

Louisiana Democrat.

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OFFICE—CORNER OF
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ALEXANDRIA, LA.:

Wednesday,.....April 15, 1874.

We regret to announce that our bully little St. Mary has again had some unpleasantness, in a business point of view, and failed to come to time on Monday. Our other Packet, the *Leslie Taylor*, in command of two veterans, John Heun and Dick Simon, with Charlie Drown Tom. Downy and young Compere as clerks, reached home early Monday and goes down punctually this day at 12 M.—Without disparagement to the perfect crew of the *Leslie*, we must be excused for expressing the special pleasure of our community, on once more casting eyes on good old John Heun again treading the hurricane roof of so peerless a packet. Success to one and all of the concern.

As we hinted in our last, the Patrons of Husbandry have organized a Grange in the land of Rapides. As a matter of record, of lasting good to our Parish we trust, of courtesy to our planters and our fair country women, the Democrat of its own volition and free will performs the pleasant task: J. H. Hynson, Worthy Master; T. Spence Smith, Secretary; J. W. Prescott, Worthy Overseer; E. M. Wells, Worthy Steward; J. C. French, Asst. Steward; F. Seip, Lecturer; Joseph Fellows, Chaplain; D. W. Hynson, Keeper Outer Gate. Mrs. Fannie M. Wells, Lady Asst. Steward; Mrs. Kate Hynson, Ceres; Miss Nellie Fellows, Flora; Mrs. Clara H. Flower, Pomona.

Alexandria, in a nautical point of view, presents the appearance of another Venice. Old Red as placid and nearly as wide as Como's lake, is now whitened by the full rigged sails of many a gay gondola, and the sports of the bold sailor boys are many and exciting. The little mosquito fleet composed of the *Hibernian*, *Bernice*, *Black Cloud*, *Kate Henderson*, "One Armed Lewis," *Laura C. Singer*, *Flying Dutchman* and the *Pineville* flotilla, are sufficient to give any one fun and frolic, and enjoy a life on the Ocean Wave.

The Connecticut State election has resulted in the defeat of the Radical party, horse, foot and dragoon, and a genuine triumph of "dead democracy." The whole State ticket, from Governor down is democratic, and the Legislature also, which insures a democratic U. S. Senator, in place of Buckingham, Radical. In Ohio and Indiana the local elections have all gone overwhelmingly the same way.

W. C. McGimpsey, a young, talented and worthy member of the Alexandria Bar has been commissioned as District Attorney *Pro Tem.* for our Parish. We are pleased to make the announcement, and can't but thank Kellogg for this small favor. He has the dead wood on us just now, being *de facto*, and in justice to ourselves and in behalf of our rights we must bow the cap to Gesler.

This, our Congressional District, as newly kangarooed, is composed of the following Parishes: Rapides, Vernon, Sabine, Natchitoches, Grant, Winn, Red River, De Soto, Caddo, Bossier, Webster and Bienville. Democratic plumb to the back bone if the Counting Board don't will it otherwise.

We have rumors of another characteristic emule at irrepressible Colfax, which goes to prove all we have believed and said of negro-radicalism in that fatal spot. When it reaches us in shape and particulars we will give the public the benefit of it.

Shreveport is to have a taxed luxury in the shape of a \$68,500 Parish Jail.

The Same Old Tune.

From the New Orleans *Republican*, of the 5th, we copy the following portion of an editorial under the heading of "The State Library," and do it to again convince our good people of Rapides that on all and every occasion, with or without semblance of cause, the shafts, malignant and poisoned, of the Official Journal are always darted at us, and which is convincing proof that Radicalism is ever glowing over our misfortunes and defaming our honored name and past record. The article which we append is sufficient proof to show the infamous and accused motives of the party in power. The Editor could not pay a tribute to a fair woman, which the Democrat with knightly gallantry endorses, on the occasion of her appointment to an office, which her worth and intelligence must adorn, but it needs be the better for his malignant and fiendish aims, he must by a like desecrate the grave of the dead. Poor and good Henry Barlow, who had not an enemy in Rapides but himself, must have turned over a hundred times in his grave, when this foul calumny was uttered against a people who never harmed him. "The Ku-Klux of Alexandria doomed him to death," says the defamer, and to this the lie will be hissed into the ears of the monster by the widow of the lamented Judge:

