

Lake Charles Commercial.

VOL. 1.

LAKE CHARLES, CALCASIEU PARISH, LA., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1881.

NO. 15.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

MARCEL A. FOURNET, Attorney at Law, Lake Charles, La., office formerly occupied by Louis Leveque, on House Square.
July 9, 1881-ly.

GEORGE H. WELLS, Attorney at Law, Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, Practises in Calcasieu, Cameron, Vernon parishes, and in Orange and Jefferson counties, Texas.
July 9, 1881-ly.

G. GALLAGHER, Attorney at Law, will practice in this and adjoining parishes, and before the Supreme Court at Opelousas.
July 9, 1881-ly.

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

NOTICE!

Persons wishing to have Dental work done will please call before the 15th of October, as I expect to be absent on a professional tour, after that date.
Dr. C. D. CRAIN, Dentist.
Lake Charles, Oct. 1, 1881.

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

FRANK MAISER, TONSORIAL ARTIST,
Ryan St., Lake Charles.
Hair Cutting, Shaving, Shampooing, and Hair Dyeing done in the most skillful manner.
July 9, 1881-ly.

OBRIEN & BLAIR, Contractors and Builders,
LAKE CHARLES, LA.
July 9, 1881-ly.

SCHINDLER & VALVERDE, SHIP BUILDING AND REPAIRING.
Contractors, &c.
South Bank of Lake Charles.
July 9, 1881-ly.

FURNITURE REPAIRED.
Having permanently located in the town of Lake Charles, I am prepared to repair all kinds of furniture, at reasonable prices, and on reasonable terms. For the most perfect work, I solicit the patronage of the same.
Furniture revarnished at the house of the proprietor.
Ryan Kirby street, near Ryan, Town of Lake Charles.
C. H. BRUCE.
July 9, 1881-ly.

W. I. C.
In order to make room for our Fall Stock, we will close out our Summer stock of goods at ten per cent. less than our former prices.

BARGAINS!
Come and see for yourself!
LAKE CHARLES, LA.
Aug. 13, 1881-ly.

HASKELL HOUSE.
Ryan Street, Lake Charles, La.
Having leased the above named house, I propose to run it in first class style. The table will be kept on the Restaurant plan, and no exertion will be considered too great, to render guests comfortable.
THOS. R. REYNOLDS, Lessee.
aug 20, '81-ly.

LAKE HOUSE.
Opposite the Court House, Lake Charles, La.
Livery, Feed Stable and Sample Room.
Bar Room and Billiard Saloon Attached.
GREEN HALL, Proprietor.
Sept. 18, '81.

KING'S RESTAURANT,
Ryan St., Lake Charles.
MEALS at all hours, and customers may rest assured that their appetites will be satisfied.
July 9, 1881-ly.

LOUIS TYPE FOUNDRY,
15 & 117 Pine St.,
DEALERS IN
and Writing Papers, Cards
Card Board, etc.,
Envelopes,
Printing Inks, Bronzes, &c.

WEDDING CARDS, Wedding Envelopes, Wedding Papers, &c.
July 9, 1881-ly.

NEW ORLEANS

CHEAP CASH STORE.

E. KAISER & CO.,

DRY GOODS,

CLOTHING,

BOOTS, SHOES, HATS, CAPS,

CROCKERY AND TIN-

WARE.

ALL KINDS OF STAPLE GROCERIES.

We are also Agents for the

New Home Sewing Machine

Waltham Watches.

M. J. ROSTEET,

—DEALER IN—

DRY GOODS,

CLOTHING, BOOTS AND

SHOES, HATS AND

CAPS.

GROCERIES,

—AND—

GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

Lake Charles, La.

July 9, 1881-ly.

H. D. NIX,

GENERAL DEALER,

Nix's Ferry, Calcasieu River, La.

I HAVE constantly on hand a large and varied assortment of

STAPLE AND FANCY DRY

GOODS, AND READY-

MADE CLOTHING.

My stock of Boots, Shoes and Hats, is not excelled by any in the country.

My stock of Groceries is as complete as can be, and being replenished weekly.

From my long experience in merchandising in this parish, I feel confident of being able to satisfy all who will do me the favor to give me a call.

First class, hand made

CYPRESS SHINGLES,

always on hand, in any quantities.

