his rice yielded fourteen barrels per acre. So much for deep plowing.

This parish could be made to rival Delaware or Florida in fine peaches, in fact all fruits and grapes do well here. Farmers, take the hint.

It is stated that a syndicate has been organized in New York to control the steamboat and barge navigation of the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio rivers. James R. Keene, of New York, is said to be at the head of the company, and great promises of reduction in freight are held out. The company has purchased sixty-three steamers and one hundred and twenty barges at par value, and they claim that they can run them at a reduction of \$800,000 a year in expense. Should Eastern monopoly seize the Mississippi and all water transportation in the South and West, the effect would be the same as damming the mouth of the Father of Waters and the long-hand theory would be established as the only means of carrying Southern cotton and Western grain to market.

Death of the Foreman of the John Brown Jury.

Harrisonburg, Va., August 1.—George W. Tuley, formerly a citizen of Jefferson county, Virginia, and foreman of the jury that convicted John Brown, in consequence of which his family had been greatly persecuted during the war, died here last night at 12 o'clock.

He belonged to a church with a steeple, and prayed in a manner most grand; he chose his companions from people who were ranked as the best in the land; but with all of his luminous morals vice over him hung black as jet, and darkened his crown of bright florals—he played on the fiendish concert!—[Modern Argos.]

A Remarkable Achievement.

[New Orleans Democrat, July 31.]

The management of the Chicago, St. Louis and New Orleans Railway Company are entitled to the highest commendation for the very remarkable feat achieved by them on Friday last in changing the gauge of their road from this City to Cairo, a distance of 550 miles, in the average time of eight hours for a division of 100 miles.

There has frequently been rapid work of this kind done in other sections of the country, but the Jackson road is entitled to the honors for having accomplished the change in less time and with less disarrangement of traffic and discomfort to travelers than any other road.

Those unfamiliar with the workings of a great railway cannot readily appreciate the magnitude of the undertaking, or the brains, energy, skill and foresight required to push it to a successful issue. They take no account of the rolling stock that has to be altered to fit the new gauge, or of the labor and expense involved in changing fifty-five locomotives, twelve hundred freight cars, forty-one passenger cars, six mail cars, five express and thirteen baggage cars, so as to be ready to be put to work the moment the rails are moved. They lose sight of the army of nearly fifteen hundred men engaged in the work of shifting the rails alone, to say nothing of those numerous workshops and offices of the company—all of whom are kept busily at work, and each one of whom has his special service to perform rapidly and well, in order that the result desired may be attained promptly and without confusion or disorder—and cannot justly estimate the real magnitude of the work.

There are yet to be changed to the new gauge forty-three locomotives and six hundred and fifty freight cars, but this work will not in any way interfere with the traffic of the road, which moves as smoothly as if nothing had occurred.

The achievement is one of which not only the railroad but the people of the South should feel proud, for it proves that we have here men as capable to control great enterprises as there are in any portion of the country, and that our railway managers are fully abreast of the progressive spirit of the world.

COMPLIMENTARY.

Volume 1 No. 3 of the Lake Charles COMMERCIAL is before us. The COMMERCIAL is a neat weekly paper published by Mr. John McCormick and we trust it will meet with the liberal patronage which it seems to deserve, and we gladly place it on our list.—[Iberia Journal.]

The first number of the Lake Charles COMMERCIAL, a new paper established at Lake Charles, parish of Calcasieu, is on our table, and demands favorable notice for its fine typographical appearance, interesting contents and marked ability of its editorials. The COMMERCIAL is a six-column, four-page paper, published by Mr. John McCormick. Subscription price, \$2 a year. We accord it a hearty welcome and wish it a liberal meed of success.—[Donaldsonville Chief.]

Postal Money Orders.

[N. O. Democrat.]

Postmaster General James has adopted a new plan for the transmission of small sums of money by postal orders. The new device is an improvement on the English system recently adopted. By it money orders for all sums under \$5 can be sent; the charges on orders under \$5 being from 2 to 3 cents, and on sums from \$5 to \$50, 4 to 5 cents. The orders are written on bank paper, simply giving the amount of the order, the date of issue and the office at which it is to be paid, thus doing away with the large clerical force necessitated by postal money orders. This check is mailed in a letter to the person to whom it is designed to be sent, and will be cashed at the postoffice there. To prevent these orders from being used as currency, which might occur, it is provided that the checks must be presented for payment within three months of the time they are drawn.

