

LAKE CHARLES COMMERCIAL

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1881.

Prof. A. Albert can photograph babies instantaneously.

Mr. Wm. Thillemann, living just in the edge of town, planted some sweet potatoes between the fifteenth and twentieth of August last. On last Saturday, October the fifteenth he dug some of them, and found one weighing four pounds. Not very poor land to produce such results as that.

New Goods.—Mr. S. Rawitzky, of the firm of E. Kaeser & Co., of our town, has just returned from New Orleans with an immense stock of fall and winter goods. He has everything that can be called for, from the finest to the cheapest. His stock of notions and ladies fancy goods is immense. Call and examine for yourself.

A graceful invitation to attend the practice of the E. K. R. Brass Band brought us to Hazard & Lyons' Hall last Wednesday evening. We were delighted at the rapid and wonderful progress made by the gentlemen composing the band, both in knowledge of music and execution, since they have been under the leadership of Prof. Greig. As far as we are able to judge their execution of the brilliant pieces now in course of study, would do credit to long practiced musicians, and Mr. Greig says that with such material as he has, he expects to bring them up to such a standard of perfection, that they will have few rivals anywhere.

Picture Frames, Photographs and Autograph Albums, at Albert's Gallery.

The rice crop of this parish, this year will be the best ever raised here, not only in quantity, but also in quality; all that has been cleaned so far, by Jacob Ryan & Sons' will rank as first quality, equal to any of the South Carolina rice.

A short time since a Kentucky distiller put up a barrel of extra fine quality of corn whiskey, which he forwarded to Windsor Castle with his compliments and the information that he had named it the "Victoria" brand, confidently expecting an autographic letter of acknowledgment and large orders from the aristocrats to whom palates it would be introduced at the royal table. But what was his disappointment to learn that his barrel had been refused admission, and his compliment treated as a piece of impertinence.

DEATH OF GOVERNOR WILTZ.

The national colors still hang at half-mast; the emblem of public mourning have not yet been withdrawn, the memory of the untimely and much-regretted death of the President is still vividly impressed on our minds, when, again the unrelenting hand of the Fell Destroyer comes down heavily upon us in Louisiana, and takes away from the helm of State one whose career of usefulness had but just begun, and leaves us again to mourn over the premature grave of a great and good citizen.

Louis Alfred Wiltz, Governor of Louisiana, died at his residence, in the city of New Orleans, Sunday morning at half-past twelve o'clock, in his thirty-ninth year. His death was not unexpected. For several months he had been suffering from a serious bronchial affection which gradually undermined his constitution, which had never been very strong. He died quietly, fully resigned to his fate, surrounded by his friends and relatives, and his last words were those which he addressed to his wife: "Stand in the light, so I can see you when I die."

He was born in the city of New Orleans, on the 22d of February, 1843, of creole parents, in that very part of the city and not many squares from the place where he has just terminated his eventful life.

The limited means of his parents was the cause that he failed to obtain the immense benefits of a liberal and thorough education. From the rough benches of the common schools of the city he emerged, at fifteen years of age, to fight the hard battle of life, in commercial pursuits. When the war broke out he entered, at eighteen, the arena of the civil strife, in which the nation was engaged, and distinguished himself as a soldier and officer during the several campaigns on the Teche. It was while in the Teche country that he became acquainted with his wife, Miss Michaele Gueniere, of St. Martinville, to whom he was married in 1862.

