The Louisiana Democrat.

A. B. RACHAL) THE WORLD IS GOVERNED TOO MUCH. (PUBLISHER

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The Democrat.

TERMS:

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OBITUARY Notices, Marriages, Public Meetings, Cards of Thanks, etc., to be paid for as advertisements.

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ALEXANDRIA.

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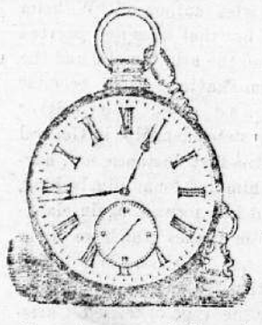
(FORMERRY LEVIN & FERGUSON,)



Watchmakers and Jewelers.

SOLE AGENTS FOR

The Howe Sewing Machines.

May 28, 1873–tf.

JONAS ROSENTHAL,

DEALER IN

DRY GOODS

AND

FAMILY GROCERIES!!

Hardware and Crockery

BOOTS! SHOES! HATS!

Corner of Second and Murray Sts.

ALEXANDRIA.

Rapides Agricultural Fair Association.

THE REGULAR ANNUAL MEETing of the above Association was held on Saturday, April 4th, for the purpose of electing Directors to serve for the ensuing year, and the following gentlemen were chosen:

W. F. Blackman, John W. Prescott, Julius Levin, J. S. Butler, W. K. Johnson, Jefferson Wells, J. O. Pickens, F. Seip, R. P. Hunter, R. H. Carnal, D. W. Hynson, J. S. Fish, R. L. Luckett.

A meeting of the above Directors was held according to the charter of the Association, on Monday, April 6th, for the purpose of electing its officers for the coming year also, and the gentlemen named below were elected:

W. F. Blackman, ... President
J. W. Prescott, ... Vice-President
J. C. French, ... Secretary
S. Cullen, ... Treasurer
James G. White, ... Attorney

A true copy. J. C. FRENCH,
April 15–1m. Secretary.

Moses Rosenthal

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DRY GOODS, GROCERIES,

HOSIERY,

HARDWARE, CUTLERY, ETC.,

FRONT ST.,

AT S. PINCUS' OLD STAND.

ALEXANDRIA, LA.

J. LEVIN

CONFECTIONER

(UNDER TOWN HALL,)

ALEXANDRIA

Dr. A. COCKERILLE

PRACTICES HIS PROFESSION

—IN—

ALEXANDRIA and VICINITY

OFFICE:

Second St., Between Fish and Elliot

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC!

HORSES, Carriages, Hacks, Buggies, Harness for sale at the ECLIPSE STABLES. NELS. TAYLOR.

Feb. 1 1874.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NEW ORLEANS

—and—

Grand Ecore Weekly Packet

FOR GRAND ECORE, MONTGOMERY, ALEXANDRIA, PINEVILLE, NORMAN'S, BARBIN'S

and

ALL WAY LANDINGS!

The A1 Magnificent and Fast Running Passenger Steamer

Lessie Taylor:

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LEAVES NEW ORLEANS EVERY Saturday at 5 P. M. Returning—leaves Grand Ecore every TUESDAY evening, and Alexandria every WEDNESDAY at 12 M. For Freight or Passage APPLY ON BOARD.

Notice!

TO ALL WHO ARE AFFLICTED WITH CHRONIC DISEASES.

DR. JAMES PORTER, MAGNETIC and Medical Physician, will remain in New Orleans, at No. 167 St. Charles street, until the coming June, and all who are suffering from Chronic Rheumatism, or any Chronic complaint, should immediately place themselves under his treatment, as, from my own experience, he is sure to afford relief—if the disease is not too far advanced, a permanent cure.

His charges are very moderate, and I am glad to certify that, after nearly eight years of constant suffering from Chronic Rheumatism, (the last three years of which time the torture both day and night has been excrutiating,) and after being treated by many of our most eminent and skillful Physicians, I placed myself under the treatment of Dr. PORTER about the 1st of last February, and remained about five weeks, during the whole of which time I continued to improve, and now have good reason to believe he has effected a permanent cure. M. LEGRAS,
Tax Collector of the Parish of Rapides.

The Crescent Spectacles.