The appointment of Mrs. Barlow, a lady of worth and intelligence, as assistant State librarian, not only reflects credit upon the fine discriminating powers of Mr. Deslonde, our unpretentious Secretary of State, but does honor to his head and heart. Mrs. Barlow is the widow of Judge Barlow, a native of Louisiana, who, in 1868, lost his life in Alexandria in defending Republican principles. Always devoted to the cause of the Union he finally became a Republican, and for exercising the right of a freeman the Ku-Klux Democracy of Alexandria doomed him to death, little caring what became of the widow and orphan left to mourn his loss. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Barlow has maintained herself and daughter, an interesting little girl about eleven years old, principally by teaching school. She visited Washington last winter a year ago, and through her acquaintance with General Sherman and other distinguished men living there, was introduced into the best circle of society, where her intelligence and sprightly and accomplished manners won for her the esteem and attention of all who came in contact with her.

RACES.—We are pleased to announce that Cullen & French, the energetic and go-ahead lessees of the fine Race Course, of the Rapides Agricultural Fair Association, have inaugurated two good days' sports, which will take place as per programme published elsewhere. We are certain all true lovers of the turf and our people generally will attend and give countenance to this noble sport, proverbially acknowledged to be old England's national institution. Much work, has been done and heavy expenses incurred to make the Race Track perfect and in complete order, and the present two days' races are but the commencement of a series of entertainments and pleasurable sports already mapped out by the lessees and the directors of the Association.

In the proper place will be found an official advertisement of the Rapides Agricultural Fair Association. The public will be gratified to learn that this well managed and highly beneficial Association, is on the high-road to usefulness and success, and under its newly elected directors gives full promise for energetic continuation of the well marked and defined plans of its first Grand Fair. Aided and ably assisted by its former directors, as well as the majority of its shareholders, to enhance the welfare and national interests of the people of Rapides, will be its first and sole objects, and we trust, sincerely and honestly, it will be smiled on as a strictly home institution.

The Steamer *Selma*, a fine steamboat and well officered, is making weekly trips between New Orleans and Shreveport. Her days and hours of departure will be ascertained on reading her card in our to-day's issue.

Judge A. A. Atocha, who was here with Banks on his first raid, has been appointed by Kellogg judge of a new criminal Court, for New Orleans, manufactured by the recent Kangaroo Legislature.

Dashes Here and There.

—We have reliable authority for stating that the Memphis lawyers are so hard up that they cannot afford even paper collars any longer.

—Still some cloudy mystery as regards the ousting of Snellings and Osborn from the Police Jury of our Parish—time and Kelso's freaks must be waited for before we can further announce any definite result in the to us important affair.

—The Pacifics, the bold fire boys of our Town, had their annual election of officers, at their Head Quarters in the Town Hall, on the 6th inst.—The following were the selections made: President, J. W. Osborn; Vice President, J. J. Peterman; Secretary, Moses Mayer; Treasurer, Moses Rosenthal; Foreman, W. S. Ridge; 1st Assistant, J. A. Williams; 2d Assistant, Willie Leekie; Custodian, Paul Kaiser.

—Again our friends of Caucasasia have walked into the affections, without gauntlets, and sans ceremony, of our Honorable Judge of this, the ninth judicial District, and have pulled out the documents on his honor, in the shape of extracts from a Brief of a now M. C., by name Robert S. Hale, the counsel of the United States before the mixed commission at Washington. Page 5 of that nice document a tale unfolds, which must bring some sort of tinge to almost any cheek and—but it is not the Democrat's funeral!

—The weather and glorious "old Red," just at this particular time important institutions in our midst, have been as coquetish as a maiden of sweet seventeen and far more stubborn. The first has smiled on us three fall days with saubeaus glittering and hopeful of better behavior; then again old pluvius, on a short beeder, has drenched and flooded the whole face of the earth just as a spiteful drawback on all working mankind here below. The second, after falling ten inches, as we announced in our last, shot up on a new rise in answer to the flood, to the tune of full nine inches, and as we are striving to record this weekly status, it has receded again over 15 inches. Hard to keep pace with two such takes.