After the Southern armies had surrendered, he returned to New Orleans, where we find him a partner in a commission house, his commercial pursuits, however, did not consume so much of his time that he could not take an active part in the political events of the day. New Orleans and Louisiana were then struggling for social and political life. He plunged boldly into the political vortex, and Alfred Wiltz's name soon came into prominence; from that time the history of his life becomes the history of Louisiana and of New Orleans—and the pages where this history is written will ever be among the most brilliant, both for the City and State. He became, successively, city alderman, member of the Legislature, Mayor of the city, member of the Legislature again, Lieutenant Governor, President of State Constitutional Convention and finally Governor. He died young, yet crowned with well-merited honors at the hands of the people, whom he served faithfully, conscientiously and ably in every position which he was called upon to fill. Governor Wiltz had this peculiarity about him, he never attempted to conceal or excuse his ambition for political distinction, and, whenever public suffrage satisfied that ambition by electing him to the position he sought, he proved, by his official acts, that it was not purely selfish, but that it was the laudable and noble ambition of the patriot, to serve the people and to devote all his energies to the honor and glory of his native State and City. In every instance, his success, his tact, and his eminent fitness for every position, however exalted to which he was raised, struck with astonishment the minds of the most prejudiced against him, and forced even his bitterest political foes to praise and admire him. During the whole of his political career he closely identified himself with every measure or scheme which could be of benefit to the State or people. Since his election for Governor, there was not a subject of interest to any portion of the State, in

which he did not take the most active concern. Fairs, public improvements, levees, canals, railroads, jetties, fruits, agriculture, drainage, immigration, were all subjects which he attended to closely, and in each of which he endeavored to do his share of good, as far as he could.

Governor Wiltz was the true representative type of the people of Louisiana, who loved and knew him so well, and whom he in turn knew and loved so well. He closed his career before he was, as yet, in the splendor of his zenith. Many dazzling honors were yet in store for him, had he been spared to his State and friends. From what he has achieved in the past, we may judge what the future might have been to a man of his talents and character. From the humblest station in life he had, in a few short years, reached the highest position within the gift of his native State. In this respect President Garfield and Governor Wiltz resembled each other, and from their lives and example we may gather this useful lesson, that under our free republican form of government— "Honor and fame from no conditioner; Act well your part, there all the honors."

FOR THE COMMERCIAL.

Governor Louis Alfred Wiltz.

GALVESTON, Oct. 17, 1881.

"New Orleans, Sunday morning, Oct. 16, 1881. Governor Wiltz expired at 12:30 this morning" was the message the telegraph wires gave to the world. Byron spoke the truth when he wrote: "When the gods love, die young" was said of you. And many deaths do they escape by this: The death of friends, and that which slays even more, The death of friendship, love, youth, all that is dear. Except mere breath."

Death, this year, has been reaping a harvest of the most beautiful and fragrant flowers that our earthly garden can produce; transplanting them to perpetuity. Louis Alfred Wiltz, Governor of Louisiana, had endeared himself to everybody, particularly to Louisianians, because he was to the "manor born." He proved himself an obedient son by immediately responding to the call of his State for soldiers, when she joined the Confederacy—considering

"War honorable in those who do their native rights maintain."

The war closed, but young Wiltz, having the welfare of his beloved State at heart, entered the political arena, nobly fulfilling his duties. Elected to the House of Representatives in 1874, he became the leading genius, as Speaker. He denounced the onerous usurpation of the military over the civil authority, in eloquent terms. He was the bright hope at the time that tried men's souls, and

"With grave aspect he rose, and in his rising seemed A pillar of state, deep on his front engraved."

Dejection sat and public care; And princely counsel in his face yet shone majestic."

His deeds of public beneficence, outnumbered the years of his life. It is surprising that one short life accomplished so much. Amidst his manifold labors began

"The world to redden, to disappear, Heaven to open on his eyes." His ears With sounds seraphic ring."

A Jude after midnight, like a thief, came the "old archer," but kindly lending him

"Wings to mount, to fly! O'gazed where is the victory? O' death! where is thy sting?"

It is inexpressibly sad to see that the earth has been robbed of a man who has proven by his actions that he was a good soldier, citizen, statesman and ruler, and by his death, an exemplary Christian, a consoling fact: what we should not "weep and forlorn be." Who sink within the arms of death, Ere yet the chilling wintry breath Of sorrow o'er his forehead blow. In weep for them who here remain, The mournful horrors of pain, Condemned to see each birth-day fade, And mark with melancholy shade, Flung o'er Hope's fallow rose."

Practical Journalist Wanted.