While speaking of money-orders it may be well to mention that money's bill reducing the charges for these orders some 50 per cent, which was offered last year but postponed, will be presented at the next session of Congress, when there is every probability that it will pass.

LOUISIANA is the best cotton State in the Union in which to raise cotton. So says the census. According to this, the average amount raised to the acre in Missouri—where only a few thousands bales are made—is six-tenths of a bale. Louisiana and Arkansas come next, with exactly the same product, fifty-eight one-hundredths of a bale to the acre, while in Florida it takes five acres to make a single bale.—[N. O. Democrat.]

Emerson says "write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year." We shall not do it, Mr. Emerson. It is hard enough to tell a lie, without writing it down and putting one's name to it. Why, there are some days when we don't get more than one invitation to take something.—[Steuenville Herald.]

Among Our Exchanges.

Washington (La.) Argos: Reports from several parts of our parish, agree in saying, that the late rains have been of inestimable value to the crops. It was feared at one time that the corn crop would be an entire failure—although the early corn was so far ruined as to be passed hope, the late rains have put new life in that which was planted later in the season, and we may now look for at least one-half crop of that cereal. Cotton is small and, in many places, is covered with blooms from top to bottom—unless the worms put in an appearance, we may expect a fair average crop of that staple. Cane has been growing slowly, but it has now taken a new lease of life, and bids fair to be remunerative. Altogether, the prospect for the farmer is much better than it was a few days since.

Abbeville Meridional: We are called to record this week the death of Mr. Charles Soumier, of Prairie Greig, killed Tuesday afternoon, by lightning. In the same neighborhood and in the same month last year Mr. Brassens was killed by lightning. Mr. Soumier was on a visit at a nephew's, as a dark cloud was gathering in the South. He started for his house, notwithstanding the entreaty of his nephew to wait until the cloud passed over, but nothing would do, he started ahead of the cloud and had gone about half way when, after a clap of thunder, his horse was seen, from his house, to fall; soon persons were on the ground when both man and horse were found dead, his clothes being on fire, caused by electricity, there being no rain at the time.

Terrebonne Times: The driving of the piling at Berwick's Bay, by the Morgan R. R. Co. for the construction of their R. R. bridge, goes on slowly; great difficulty is experienced by the workmen in driving the piles, owing to the depth of the water and mud which is, we believe, about ninety feet, the resistance is so great, that after a few blows of the driver, the iron bands placed around the top of each pile burst, and the top of the pile is shivered and broken. The building of a bridge across the bay is an undertaking of great magnitude, and the difficulties to be overcome, owing to the depth of the water and width of the bay, are immense; when completed it will stand as another monument of the perseverance and energy of this company.

St. Martinsville Observer: We have had refreshing showers almost every day this week, but the rain has fallen only within a limited radius around St. Martinsville. Several portions of the parish are still suffering from the drought. In some portions the crops are in a sad plight and will prove a failure, while in other portions of the parish they are fair and promising. The outlook, as a general thing, is far from being satisfactory, and the impression is that the crops will fall far short of what was expected.

Sugar-Bowl: In our New Orleans exchanges, we notice the appointment, by the Governor, of the Rev. Alfred E. Clay, of our town, as Immigration Agent to England. This is certainly a most excellent appointment. Mr. Clay has made Louisiana his land of adoption, and has at heart her welfare; he will undoubtedly work with that zeal and energy which characterize his actions, in bringing to our State families who have a small capital, and will be able to acquire an interest in our vacant lands immediately upon their arrival.

Abbeville Meridional: The cotton in some sections is dying out. In localities too where they have had a favorable season throughout, what can be the cause of this we do not know, unless it is some kind of insects that eat at the roots and cause it thereby to wither; fortunately but a very small proportion of a crop dies out in this manner.

Terrebonne Times: We are informed by a gentleman who has made an extensive tour through both parishes, that the crops in Terrebonne are much better than those of St. Mary, and that the crops throughout this parish have improved remarkably during the past two weeks, and with but one or two exceptions, the crops will compare favorably with last year.