—Our Caucasian friends have poked a mild thrust under the ribs of our Post Office here, or rather as it is under the present regime of Africa's sable son. Well, we can't take up our No 2 Faber in behalf of the concern, and write much in its defence, but think some little palliation should be thrown in for the Government shop. It has been inaugurated since February 12th and take it all in all with the material at hand, they have managed fairly fair; received, opened and delivered the mails, and given as much forced satisfaction as we poor fellows here have a right to expect from Uncle Sam's beef eaters. To this extent and no farther does the Democrat say; pretty well done for Africa!

—The mail Contractors of Uncle Sam are well paid and very important personages, and more or less are wheels within the wheels of the all potent ring of the reigning dynasty, and should have due justice done them. The Democrat has all the time meted out this virtue to the present Contractor from Red River Landing to Shreveport, simply because he eminently deserved it and was all the time and on all occasions up to time and facing the music. But to keep on the same line of justice and fair play, the Democrat must now step a side from the well beaten track, and pitch in a mild word of complaint against this same well managed and deserving concern, and still more mildly proclaim that there is some screw loose, some hinge ungreased of late; in a word the public are not served so well as they have been and have some right in making us a medium of complaint. Of late we only receive three mails a week, instead of six as due us, and several times has the third mail of the week been missing and the coach trotted up to the Post Office, fast, early, lively and as empty as our vest pockets! With our friends above as the complaints are far more loud and well merited; they have received very little or no paper mails for six weeks, and it is asserted that this mail matter is lying around loose on all the line, between this and the Mouth of the river, and we know several bags are well stored in our warehouses, and have been for over three weeks. This matter needs remedy and let the right officials see to it and that at once.

Sustain the Sinking Sytem.

The flashes of excitement produced by the stimulants in ordinary use, are followed by a reaction that is always more or less injurious. Just as the darkness, illuminated for a moment by the lightning's glare, becomes apparently blacker then ever after the flash is over, so the mental gloom and physical debility that vanish temporarily under the influence of a dram, return with a ten-fold intensity when the first transient effect ceases. Yet physicians habitually prescribe the liquors of commerce for patients suffering from bodily weakness and mental despondency. The true remedy in such cases is a pure stimulant medicated with the finest tonics and alteratives which the vegetable kingdom affords, and Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is the only preparation at present known which thoroughly meets the emergency.—The effect of this popular restorative is continuous. Each dose taken invigorates the vital energies and the brain, and its prolonged use will unquestionably cure any case of debility, hypochondria, or mental torpidity that does not arise from organic causes beyond the reach of medicine. It is, in the strictest sense of the word, an invigorating and regulating cordial. If the nerves are tremulous and relaxed, it braces them; if the bowels are constipated, it relieves them; if the liver is torpid, it promotes activity in that organ; if the mind is gloomy, it clears away the clouds; if the appetite is poor and digestion a slow and painful operation; it creates a relish for food and enables the stomach to convert it into healthful aliment. Moreover, it is a specific for a large number of ailments, some of which are particularly prevalent in the damp and chilly weather which we so often experience in mid winter. Among these may be mentioned rheumatism, chills and fever and all the morbid conditions of the digestive and secretive organs sap-induced by sudden changes of temperature and the inclemencies of the season.

PACIFIC BALL.—No sooner had our noble Pacific Fire Boys re-organized for another year, than they resolved to do the decent thing and rip it on the light fantastic toe. A glance at their card, among our new advertisements of this week, will show plainly their good intentions, and cause our Town to be proud of this, their elder right arm of defence and protection.

The recent Jury drawing in Rapides, which we had occasion to interview, in the mildest form possible, has turned up all at once to be a bare faced farce which everybody now believes and knows and cries aloud against. In fact open threats are now made that we are to have no Jury in May. So we go.

The Mississippi levees are breaking way and overflowing the whole country, thus bringing utter ruin to an already impoverished people. The Lafourche country, Bonnet Carre, Baton Rouge, Waterloo, Bayou Sara, and Grand Levees have all given way and the whole of the earth is overflowed and under water.