IMPROVE YOUR SIGHT.

THE CRESCENT SPECTAcles now offered to the Public are guaranteed superior to all others in the market. For clearness and distinctness of vision they are unrivaled, the total absence of prismatic colors and refractory rays always found in Pebbles renders them especially desirable. Being ground with great care, they are free from all imperfections and impurities. They are mounted in gold, silver, shell, rubber and steel frames and will last many years without change. For sale only by our Agents.

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NEW YORK.

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WARPATH!

WILL MAKE THIS season at "Wellswood"

at $25 the season, payable the First of December next, and $1 to the groom. Due bill for the season to accompany the mare. Mares kept in fine grass pastures with water, under good fence, free of charge. If desired, fed on grain at $2 per week, payable when taken away.

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BOOT

—and—

Shoe Maker

PINEVILLE, LA.

ALL WORK DONE NEAT AND DURABLE, AT REASONABLE RATES.

VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE

FOR 1874.

TWO HUNDRED PAGES; FIVE hundred engravings and Colored Plate. Published Quarterly, at 25 cts. a year. First number for 1874 just issued. A German edition at the same price. Address,

JAMES VICK,
Rochester, N. Y

Special Notice!

I HAVE APPOINTED COL. N. L McGinnis, my Agent to attend to my business at this place, and between here and Red River Landing. Capt. A. M. Osgood continues my Agent from Monette's Ferry to Shreveport, La. B. H. PETERSON.

March 20, 1874.

JOB PRINTING NEATLY DONE AT THIS OFFICE ON MOST REASONABLE TERMS.

NINTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

(CONTINUED.)

While the children are thus being sent to school, the women are simultaneously ceasing to go out into the fields to work. Of the entire female population over ten years of age less than one in three is engaged in any kind of occupation in South Carolina. In Alabama the proportion is considerably under one in four; in Louisiana it is still lower, being but slightly over one in five; while in Arkansas it is more than twice as low still, being only just one in eleven. The figures we are here dealing with, it will be understood, represent white as well as black women, and single girls from the age of ten up, as well as wives and mothers. Moreover, they include all kinds of occupations—school-teaching, shop-keeping, bar-tending, needlework, domestic service, and field labour; everything, in short, in which women are employed, except housekeeping for their own families. It will be evident at a glance that they prove the negroes to have made a very considerable stride in the path of material progress. It is true, indeed, that in these sunny climes life is sustained on a very slight modicum of food, which an extremely moderate amount of labour suffices to raise.—It is also true that the scale of living to which the negroes have been accustomed is such as to make them content with the coarsest and poorest kind of subsistence, and that as regards dwellings they put up with accommodation scarcely fit for cattle. Still, making all due allowance for these considerations, the fact remains that after a few brief years of freedom the negroes are able and are willing to maintain the great majority of their wives, daughters, mothers, and sisters without any necessity on the part of these to earn wages. The fact excites frequent and bitter complaint amongst the whites, for it very seriously diminishes the available supply of labour. For many processes connected with the cultivation of cotton women and children are in greater demand than men. Hence, the withdrawal of both women and children from the cotton fields, which we have now shown to be taking place, really does hamper agriculture, and press very heavily on the encumbered planters. But as regards the negro race itself there can be no doubt by all of the invaluable importance to its future welfare of this withdrawal. From the report of the Royal Commission on the employment of women and children we know what the consequences are even among our own people of the prolonged daily absence from home of mothers at work. We can, then, understand what those consequences must be among a race just emerging from savagery through the discipline of slavery. And, in fact, as we have already explained, the frightfully high infant mortality shown by the Health Reports of the Southern cities to prevail everywhere among the negroes, is mainly due to this cause. But when the women devote themselves to the care of their homes, the feelings and the duties of motherhood will naturally add inevitably begin to assert their proper sway over them. Although, then, the negroes have purchased their freedom with intense suffering, with widespread distress, with many deaths, they have not undergone their long agony in vain. They are beginning to avail themselves of the means at hand for their elevation as thinking and moral beings. They have founded for themselves homes of a kind, and are able to retain in them the mothers of their children. And thus they have made the first difficult step in the painful upward struggle towards a higher and a better civilization.