There are fifteen States of the Union in which the female population exceeds the male, to-wit: Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. New York shows the largest excess, 71,000, and Louisiana the smallest, 3,000. The other States and the Territories have an excess of males.—[Donaldsonville Chief.]

The new style hat worn by the ladies resembles a tortoise-shell, with the exception of one end being turned up which is probably intended as a drainage in wet weather.

[For the Commercial.] Acrostic.

Conard and food' beneath contempt
Horrid as was thy bloody deed;
Assassin! was not his life exempt
Remembering thou must set the nation
bleed?
Legions of Hell are waiting thee
Even as thou pace the dragon cell;
Boon-dred! the world in hating thee
Joins hands with fiends in curses fell.
Grievous and sad thy mighty sin,
Useless to those thou hoped'st would
win;
Injuring Freedom's sacred name,
Thine own condemnation lasting shame;
Ever to hear our hate and scorn
And dread, this is thy fame
Until Time brings the resurrection morn.
SIN.

Construction Train on the New Orleans Pacific Through to Mansfield.

[Special to the Galveston News.]
Shreveport, August 1.—The first through-train from Shreveport to Mansfield depot was run yesterday by the construction company. The regular passenger and freight train will begin in a few days, under direction of officers of the Texas and Pacific. Sale of lots will take place to-morrow in Grand Cane City, the first station this side of Mansfield.

Get your turnip patch in order. Sow bountifully.

DIED:
HAYES—In this town on Tuesday, August 2, 1881, Mrs. Mary Ann Hayes, aged 43 years.

ROLLING—In this town, on Friday, August 5, 1881, Theresa, Emilie Friderike, daughter of Capt. A. Rolling, aged 5 years, 10 months and 11 days.

Third Justice's Court.

T. B. FERRIS, JUDGE.
STATE CASES.
Jose Smith, (c.) assault and battery upon Charly Smith, (c.)—Dismissed.
Guy Thomas, (c.) shooting with intent to kill, and wounding Guy Thomas, (c.) held for his appearance before the District Court. Bond fixed at \$300.—Sent to jail.
Lonia Woods, (c.) assault with intent to kill, upon Wiley Blake, (c.) held for his appearance before the District Court. Bond, \$300.—Sent to jail.
Andrew Ashworth, Jr., larceny, held for his appearance before the District Court. Bond, \$250.—Sent to jail.

Marine News.

ARRIVALS.
Schr. Jessie, and scow L. Wells, at Plat & Moss' mill, July 27, from Galveston.
Schr. Rosina and Adelia, arrived yesterday, each with about 125 bbls. of assorted merchandise on freight for Lake Charles, West Lake Charles and Bagdad.
DEPARTURES.
From Plat & Moss' Mill—
Schr. Medling, July 28, with 57,000 ft. pine lumber for Weather & Co., Indianola, Texas.
Scow L. Wells, Aug. 2, with 28,000 ft. pine lumber, for Galveston.
Schr. Jessie, Aug. 3, with 25,000 ft. of pine lumber, for Galveston.
The steam tug Alert No. 1, came down the river last Sunday, with a heavy tow of logs, and went up West Fork, Thursday, with a full cargo of freight for the Lee and Lee camps.—She will bring down a tow of logs.
The steam tugs Margaret and Alamo, are on their way down the river, each with a heavy tow of logs.

Calcasieu Lumber Market.

1st class pine flooring, (rs'd, 7 1/2 M): \$18.00
" " " ceiling, " " " 13.00
" " " rough, " " " 14.00
2d " " " " " " 10.00
Log round, " " " 11.00
1st class cypress, rough, " " 20.00
" " " dressed, " " " notional
Pine logs, per thousand feet, 7.00
Cypress shingles, heart, per 1000, 3.50
" " " ssp, 2.50

Arrivals and Departures of Mails.