Notre ami and accomplished Tonsorial Artist, Leon Dessins, whose fine establishment is still at the Exchange Hotel, continues to be monarch of all he surveys, and without a rival serves his numerous clientele after the most approved fashion of the luxurious art.

The Thespian performance, to which we briefly alluded last week, to come off for the benefit of the Sisters Mercy, is in full way of flattering progress, and due notice will be given of the night and the programme of the pieces.

H. T. Burgess, our new Post Master, reached here Monday, on the *Leslie Taylor*, and we hope ere this reaches our numerous readers, he will be fully installed and in perfect working harness.

Many thanks, in the absence of our regular exchanges, for late New Orleans papers, to the officers of the *Selma*, *Leslie Taylor* and Texas.

Dewberries are plentiful and ripening fast. The Democrat's brigade are waiting for picking orders.

Advertisement.

ALEXANDRIA, LA.,
April 8, 1874.
MR. EDITOR—
I beg, please, the insertion of a line or two in your columns, to assert my right as an individual and a citizen, and to repel the audacity and impertinence of one of the servants of the public, whose daring effrontery and despicable tyranny I can no longer tolerate.
For some time past, complaints have been made, and expressions of dissatisfaction and contempt have been uttered by several citizens against the shameful misrule and general mismanagement of the Public Schools of this Parish, especially of the colored school in Town, and of the utter insignificance and unfitness of the Teacher who now styles himself "Principal of the Alexandria School," and I, among others, found occasion to detain my children from that school, and those of my sister, over whom I take the guardianship, choosing rather to send them to a private school where their morals might be preserved from contamination until a better state of things existed, and a change was made for the better in the government of the Public School here. It seems that on this account the Principal, (as he styles himself,) with others of his class, have seen fit to make the children that were so detained and sent to a private school the butt of their malice and the target at which to shoot their venom and spite, and to make threats of hindering their re-admittance to the school. We cared nothing for these threats, however, and were indifferent to reports until a few days ago, when a lady teacher took charge of the girls of that school, and a child from my house on being sent there was remanded home with the following note addressed to her mother:

ALEXANDRIA, LA.,
Public School, April the 2d, 1874.
Mrs. Hines—All children that have been absent or been taken away from this school for months past and did not appear here at the beginning of this year or term has been by me marked Absenters and their places have been filled and as we have more than we can manage we cannot therefore take any children of girls that are not on my Roll and as Laura has been away sometime her seat is filled and I will not accept her.
A. J. GRINSTEAD,
Principal Teacher Alexandria School.

So wrote the Principal, Mr. Editor.—I am not very learned, and therefore shall not trouble myself in criticising the new Grammar which you will perceive he used in his note—the plural nouns which ought to have been followed by plural verbs, and the miserable construction of sentences, nor the lack of punctuation from beginning to end. These I leave to able hands and to the public generally to judge for themselves of the competence of the "Principal of the Alexandria School." I have only to say that he overleaped his bounds, and by that act committed a misdemeanor, and offered an insult and offence which I do not intend to overlook. I have examined the whole code of laws for the regulation of Public Education in Louisiana, and I can see no authority given to any teacher whatever to refuse to admit a child to a Public School. On the contrary, I beg to cite Section 45 of Laws of Louisiana, now in force, for the organization and support of Public Education:

"Be it further enacted, etc., That any Officer, School, Municipal, Parish or State, or any Teacher of any Public School, who shall refuse to receive into any school any child between the ages of six and twenty-one years, who shall be lawfully entitled to admission into the same, and shall comply with such rules and regulations as may be presented by the Board of School Directors, and the State Board of Education, shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars, and by imprisonment in the Parish Jail for not less than one month nor more than six months, and all such causes shall have preference before other criminal cases upon the docket before which it shall be brought; and such person so offending shall also be liable to an action for damages by the parent or guardian of the child so refused."

I shall therefore take immediate steps in this matter, for I, for one, am tired of the ignorance that is governing the country, and of these domineering ignoramuses under whose control this Parish has unfortunately fallen, and am fully prepared to prove and maintain every assertion I have here made.

Yours very truly,
W. L. AMBLER.
Mail failures all of a sudden the stale order of the day. High water the given excuse, but we can't accept it as a good and valid one, and must hold some one grievously to blame. More anon.