

# Lake Charles Commercial.

VOL. 16.

LAKE CHARLES, CALCASIEU PARISH, LA., SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1897.

NO. 31.

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THOS. N. COSTELLO, Agent,  
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Billiard Hall and Restaurant in Connection. Lake Charles, La.

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Keeps Only the Best Wines, Liquors and Cigars.  
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ALL KINDS OF FRESH MEATS, CONTANTLY ON HAND.  
Your Patronage Solicited.

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**Flour, Feed and Commission Merchant,**  
PHONE 118. P. O. BOX 307.  
I am now handling the Best Line of Feed in the city, at prices that defy competition. Quality Considered, and I only ask a trial order to prove that I can feed your stock cheaper and give them better food than any house in the city.  
Yours to please,  
RYAN STREET, LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA.  
**REED, "The Feed Man."**

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INSURANCE AGENTS and

**Commission Merchants,**  
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We Handle the Best Goods! We Represent the Best Companies!

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LADIES ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO EXAMINE MY  
**FALL STOCK**  
OF PATTERN HATS AND BONNETS, AND NOVELTIES IN HIGH ART MILLINERY.  
**MISS H. SCALLEY.**

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RYAN STREET, LAKE CHARLES, LA.

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and Road Companies

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**Fournet, O'Bryan & Fournet,**  
**LAWYERS,**  
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Will practice in Calcasieu and adjoining Parishes.  
Office, North Court St., opposite Court House.  
A. H. MITCHELL. CHAS. MCCOY.  
**MITCHELL & MCCOY,**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,  
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Office in Court House.  
Prompt Attention to All Business.

**R. H. ODOM,**  
Attorney and Counselor at Law,  
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Will practice in the Courts of Calcasieu, Vernon and Cameron parishes, the Supreme Court of the State, and the Federal Courts at Opelousas. (Jan. 25, '90-'97.)

**D. B. GORHAM,**  
Attorney and Counselor at Law,  
LAKE CHARLES, LA.  
Will practice in the parishes of Calcasieu, Cameron and Vernon, and in the Supreme and U. S. Courts at Opelousas. (Office—Calcasieu Bank Building—Rooms 2 and 10—Second Story.)

**(JUDGE) S. D. READ,**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
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EXPERIENCE of twenty-five years at the Bar and on the District Bench.  
School of Indianapolis. Morris' Flexible Plate.

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Crown and Bridge Work a Specialty

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One Year, \$1.00.

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**DRS. MOSS & MOSS,**  
Office, Room 7, Calcasieu Bank Building,  
LAKE CHARLES, LA.  
Fujo Street Entrance. Office Phone 75.

**J. G. MARTIN, M. D.,**  
Physician and Surgeon,  
LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA.  
OFFICE in Calcasieu Bank building, corner Ryan and Fujo streets. (Mch. 31, '97.)

**J. C. MUNDAY, M. D.,**  
Physician, Surgeon and Gynecologist,  
LAKE CHARLES, LA.  
OFFICE on Ryan Street, Feb. 12, '97.

**JAMES WARE,**  
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,  
LAKE CHARLES, LA.  
OFFICE on Broad street, between Ryan and Bilbo streets. Residence, Fitton's Alley. (Aug. 11, '97-19.)

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Houston to Galveston;  
2 Daily Trains,  
Houston to North Texas,  
Colorado, Kansas City  
Chicago and St. Louis.

Finest Pullman Sleepers and Fine Reclining Chair Cars.  
**Fast Time, Lowest Rates.**

Further information can be obtained by writing to  
W. S. KERRAN,  
General Passenger Agent Galveston, Tex.  
**Private Detectives!**  
WE WANT two young men in this country who are willing to work for us. They must be of good family, and have no other engagements. Address with reference to W. S. KERRAN, General Passenger Agent Galveston, Tex.

**BEATTIE VS. BROUSSARD.**

**NOTICE OF CONTEST FILED IN THE THIRD DISTRICT.**  
Judge Taylor Beattie Attacks the Constitutionality of the New Election Law, and Alleges All Manner of Frauds and Irregularities in the Recent Election.

Times Democrat.  
Judge Taylor Beattie, Republican candidate for Congress in the third Louisiana district at the election held in November last, has served notice of contest on Hon. R. F. Broussard, his successful Democratic opponent. Under the statutes governing contested elections Judge Beattie has thirty days from the date of promulgation of the returns to file his notice of contest; the contestee then has thirty days within which to reply, and on the receipt of this reply the taking of testimony begins. The contestant, Judge Beattie, is given forty days to take testimony in his behalf; the contestee, Broussard, has forty days following to present his testimony and then ten days for rebuttal testimony is given to the contestant.