POST OFFICE, LAKE CHARLES, LA.
New Orleans, New Iberia, and all points East and North, arrive daily at 11 1/2 a. m., and leave daily at 8 30 a. m.
Galveston, Orange and the West, arrive daily at 2 5 a. m., and leave daily at 11 5 p. m.
Leesville, Sugar Town, Dry Creek, arrive Tuesdays and Saturdays at 7 p. m., leave Mondays and Thursdays at 6 a. m.
Cameron, Rose Bluff, Johnson's Bayou, arrive Wednesdays and Saturdays at 7 p. m., leave Mondays and Thursdays at 6 a. m.
Hickory Flat, arrive Tuesdays at 7 p. m., leave Mondays at 6 a. m.
W. H. HASKELL, P. M.

Special Notice.

To All Whom it May Concern: The undersigned does hereby notify and warn all parties not to bid for or purchase the following property, which has been advertised by the Sheriff for sale on the 6th of August, 1881, for taxes of 1878, to-wit: No. 10000 Claim No. 251, assessed in the name of Charley Barbe, Agent. The said land has been erroneously assessed in the name of Charley Barbe, Agent, and I claim the same for having acquired it, on the 29th of August, 1881, at the succession sale of Arsene Leblond, my deceased husband. I have offered and am ready to pay all taxes I may owe thereon, and will defend and maintain my title to said land against any and all claimants.
HELENE LEBLEU.
Calcasieu Parish, La., Aug. 6, 1881.

Notice of Administration.

State of Louisiana, Parish of Calcasieu, Fourteenth Judicial District Court.
Succession of WILLIAM KING, Dec'd.
WHEREAS Robert King, of the parish of Calcasieu, has applied by his petition to be appointed Administrator of the succession of William King, deceased, late of said parish.
Now, therefore, any person intending to make opposition to said appointment, will file the same in writing in my office, in the town of Lake Charles, within ten days from the date of the first publication of this notice.
THAD. MAYO, Clerk.
August 6, 1880.

\$25 TO \$50 PER DAY, CAN EASILY BE MADE BY USING THE CELEBRATED VICTOR WELL AUGER AND ROCK BORING MACHINERY,

IN ANY PART OF THE COUNTRY.
We mean it, and are prepared to demonstrate the fact. They are operated by either Man, Horse or Steam Power, and bore very rapid. They range in size from
3 INCH TO 4 1/2 FEET IN DIAMETER,
AND WILL BORE TO ANY REQUIRED DEPTH!

They will bore successfully and satisfactorily in all kinds of Earth, Soft Sand and Limestone, Bituminous Stone Coal, Slate, Hard Pan Gravel, Lava, Boulder's Serpentine and Conglomerate Rock, and guaranteed to make the very best of Wells in Quick Sand. They are light-running, simple in construction, easily operated, durable, and acknowledged as the best and most practical Machine extant. They are endorsed by some of the highest State Officials. We contract for prospecting for

Coal, Gold, Silver, Coal Oil, and all Kinds of Minerals,
Also for sinking Artesian Wells and Coal Shafts, &c. We also furnish Engines, Boilers, Wind Mills, Hydraulic Rams, Horse Powers, Brick Machines, Mining tools, Portable Forges, Rock Drills, and Machinery of all kinds.

Good active Agents wanted in every country in the world. Address,
WESTERN MACHINERY SUPPLY DEPOT,
511 Walnut Street, St. Louis, Missouri, U. S. A.
State in what paper you saw this.

1881! 1881! EVERY NEW SUBSCRIBER

—TO THE—
New Orleans Weekly Democrat,

And every old subscriber renewing will receive, in addition to the Weekly, two valuable presents—an elegantly illustrated Almanac for 1881, printed on fine tinted paper, full of most interesting reading matter and selections, and illustrated throughout with the finest engravings. The book will be an ornament to any one's parlor table. Also, a valuable to every farmer and stockman, Dr. Kendall's "Treatise on the Horse"—a most complete exposition of the subject of disease of the horse and their remedies. The work is illustrated with over ONE HUNDRED ENGRAVINGS. This work is considered the most practical and valuable work published on the subject. These will be mailed, postage prepaid, on receipt of subscription.
These books will be furnished only to those whose subscriptions are paid in advance, but every subscriber, whether at full or at club rates, will be entitled to them.
These books are not offered as premiums to induce subscriptions to the WEEKLY DEMOCRAT. It can easily stand upon its own merits as

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST PAPER PUBLISHED, 12 Pages Every Week, at \$1.50 per Annum.