[Palestine (Texas) News]

To an assistant, who is versed in all departments of journalism, active at outdoor employments, and having a thorough practical knowledge of the printing business, a good paying position can be obtained in connection with the Eastern Texas News office. To a man of good qualifications and unexceptionable habits, an interest in the business will be favorably considered at the outset. Applicants who have a good business acquaintance in Houston, Galveston, New Orleans or St. Louis, will be preferred. Our exchanges will confer a favor by extending this notice. Desiring to extend the business and enlarge the paper, the work will be greatly increased. A competent assistant will therefore become a necessity.

FOR THE COMMERCIAL.

Another Democratic Blunder.

When will the Democratic party cease to make blunders? It has become notorious that the leaders of the Democratic party are good at nothing else but making blunders, and certainly the time has come that the people should take the matter in hand to correct this blameworthy proceeding.

Twice have the Democratic party had the opportunity to secure the control of the Government and let the opportunity pass. First, in 1876, when Tilden was elected beyond doubt—but, to settle the question beyond doubt, foolishly consented to let a select committee decide the matter, expecting to have Judge David Davis, of Illinois, to give the casting vote; but an unexpected move and vote of the Democratic Senators and Representatives of Illinois defeated the move by electing David Davis U. S. Senator, thus throwing the choice upon Justice Bradley, who cast the deciding vote for Hayes, who had a minority vote. The second blunder occurred at the present session (a called one) of the U. S. Senate. Pendleton offered a resolution appointing (or electing, if you please) Senator Bayard as President of the Senate, which, after repeated attempts of Senator Edmunds of Vermont to admit new senators elect, and failing, Bayard was chosen President of the Senate. This was blunder No. 2.

If the Democratic members had nominated Bayard for President of the Senate, and the Republicans had placed a man in nomination for the same office, and Bayard had been elected, which he would have been, the matter would have been irrevocably settled; but no, only a resolution was offered, giving the Republicans an opportunity to open the subject of electing a President as soon as the new senators were sworn in, which they did, electing David Davis of Illinois, an Independent, but votes generally with the Republicans on every important point. The Republicans having the majority, through Democratic blunders, now talk of having another election for President of the Senate, putting Anthony of Rhode Island, a lifelong Republican, in Davis' place, which they can do—having the majority—making a burlesque of Democratic ascendancy, and it is really a laughing stock, with all the masses, to be a Democrat.

The Worst Crime Yet Told—Indiscriminate Lynching.

[Special to the Galveston News]

Longview, Oct. 17.—We are permitted to condense the following from a special report sent to the Longview Democrat: The most horrible crime ever committed in this part of Texas was perpetrated last Wednesday near Lockville, by a family of negroes named Lum. A white family named Sloan had recently moved into the neighborhood to pick cotton on the farm of a Mr. Hill. A dispute arose between the Sloans and the negroes Lum, because of an accusation made by Lum that the Sloan children had been grubbing pecans from the hills of Lum's patch. Lum went to the house of Sloan on Tuesday and wanted to whip the children, but was prevented by Mrs. Sloan and her daughter, about fifteen years of age. For this he swore revenge, and next morning upon the plea that she would show her where some fine muscadines were, the wife of Lum enticed the girl to a deep ravine, a secluded spot, where Lum was in waiting, and while his wife held the girl Lum outraged her, and then, using his pocket-knife, cut her bowels open, both lengthwise and crosswise, deliberately cutting off pieces of the entrails as they protruded, and scattered the fragments far and near. He then cut the girl's throat from ear to ear, and left the body where found. At the inquest the woman confessed to all these revolting details, when a young man named Hazi, incensed at all these revolting details, when at the cool recitation of details he brutally shot the negro dead. The wife and an old negro who lived with them were started on their way to Conroy, but a crowd of men met the escort, took the prisoners and shot them.

Fatal Difficulty at Opelousas.

[Special to the N. O. Democrat]

Opelousas, Oct. 19.—This morning, about 6 o'clock, a young man by the name of Jno. E. Cox shot Joseph A. Castain through the body, near the ribs. The parties are both carpenters and have been working together for several months. The affray resulted from a business settlement, during which Castain advanced upon Cox, threatening to assault the latter in an outrageous manner. Cox drew his pistol and warned Castain not to approach any nearer. The warning was unheeded, when the shot was fired, which the physician pronounced fatal. Cox surrendered himself to the sheriff.