Notice was served on Hon. R. F. Broussard, at his home in New Iberia, on Jan. 2. If the Democratic Congressmen elect utilizes his full thirty days for the reply the taking of testimony will not begin until Feb. 1. This will consume ninety days, and the records will not, therefore, be ready to be placed in the hands of the Government Printing Office for publication until shortly after May 1. The entire mass of testimony will then be submitted to the election committee of the House, briefs will be filed and argument heard. It is safe to predict, therefore, that the contested election case of Beattie vs. Broussard, from the third Louisiana district, will not be heard by Congress at the extra session, which will no doubt be called shortly after March 4, but will go over until the regular December session.

The notice of contest served by Judge Beattie on Hon. R. F. Broussard contains a mass of general and detailed allegations. The general grounds of contest are:

**NOTICE OF CONTEST.**  
"Thibodaux, La., Dec. 29, 1896.  
"Hon. Robert F. Broussard:  
"Sir—You are hereby notified that I shall contest your right to occupy a seat in the House of Representatives of the United States as a representative of the third congressional district of the State of Louisiana in the Fifty-fifth Congress, on the following, among other, grounds:

"1. The election held on the 3d of November, 1896, in that district was held under a law in conflict with the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, in that, that the citizens and voters of the district were prevented from exercising the elective franchise by officers who required of them that they submit to rules and regulations in casting their votes which nullified that clause of the Constitution in which it is provided that the qualified voter shall be 'every male citizen of the United States, and every male person of foreign birth who has been naturalized, or who may have legally declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States before he offers to vote, who is upward of twenty-one years old, possessing the following qualifications: Shall be an elector and shall be entitled to vote at any election by the people, except hereinbefore provided. "He shall be an actual resident of the State at least one year next preceding the election at which he offers to vote.

"He shall be an actual resident of the ward or precinct in which he offers to vote at least thirty days next preceding the election."

"I will show that the officers who held and conducted the election managed the casting of the ballots that are not friendly to the Democratic party and that their political party was favored in such a manner as to make the timid afraid to come to the polls.

"14. I will show that no receipts for the official ballots were required, and none were given in any parish or at any poll.

"That this was done all over the district and at each and every polling booth in the district.

"2. I will show that, despite the provisions of the election law promulgated on the 9th day of July, 1896, and printed in the session acts for the year 1896, and numbered therein 137, wherein it is provided that the official ballots shall be sent to every parish sealed, and shall only be opened by the Board of Supervisors when about to be sent out to the various polls, that they were sent to every parish in the State and district in unsealed packages, and were delivered in such condition to persons affiliating with your political party, and who were your political friends and supporters; that in this way a very unfair and illegal advantage was given to your friends.

"3. I will show that in every parish in the district the official ballots were sent out to the various polls by the supervisors open and unsealed, and without being counted, and that they were so sent by unauthorized hands. This to your great and decided advantage, from the fact that the persons so employed to carry the official ballots were in every case of your political party and adherents of yourself.

"4. I will show that, despite the provisions of the law, these official ballots in every parish were sent to and received by the president or chief of the Board of Supervisors, and not to the board itself, and that the president is an officer appointed by the person who is acting as the Governor of this State, and who is a political friend and supporter of yourself.

"5. I will show that no record was kept by this officer of the number of ballots sent out, and that in no case did he obtain any receipt for them, this being the case in every parish.

"6. I will show that there were no returns made by the commissioners of election as to the number of ballots received by them, and no return made as to how the ballots sent them were used.

"7. I will show that in no case was a return made at the proper time and in the proper way to the Secretary of State as to the disposition of the official ballots.

"8. I will show that for some days before the election the official ballots were in the hands of your political friends in each and every one of the parishes. And that in this way the ballots were marked for your friends to enable them to vote who could not mark them for themselves.

"9. I will show that in every parish secret booths or places in which the votes could not be seen were placed at every poll, in order that my political friends could not be able to see and disclose the fact that the ballots had been given out to your adherents, and in order to enable your adherents to violate the provisions of the law.

"10. I will show that the Board of Supervisors in each parish, composed in every case of a majority of your political friends, refused and neglected to give to my friends and adherents representation at the polls.

"11. That in every parish and at every poll a large number of votes were thrown out on the pretense that the ballots were not folded properly, and that in every case these ballots were cast for me.

"12. That at every poll in the district a large number of ballots were not counted, because, as was alleged by the commissioners, the presidential electors were improperly voted for, and in this way a very large number of votes cast for me for Congress were rejected, although properly marked for that office.

"13. I will show that a large majority of the people in each parish who are entitled to vote were prevented from exercising the elective franchise by not being enabled to cast and mark the ballots as required, and by a general system of force and intimidation, which has prevailed for years past, and still prevails in such a manner as to make the timid afraid to come to the polls.

"14. I will show that no receipts for the official ballots were required, and none were given in any parish or at any poll.

"15. I will show that no cards of instructions to voters were issued and none posted at any of the polling places.

"16. I will show that all irregularities and illegalities were practiced by a majority of the commissioners and supervisors of election in every parish, and that this majority, where so acting, were political friends and adherents of yourself, and of the Democratic party, of which you were the nominee. And that by this means you received and had counted for you more than 3000 ballots than were legally cast for you, and that I was deprived of the votes of more than 3000 ballots that were cast for me, and deprived of the votes of more than 10,000 voters, who would have legally cast their ballots for me."

