

LAKE CHARLES COMMERCIAL

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY JOHN McCORMICK

PRICE OF SUBSCRIPTION: Two Dollars a Year

ADVERTISING RATES:

Table with columns for inches and rates for various ad sizes.

Transient advertisements 81 per inch, first insertion. Each subsequent insertion, 50 cents per inch.

Newspaper Laws and Regulations.

- 1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary are considered...

Entered at the Post Office, Lake Charles La., as second class matter.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1881.

Agents for the Commercial. Jno. H. Poe, Bagdad. J. W. Harrison, West Lake Charles. C. Mayo, Opelousas.

Fresh oysters will be kept at King's Restaurant all the season.

West Lake Charles Jottings.

The cold snap has passed and it is very pleasant again.

Mr. W. B. Norris returned Friday morning from a brief business trip to Houston.

Mr. A. J. Perkins left for Galveston Thursday night, and will be absent a week or ten days, as usual.

The members of the "R. K. R." band of Lake Charles, deserve especial credit for the noble public efforts they have made on several occasions, and which have been crowned with success.

Rev. Mr. Robert, who is permanently located at Lake Charles in the capacity of Baptist minister, was in our midst Friday. He will preach in the school-house Sunday evening at 8 o'clock.

Last Tuesday evening we were witness to a scene of disaster at Norris' mills. The centre boiler exploded, blowing the boiler-head completely out, and otherwise demolishing same.

"NAC NED."

The United States Land Office here reports heavier sales of government land in this State than ever before, showing that Louisiana is regarded as a good field for investment.

THE PRESIDENT IS DEAD!

The foul deed has been consummated; the assassin's bullet has worked out the fatal result. President Garfield died at Long Branch, New Jersey, at twenty-five minutes before eleven o'clock, on the evening of September 19th, at the premature age of 49 years and 10 months, from the wound inflicted, at Washington by Charles Guiteau on the 2d of July, 1881.

When the news first reached us of the murderous assault on the life of the President, we said that the shot aimed at General Garfield had wounded the heart of the Nation. This has proven true.

Death of President Garfield.

On Monday night last, near midnight, the telegraphic wires bore the sad news of the death of James A. Garfield, President of the United States, in the prime of his manhood, and at almost the commencement of his term as President.

Although death did not at once ensue, but weeks of agony, most intense followed, ere death claimed its victim, does not lessen the heinous offense of the assassin, but rather heightens it, and makes it and its author more detestable.

Mrs. Garfield deserves, and receives the heartfelt sympathy of the nation. The blow is a terrible one to bear, and enough to cause her to sink beneath it.

The President was just getting the harness on, preparatory to a successful administration, when he was so fully assassinated.

The Official Bulletin of the Autopsy.

Special to the Democrat. Elberon, N. J., Sept. 20.—The following official bulletin was prepared at eleven o'clock to-night by the surgeons who have been in attendance upon the late President:

The operation was performed by D. S. Lamb. It was found that the ball, after fracturing right 11th rib, had passed through the spinal column in front of the spinal canal, fracturing the body of first lumbar vertebrae, driving a number of small fragments of bone into adjacent soft parts and lodging below pancreas, about two and one half inches to left of the spine, behind the peritoneum, where it had become completely encysted.

On an examination of organs of the chest evidences of severe bronchitis were found on both sides of broncho pneumonia of lower positions of the right lung, and also too much less extent of left. The lungs contained no abscess and the heart no clots.

Gov. Wiltz and Party on their Way Home.

Special to the N. O. Democrat. Howe, Texas, Sept. 21.—Gov. Wiltz and party will leave Houston this morning and proceed leisurely to Houston. The only improvement in the condition of the Governor is the absence of fever.

Gen. Arthur Made President.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, Washington, D. C., Sept. 20. The following was received from the Department: The Secretary of War announces to the army upon the death of James A. Garfield, President of the United States, Chester A. Arthur, Vice President, on the 20th day of September 1881, at his residence in the city of New York, took the oath of office as President of the United States to which office he succeeded by virtue of the constitution.