But are presented to subscribers as a matter of courtesy. They are both valuable works, and worth intrinsically more than half the price of the subscription, and we want every subscriber to have them.
*In remitting where you cannot send orders on merchants or drafts or money orders, please register letters. Address

THE DEMOCRAT, New Orleans, La.

SPECIAL AND PARTICULAR NOTICE!

THE GRANDEST OFFER OUT FOR ITS SIZE.
NONE CAN READ IT AND FAIL TO TAKE.

It is the Latest, Solidest, Best Thing Going!

TWO BEST PAPERS IN THE SOUTH FOR THE PRICE OF ONE.

The LAKE CHARLES COMMERCIAL and the New Orleans WEEKLY DEMOCRAT will be sent one year, postage prepaid, for the sum of \$3.50, and in addition each subscriber will receive, postage free, the valuable books mentioned, which, from examination, we can vouch for as being fully as valuable and interesting as represented. Send in your name and names, and get the choicest present, for the least money, ever offered.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

GABRIEL A. FOURNET, Attorney
at Law, Lake Charles, La., office formerly occupied by Louis Leveque, on Court House Square.
July 9, 1881-ly.
GEORGE H. WELLS, Attorney at Law, Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, La. Practices in Calcasieu, Cameron and Vernon parishes, and in Orange and Jefferson counties, Texas.
July 9, 1881-6m.

A. J. KEARNEY, District Attorney,
14th Judicial District, practices in the several parishes of the District.
Office, in Lake Charles, at the Haskell House, in Leesburg, at his residence.
July 9, 1881-ly.

J. C. MUNDAY, M. D.,
Surgeon, Physician and Obstetrician,
CONTINUES to practice his profession and can be consulted at his Drug Store, on Ryan street, at all hours.
Lake Charles, La., July 9, 1881-ly.

SCHEDULE OF THE STEAMER NETTIE.

FROM and after July 1, 1881, the Steamer Nettie will make regular trips between Lake Charles, West Lake Charles and Bagdad, viz:
Leaves Lake Charles for West Lake Charles, At 6:15 a. m. A. M.
At 11:30 a. m. A. M.
At 1:30 p. m. P. M.
At 5:15 p. m. P. M.
Leaves Lake Charles for Bagdad, At 8:30 a. m. A. M.
At 3 p. m. P. M.
Leaves West Lake Charles for Lake Charles, At 7 a. m. A. M.
At 11:45 a. m. A. M.
At 1:45 p. m. P. M.
At 6 p. m. P. M.
Leaves Bagdad for Lake Charles, At 9:45 a. m. A. M.
At 4:15 p. m. P. M.
E. H. NICHOLS, Master.
July 16, 1881-4f.

Stationery, Tobacco Cigars.
I SHALL keep constantly on hand the Post Office, a complete assortment of Stationery, Blank Books, Pens, Ink, A fine assortment of superior Cigars and Smoking Tobacco.
A large stock of choice Cigars & Pipe Daily, Weekly and Monthly Papers and Periodicals.
W. H. HASKELL.
July 16, 1881-4f.
Lake House Saloon
GREEN HALL, Proprietor.
A FULL line of choice Liquors and Superior Cigars, always on hand. A Good Billiard Table, with out-door playing "Pin Pool."
MAGALE'S SOUV-MASH WHISKY A Specialty.
If you want a quiet drink, in a quiet place, give me a call.
GREEN HALL.
July 16, 1881-ly.
Lake Charles Saloon
AMEDE FARQUE, Proprietor.
A CHOICE stock of the finest Whisky, Liquors and Cigars, that the market affords, always on hand.
THE ONLY PIGEONHOLE TABLE IN TOWN.
By assiduous attention to the wants of my customers, I hope to merit a share of the public patronage.
AMEDE FARQUE.
July 16, 1881-ly.
FRANK MAISEL
TONSorial ARTIST,
Ryan St., Lake Charles
Hair Cutting, Shaving, Shampooing and Hair Dyeing done in the latest styles.
July 9, 1881-4f.