A mass of detailed and specific allegations of fraud and irregularities in the different precincts of the several parishes composing the district follow.

**Assessment in Caddo.**  
The Shreveport Times thinks it will be news to some of its readers, as it was to the editor, to learn that on the assessment rolls of Caddo parish for the past year not a dollar in cash or credits appears for taxation. The only property which appears on the rolls is that which could not escape the assessor.

The Times accounts for "this remarkable state of affairs" by the explanation that those who loan money have a plan of covering up the transactions by notes and mortgages of a peculiar form that enable them to successfully evade taxation, and continues as follows: "A money lender may have one hundred thousand dollars loaned out, drawing interest, and well secured by mortgages, and yet he does not pay one single dollar into the parish and State treasury; and yet this money lender is the first one to call in the aid of the law and the officers to protect his property from spoliation. Contributes nothing to pay officers and support government, and yet calls loudest for government aid. A case in point occurs to us. The McWilliams estate upon being inventoried showed \$130,000. Most of it was in cash and credits. It was assessed at \$8,500, which was real estate that could not get away from the assessor. The estate was paying only on about 7 per cent of its real value. And there are others just like this. Comment is unnecessary. Now comes the pertinent inquiry: What are you going to do about it?"

The question of assessment has been an unsolved problem from the day taxation was devised. It seems impossible to frame any law on the subject that cannot be easily evaded—and that it will be goes without saying. We presume the old plea was urged in Caddo that if loaned money were taxed in Louisiana the owner would send it elsewhere, and thus needed capital would be driven out of the State, to the prejudice of the spirit of enterprise. But if the assessor refused to listen to this alien song the money-lender could get the best of him by sending the mortgage notes out of the State, or swear that he had done so, for there are very few people, indeed, who regard a false oath where taxation is concerned as contra bonos mores.—States.

**Big Lumber Deal.**

The following special, from this city, last Saturday, is taken from the Galveston News: "A lumber deal involving thirteen million feet of the sawn product has just been consummated in every detail. It is one of the largest ever made at one time by any company of lumbermen on Lake Charles.

"The Ryan-Richards mill, situated on the lake at the lower edge of town, has sold to a Houston firm all the lumber now on its yards, which will amount to 3,000,000 feet, together with the entire output of the plant for the year 1897, which means the enormous quantity of not less than 10,000,000 feet.

"This is the first time the company has ever sold its entire annual product, and it is considered a new venture in Lake Charles lumber camps.

"A new scheme of exportation is growing with the mills here. During the past month over one million feet of sawed lumber was loaded on barges, towed down the Calcasieu river and around to Sabine Pass, thirty miles distance, where it was loaded on the big ship Norman, bound for African ports. The plan seems more favorable than railroad transportation to Texas ports, and the general feeling is that soon ocean going ships will anchor at the mouth of the Calcasieu river and be loaded with the Lake Charles product by means of barges. Such a line of exportation would open up a new field for this supply.

"The Lock-Moore mills, at Lockport, on the west bank, started up on full time yesterday, putting a half hundred more hands to work. The atmosphere about the lumber camps is more bracing and hopeful than for some time."

**The Dunkards as a People.**  
"I see," said D. F. Burton, registered at the Coamopolitan Hotel, New Orleans, "that there is a possibility of a settlement of Dunkards in Louisiana. It would be one of the advents of the year. The Dunkards are a people who, by force of their religion, are the fairest and squarest and most thrifty in the world. There are not many of them. They are usually Germans, and wherever they are there exists real happiness and prosperity. They are thrifty farming people, devoting their labor to a common and unbroken happiness. One may be unfortunate; the others help him out. They carry out the idea of a community working for mutual benefit perfectly.

"They make it one of their strictest rules to pay cash for everything. They are law-abiding, and quiet, never meddling with the affairs of the outside world, but working out their own destinies. They do not permit of such a thing as mingling in political movements or partaking of political honors. They mold the government of their towns according to the laws of the United States, but they go no further. There is the most beautiful and peaceful of religious existence, being shaped upon the simplest and purest tenets.

"You can readily see how valuable an acquisition these Dunkards would be to Louisiana. They would build up one of the most prosperous settlements that the State has ever seen."

The progressive ladies of Westfield, Ind., issued a "Woman's Edition" of the Westfield News, bearing date of April 3, 1896. The paper is filled with matter of interest to women, and we notice the following from a correspondent, which the editors printed, realizing that it treats upon a matter of vital importance to their sex: "The best remedy for croup, colds and bronchitis that I have been able to find is Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. For family use it has no equal. I gladly recommend it." 25 and 50 cent bottles for sale by M. D. Kearney, Adolph Meyer and Lake Charles Drug Store.

Without Extra Charge  
Your clothes will be cleaned in 24 hours.