Official Announcement to the Army of the Death of the President.

[Special to the N. O. Democrat.] War Department, September 20, 1881.

With profound sorrow, the Secretary of War announces to the army that Jas. A. Garfield, President of the United States, died at Elberon, New Jersey, at twenty-five minutes before eleven, on the evening of September 19, 1881.

The grief which is felt by the nation, at the untimely death of the president, will be especially felt by the army, in whose service he bore so conspicuous a part, during the war of the rebellion.

The General of the army will give the necessary instructions for carrying this into effect.

Protection to Arthur.

AN ORGANIZATION FORMING TO SHIELD THE NEW PRESIDENT.

[Special to the N. O. Democrat.] Washington, Sept. 21.—The following, printed in black on white paper, with a heavy black border, was being circulated to-day:

THE PRESIDENT IS DEAD! LONG LIVE THE NATION.

Washington, D. C., September 19, 1881—Midnight. Fellow Citizens—In the name of the now headless trunk of the republic, you are called upon to join, at this minute's notice, the Holy Alliance of Vigilants, in order to shield and guard, until congress provides, the one and only life that stands at this hour, under the constitution, between order and anarchy.

Attacked by a Deer.

[Special to the N. O. Democrat.] San Antonio, Sept. 17.—The little three-year-old daughter of J. B. Hamilton, of this city, was attacked by a pet deer belonging to Conductor Rogers yesterday evening. The deer struck the child with its fore feet, cutting three horrible gashes in the face and then proceeded to stamp it to death.

Horrible Tragedy in Cobb County, Ga.

Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 17.—Near Powder Springs, Cobb county, there occurred a horrible tragedy on Friday morning. For years there has been an old feud between the Mitchell and Cooper families. They live on adjacent farms. On Friday Cooper discovered Mitchell driving his chickens from his corn field. This renewed the bitter feeling, and a fight was the result.

Singular Case of a Living Woman Turning to Stone.

[Special to the Galveston News.] Dallas, Tex., September 19.—A case of ossification is now the talk among the physicians. Mrs. Wilkins, the wife of a carpenter, has been a sufferer from this unusual disease for several weeks. The feet and hands have become as hard as stone, and her body is gradually becoming petrified.

The Jury System.

To the COMMERCIAL: In the further examination of the system of grand juries, their uses and abuses, I will first notice their organization, and the manner in which they conduct their investigations.

On being impaneled and instructed, the jurors retire to a private room, and at once send for witnesses to prove the truth of the complaints that have been made. In doing this, affirmative witnesses only are examined; the party complained of not being present, nor allowed to be present, to hear the allegation; it being evidence altogether one-sided, and it is often the case that the evidence of one witness is sufficient upon which to find a bill; when, if the accused could have been present, it is very possible that the witness would have testified very differently.

It is true that a grand jury is, sometimes, a help to a court, but, at the same time, the proofs of a felony or misdemeanor could be produced as correctly and at less expense.

There are hundreds of cases of small note that could be tried, and the guilty party punished as the law prescribes, without the use of a grand jury, and at much less expense to the parish. In my next I will endeavor to point out a less expensive and more expeditious method of dealing with offenders against the law.

A Well Written Comment.

The Memphis Avalanche upon the President's death: "No event in American history has so excited the sympathies of the whole people as the tragic death of James A. Garfield, the President, who has just laid down his life. Garfield is stricken in the hour of exuberant health, while the extraordinary prosperity of the country has turned men's thoughts away from the gloomy depression of long continued business derangement and as a people were contented and happy, and had good cause to be so.

"No man was wronged by the government, and no good could come to any man by his death. The blow at him was fraught with no significance and indicated no sentiment of hostility to him as the representative of the government. He symbolized no evil that needed to be cured, tyranny that must be put down, and no foetus that must be rebuked. He was the free choice of the people, and went his way day and night without fear that political or private reason existed for violence.