Crime in Natchitoches Parish.

[People's Vindicator]

Notwithstanding the fact that the District Court is in session; that the parish officers are vigilant and active, the past two weeks have been marked with an outburst of criminal vindictiveness and reckless disregard of human life, such as is seldom seen in our province as a journalist to record, in the same space of time. This not because the citizens are less law-abiding, but may be attributed to the influx of a reckless floating population, and one of those sporadic outbursts of passion, hatred and criminality, which are as unaccountable as they are fearful in their red-handed ferocity. The record is an appalling one for our usually placid parish, and calls for the investigation of the most active exertions to bring the criminals to speedy justice. We give the record in its unvarnished truthfulness, as follows:

MURDER.

On Thursday a difficulty occurred between Ursin Rachal and a young free colored boy named Francisco Lorens, on Little or Athoa river, in the southern portion of the parish. Lorens literally butchered Rachal with a knife, killing him almost instantly. The boy succeeded in making his escape, and thus far has eluded the officers. He is only 15 years of age. Mr. Rachal leaves a wife and three children to lament his untimely fate.

MURDER AND SWEET RETRIBUTION

On the 18th of September, an old blind negro by the name of John Evans, formerly belonging to Dr. T. O. Harrison, was attacked by another negro named Wm. Harrison, on Mrs. Roper's place in this parish. Harrison struck Evans on the head with a fence rail, crushing his skull and killing him instantly. Harrison immediately fled from the scene of his brutal murder and was followed by several excited colored men from the plantation. They overtook him at Timan Watkin's place, two miles east of St. Maurice, in Winn parish. Harrison refused to surrender and defied arrest and was shot dead in Watkin's house, by the posse.

STARVED TO DEATH.

On last Sunday afternoon a difficulty occurred in Robeline, in ward 6, on the New Orleans and Pacific railroad, between two men named Donny Gibbs and Jeff Davis, in which the latter was stabbed in the head and neck, severing the jugular artery, from which he died almost instantly. The difficulty grew out of a game of cards, resulting in the deplorable finale related. We have gleaned only partial particulars of this fearful tragedy, but the accounts agree that Gibbs stabbed Davis to death in the fall view of numerous spectators, and then deliberately walked away without any effort being made to arrest the murderer. Davis was raised in Mansfield.

THE DEADLY WINCHESTER.

We glean the following particulars of another probable murder perpetrated near Cloutiersville, last Tuesday. Mr. Toures has a number of fine pecan trees, and to prevent them from being depredated on, placed a keeper over them named Jules. Two boys were caught pilfering from the trees, when Jules took the pecans from them, but subsequently divided them with the boys. The railroad telegraph operator stationed in that locality, near Mr. Wm. Robinson's place, incensed and became involved in a difficulty with Jules, resulting in Jules running him with a knife. He went to his office, distant over a mile, proceeded a Winchester repeating rifle and returning to Toures' place shot Jules three times, and attempted to kill Mr. Toures, compelling him to seek safety in his own house. It is thought that Jules will die of his wounds. The operator whose name we have been made to ascertain, effected his escape, and has not been arrested.

A Death Blow on Tax Sales.

[St. Bernard Eagle]

In the case of Ernest Lacey vs. Jane Oldstein, and Mrs. Jeppenne Doleze vs. same, 24th Judicial District Court. The following proceedings were held: E. Leonard, Esq., Attorney for plaintiffs, and C. F. Zacharie, Esq., for defendant. Defendant bought at a tax sale made by the sheriff, ex-officio tax collector, a plantation in each of these cases, and took out a writ of possession, and was put in possession by the sheriff. Plaintiffs bring in their action of nullity, alleging that the sale is null and void, and the purchaser a trespasser, and obtain an injunction to restrain the pretended purchaser from entering and trespassing on said plantations or from collecting any rents. Defendants takes a rule to dismiss the injunction, which is fixed by consent and argued. And the Court dismissed the rule with costs, and perpetuated the injunction.