Prompt and assiduous attention to the

FERRY,

day and night. I am specially prepared for crossing droves of horses and cattle, and for taking care of them, having just completed a

LARGE PASTURE,

in which are plenty of grass, water and shade.

Highest market price paid for

Cotton, Wool and Hides.

Give me a call. H. D. NIX.
Aug. 13, 1881-ly.

Cannibals Shipped to Europe.

[London Globe, Sept. 1.]

Captain G. Schweers, of the Hamburg steamship Thebes, one of the Cosmos line, who arrived in Hamburg on August the 20th, from the western coast of South America, has brought with him a strange human cargo. During his passage through the Magellan Straits he obtained eleven "Feuerlanders"—four men, four women and three children—veritable cannibals. Some difficulties had to be overcome before he could persuade them to undertake a voyage to Europe, and the problem as to their food on the passage was also the cause of a good deal of anxiety, as it was impossible to lay in a stock of some kindred tribes for their sustenance. The captain reports that he was highly satisfied with their behavior as passengers. At first he laid cooked meat before them, but the whole company sickened; hereupon they were provided with raw flesh, and they recovered their normal state of health. They were offered tallow candles first in fun, but they regarded this sort of food as a very choice European delicacy and the women invariably made their children partake of it. All the members of this curious company showed a remarkable capacity for learning and acquired a number of German and Spanish words and sentences with facility and employed them to good purpose. The visitors are to be sent to Paris first, whence they will be exhibited—or exhibit themselves we should, perhaps, rather say—to their civilized brethren in the Jardin d'Acclimation. They are next to be forwarded to Hamburg and after a short stay in that city they will make the tour of the great cities of Europe.

A Young Bachelor's Flight.

[Charlottesville (Va.) Jeffersonian.]

There lives not a thousand miles from town a fascinating young bachelor, who tills his ancestral acres with his own hands. During the recent heated spell he was engaged in plowing his corn, and the excessive red-hotness of the temperature constrained him to shed more than the regular amount of clothing, in order that he might extract as much comfort as possible from the sky breezes that occasionally flitted about his undraped extremities. While the amount of his drapery was limited to that one snowy garment, which the lines of Hood have immortalized, some evil spirit moved a bevy of fair maidens to call upon the industrious bachelor. Finding his mansion locked they proceeded to the field.

At the turn of a row the unfortunate plowman caught a glimpse of the fair invaders. His pantaloons were at the other end and terror seized him. What should he do? Should he meet the maidens at so great a disadvantage, or should he escape to the friendly shade of the neighboring thicket? Discretion finally gained the mastery, and his two stout and unnumbered legs bore him homeward with the velocity of the wind. At a convenient distance his tormentors followed, and as they reached a crest overlooking the bachelor's hall they saw a figure half-draped in a robe of flowing white disappear through the window of his rustic lodge. They had come; they had seen; they had conquered.

An impertinent fop made sport of an old farmer's large nose, mouth and ears, but the old farmer silenced him, saying: "Your nose, mouth and chin all had to be made small so that there'd be material left for your cheek!"

He who thinks himself the wisest is generally the greatest fool.

A Stiff Subject.

[Atlanta Constitution.]

A curious case has been brought to light through the exercise of the veto power by Governor Colquitt. It is not generally known, but it is nevertheless true, that there is upon the statute books of Georgia a law making it a felony for any surgeon, physician or other person to dissect or cut up in any manner a human body. This law provides that the punishment for such dissection shall be \$500 fine or imprisonment for a certain time. This law has remained a dead letter upon the statute books simply because no one has seen fit to enforce it, and because it was universally acknowledged that dissection served a most useful and beneficent purpose. At the late session of the legislature several prominent physicians being unwilling to allow this law to stand when it was simply a menace, and not an active statute, framed a law legalizing dissection and turning over to colleges the bodies of paupers or convicts not claimed within twenty-four hours after death. It was thought that this measure would provide them with a sufficiency of stiff, and stop the robbing of graveyards and despoiling private graves. Governor Colquitt, after considering the bill put his veto on it, and it therefore failed. There is considerable feeling among the physicians, and the matter is discussed very generally.

Spontaneous Forests.

[Scientific American.]