"It is a touching tribute of a patriotic people to a common sorrow, having become the president by an undeniable choice of the whole people. He gave promise of an administrative ability that is rare among those who reach that office. He had received the confidence of all sections and all parties that he would govern the country, not as a factional president, but as a president of the whole people.

"Yes," said a school girl who had risen from the lowest to the highest position in her class, "I shall have a horseshoe for my symbol, as it denotes having come from the foot!"

names of history as a cruel murderer without provocation. No other assassin in all the bloody catalogue has as little to justify his crime. It is absolutely without the least excuse of any kind, whether considered in the relation of the victim of the criminal or his relation to society at large.

The removal of the Vice-President to the presidency necessitates the election of a president of the Senate. The death of Senator Burnside leaves the Democrats in the majority in the Senate, independent of Mahone and Davis. Burnside's successor cannot be sworn in till after the election of a presiding officer, nor can Lapham and Miller. Thus circumstances conjoin to give the Democrats control of the Senate, preventing the consummation of the infamous trade involved in the Mahone election.

If all the officials were as anxious to curtail expenses and lighten the public burdens as they are to fatten their own nests, what a reduction in taxation would ensue! The ten mill tax decision of the Supreme Court would be knocked higher than a kite. We want men in office who will work for their constituents—justed of themselves. They can't be found, however, among professional politicians and ward hummers.

Resolutions of Respect.

Lake Charles, Sept. 23, 1881. Pursuant to a call, the citizens of Lake Charles and vicinity, assembled at the Court House, for the purpose of joining the mighty throng of lovers of American liberty, in expressing their heartfelt grief at the loss of their beloved President, James A. Garfield.

On motion, Rev. Mr. Cooper was called to the chair, and C. P. Hampton was chosen secretary. After suitable, appropriate and touching remarks by the Rev. Mr. Cooper, Col. A. R. Mitchell, Judge S. D. Read and Mr. C. H. Bruce, on motion, the chairman appointed C. L. A. R. Mitchell, Capt. J. W. Bryan and Mr. J. A. Kinder, as a committee to draft resolutions, and report in-stanter.

The committee on resolutions offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted: Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God the Ruler of all nations, in his omnipotence to remove from his field of usefulness our lamented President, Hon. James A. Garfield, therefore, be it Resolved, That while we bow our heads in humble submission to his divine decree, that we are deeply sensible of the great loss which our nation has sustained in the untimely death of its Chief Magistrate.

Resolved, That it is our desire to take some humble part in the nation's grief that now weighs so heavily upon it, and to express our deep and unfeigned sorrow at this dire calamity. Resolved, That we tender to the heroic and now grief-stricken widow and children of the late Chief Magistrate, our unalloyed sympathy and prayers that God, who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb, may shield and protect them.

Resolved, That we will observe Monday, the 26th day of September, 1881, set apart as a day of mourning, with that solemnity becoming the American people. He symbolized no evil that needed to be cured, tyranny that must be put down, and no foetus that must be rebuked. He was the free choice of the people, and went his way day and night without fear that political or private reason existed for violence.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished to the Lake Charles Echo and Lake Charles Commercial, with the request that they publish the same, and that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

Proclamation by the Governor.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, STATE OF LOUISIANA, New Orleans, September 21st, 1881. Whereas, the President of the United States of America departed this life on the 19th day of September, 1881, and the wherewith, this sad event has struck the people with universal sorrow and mourning, although in this manifestation of Divine Providence we should submit with becoming meekness and reverence, yet as a people, we should outwardly express our sorrow and grief at this public calamity. Now, therefore, I, Samuel D. McEnery, Lieutenant Governor and acting Governor of the State of Louisiana, do appoint Monday, the 26th day of Sept., the day set apart for the funeral, as a day of mourning throughout the State, and I invite all religious denominations to hold memorial services in their respective places of public worship, and commend that all persons do assemble thereon, on said day, to participate in said service. All places of public worship will be closed and the flags on all public buildings will be placed at half-mast throughout the State, and great solemnity and devoutly praying for the favoring providence of the Ruler of Nations, let the bereaved widow and her orphaned children be likewise remembered.