Among Our Exchanges.

Abbeville Meridional: Now is the time to buy your corn. It is only \$1 a barrel, it will soon be higher. Price is firm on the New Orleans market. The present crop is 200,000 barrels, that of last year's 225,000. This year's crop is 25,000 barrels short.

N. O. States: The Commissioner of Agriculture has, at his office, a quantity of the famous Johnson or Means grass seed for gratis distribution to farmers and stock raisers. This grass is said to be extremely prolific, producing upon a single acre as much as ten tons of fine hay per year, in four cuttings of two tons and a half each. This is certainly a remunerative crop.

N. O. Democrat: Immigrants are pouring into the Lone Star State. Every train from the East brings its scores, while steamships, direct from Germany, land their hundreds of new comers at the wharves of the Island City. It has been estimated that the labor of each emigrant is worth, to this country, \$1,000. As Texas last year provided homes for about 140,000 new citizens, the State added to its wealth the vast sum of \$140,000,000. It will be a happy day for Louisiana when the tide of emigration turns in her direction; meanwhile we understand that steps have been taken by the proper authorities to induce emigrants to settle on our fertile lands.

St. Martinville Observer: The work on our branch road progresses rapidly, and is being pushed with vigor. The indications point to its completion in the early part of December. The mere prospect of a railway communication with the great marts of the country has infused a new life in our community, and given an impetus to our commerce and industries. Our citizens are now alive to their interests, there is an unusual display of activity in our midst, and our town is emerging rapidly from that shroud of gloom and of desolation which marred its beauty and darkened its prospects. A future full of promise now glades our horizons, and we look ahead of us with satisfaction and pleasure.

Washington Argus: A very sad accident occurred at the German Settlement on last Sunday morning. It appears that at about 11 o'clock on that day, Mrs. Huber, wife of Zeno Huber, called the attention of her husband to a covey of partridges which were feeding near the pond. Mr. Huber got his gun, fired and killed two of them, which they both took to the garden to pick, and when through, Mr. Huber raised up his gun to take back to the house, and when in the act of adjusting a small piece of flannel which he usually kept upon the tubes, he did not notice his wife who was standing just in front of the muzzle, when it was accidentally discharged and all of its contents (No. 7 shot) taking effect between her right shoulder and breast, inflicting a horrible wound, cutting a large portion of her lungs. At last reports, Wednesday evening, she was suffering excruciating pains with but little hope of her recovering.

SHOT, NOT HUNG.—Every one is subject to error, editors as well, and in giving the details last week of the death in Jeanerette of the negro Ben Robertson, for stealing chickens, we had it we were wrong, when it should have been shot. The negro, it is said, was of a malignant character, and possessed all the accomplishments of a first-class culprit, but there is no doubt the matter was a little precipitated. The versions, given to us by a citizen of the town, speak for themselves: "The negro was arrested and jailed, and during the night a number of men, all armed, took him out and threatened to hang him by placing a rope over his shoulders. He frightened, released himself and ran, whereupon some one fired and killed him." Such are the facts as given to me by a citizen of that town, and established similarly by the preliminary examination.—Abbeville Star.

THE JEANNERETTE MURDER CASE.—Last Friday were arrested in the town of Jeanerette Optimo Schexnayder, Nicholas Provost, Jr., and L. E. Provost, charged with the murder of Ben Robertson, which was chronicled in our last issue, on Monday night, September 26th. The District Court being in session at the time, the accused were brought up for preliminary examination last Saturday, being represented by Messrs. Merchant & Fortelieu and Jos. A. Breard, and the State by District Attorney C. H. Mouton. The examination of witnesses was continued until Tuesday evening, when the case was submitted to the court by counsel. Judge Fortelieu required the accused at the bar to furnish bond in the sum of \$500 for their appearance at the next regular criminal term of the District Court, in February, 1882.—La. Sugar-Boiler.

A newspaper in Colorado records the fact that a Texas cowboy caused a flock of sixty-two black sheep to turn perfectly white. Next!