A writer in a West Virginia paper combats the opinion, held by many arboriculturists, that an open country is never converted into a forest through the operation of natural causes, and, as establishing the fact that such change does sometimes occur, brings forward the case of the Shenandoah Valley. When first settled, about 160 years ago, it was an open prairie-like region covered with tall grass, on which fed herds of deer, buffalo, elk, etc., and having no timber except on ridgy portions of it; but in consequence of its settlement, the annual fires were prevented, and trees sprang up almost as thickly and regularly as if seed had been planted. These forests, having been preserved by the farmers, cover now a large part of the surface with hard wood trees of superior excellence. These facts would also seem to substantiate the theory that the treeless character of the prairies of the West is due to the annual burning of the grass by the Indians.

Benevolent Ben Butler.

A correspondent of the New York Sun is responsible for the following bit of romance:

It is a secret in a narrow circle of his friends that since he hanged Montfort at New Orleans for pulling down the United States flag from the cupola of the Court House, Gen. Butler has cared for Montfort's widow as though she were a relative. The exigencies of the cruel period of the war made the taking of Montfort's life necessary, but Gen. Butler took his family under his care, cleared off a mortgage upon the widow's home, and obtained for her a position in one of the departments at Washington. Some time ago she was displaced. As soon as he heard of it he took the next train for Washington, and did not return until she was reinstated. The widow and her children feel that no harm will come to them as long as Gen. Ben Butler lives.

A correspondent writes to inquire if he can secure a berth on board a courtship.—Toledo American.

Prairie Rice Crop.

[Louisiana Sugar-Bowl.]

We have watched the introduction of the rice culture on our prairies with great interest, for where it can be flooded, it will certainly be more profitable than cane, as fuel is there expensive, and is far better adapted to these lower tier of parishes than cotton.

Mr. W. W. Flood, a gentleman who had been cultivating rice on the Mississippi river for several seasons, two years ago came to Iberia parish, found a suitable location for flooding land from the outlet of Lake Peigneur, near Jos. Jefferson's place, and made a good crop the first year. Others became interested, and this year planted rice also—among the number, Mr. Louis Delcambre, who has 400 arpents this season. We met the latter gentleman, a few days ago, and learn that he is now engaged cutting his crop. He employs a reaper to cut the rice, and it is bound by hand, as it throws it on the ground in bunches like we recently described is done by the same machine in the wheat regions. However, Mr. Delcambre intends getting a cord-binder, and then one man, with four horses, can cut and bind the grain as fast as the horses can travel. However, the rice self-binder will have to be narrower than the wheat self-binder, as the grain is heavier than wheat. Mr. Flood employs the header—that is, cuts only the top half of the grain, to avoid weight of straw, and deposits it in bunches on the field. He has about 200 acres this year. Mr. Flood expects to get an improvement on his machine, so as to handle the grain to better advantage. We shall refer to this subject again.

The Berwick Railroad Bridge.

[Louisiana Sugar-Bowl.]

Going to the city last Sunday, we observed that the work on the Morgan railroad bridge over Berwick's Bay was progressing rapidly. Most of the piers have already been formed by driving piles down in clusters, and securely bolting them together. The piles have all been thoroughly impregnated with creosote, so that they look as black as tar, and are rendered more durable and proof against injury from water insects. Some of the piling had to be driven to great depth, and the plan was to continue to splice and drive until hard ground was penetrated to a safe depth. The process of creosoting the piles is very interesting. They are first placed in long boilers, and by some means the sap is all driven from the wood. The pores thus being left open, they are next placed in other long iron boilers, when the liquid creosote is forced in to such an extent that every pore of the wood is filled with it.

From present indications, we presume the cars will be passing over the new bridge before Christmas. The bridge will be entirely of iron, except the piling, and quite handsome. It has a large draw, to allow steamships and other water crafts to pass.

According to Baron Kolb, a German philosopher, idleness is far more injurious to health than the most intense industry or even ease and opulence. Go to work, my boys, if you would keep healthy, and stick to it if you would live long and be happy. An idle mind is the devil's workshop, and his satanic majesty sticks close to the shop. The only way to drive him off is to pitch in and do something.

The policeman had left his revolver at home, and he needed one to shoot a mad dog. In the emergency he exclaimed, "Great Heavens, is there a Texas man present?"