All things considered, then, the condition of the freedom as revealed to us in the Census Reports is as favourable as could reasonably have been expected. But beyond and all other advantages, it must never be forgotten that they have now ceased to be chattels. They are men and women with rights and duties like any other, and the sanctity of their persons is hedged around by all the safeguards of law. This is a gain that outweighs a multitude of evils. If now we ask, what gain can their former masters show as the result of these ten years? we can point to but one, and that, we are afraid, they would themselves regard as a loss. They, too, have got rid of slavery, with its demoralizing influence on their conduct, their character, and their tone of thought. In getting rid of it they suffered with altogether unnecessary severity: partly owing to their own governable pride, their contempt of compromise, and haughty confidence in themselves, and partly owing to the want of statesmanship, the ignorance of their own minds, and the shifty trickiness of those who directed the councils of the North. But though the suffering on all sides was excessive, and in the South, at least, will long continue to be felt, the abolition of slavery was in itself a blessing to all concerned. Henceforward the Southern whites will no longer be able to look upon labour as a disgrace, nor will their least estimable members have ready to hand a helpless class on whom the law will permit them to gratify their basest nature. They will, therefore, have to cultivate the kinelier, more practical, but more amiable virtues. That they will adapt themselves to their altered circumstances we cannot doubt, when we bear in mind that, as already shown, they actually increased during the decade, notwithstanding all their losses in war, very nearly nine per cent. At the same time, it is certain that, if they are to hold their own, migrants to their States. Immigration is adding every year to the North and West nearly half a million of persons, besides several millions of capital, is with fabulous rapidity building great cities, erecting new States, opening up vast regions larger than the most powerful of European empires. Missouri alone, it carefully turns away as if a curse rested upon the country: and a curse does rest upon the country which thus repels the stream that would fertilize its field, and restore vigour to its war-wasted population.

We have said a moment ago that the abolition of slavery was a blessing to all concerned; we must admit in honesty, however, that to the Southern whites it was a blessing which came in a very questionable shape. It is usually estimated that at the outbreak of the war each slave was worth on an average about five hundred dollars. At that rate, the aggregate value of all the slaves would have considerably exceeded 400,000,000*l.* sterling,—the amount of the entire national debt of the United States, and double the indemnity, which, when imposed by Germany upon France, appeared to all Europe so crushing as to induce the belief that it would cripple France for a generation. But the population of France is about six times as large as the white population of the slave States. At the close of a still more exhausting war therefore, a people one-sixth of the French in numbers had to bear a fine twice as heavy. That is to say, population for population emancipation cost the Southern whites twelve times the French indemnity. Or, to put the matter in a more concrete form, supposing the loss to have fallen equally upon every white man, woman and child in the slave States, it would have amounted to between 50*l.* and 60*l.* for each. The sum seems so incredibly large that one feels disposed to reject the estimate as impossible, and to ask how, if it were correct, anybody in the South could have escaped bankruptcy? It must be remembered, however, that, as a general rule, the slave owners were large landed proprietors. They were not so always, indeed. On the contrary, many amongst them were widows, children, unmarried women, and other helpless persons, whose natural protectors had invested the provision made for them in slaves, as the most valuable of all kinds of property. To these persons, of course, emancipation was utter ruin. Still these were a minority. The majority, as we have said, were landowners. The lands were not confiscated, and in order to live the negroes were obliged to come to terms with their former masters, and continue cultivating their plantations. Moreover, the plantations produced cotton specially prized in Europe, and various commodities, such as sugar and tobacco, for which there was likewise a brisk demand. Thus, though there was great embarrassment, though many of the planters sank under their difficulties, the greater number were able to struggle through. To guard against misconception it may be desirable to say here, what it is, of course, unnecessary to point out to the reader, that, however valuable the slaves were to their owners, from a national point of view they did not constitute property at all.

To the nation it was their productive capability which alone was of value, and they lost no part of that by emancipation. The four hundred millions, then, is not to be reckoned as part of the cost of war, as so much property subtracted from the wealth of the United States, nor even from the wealth of the Southern States, but only from the wealth of the white inhabitants of those States who happened to have owned slaves.

If we would know what has been the permanent loss of the South in its corporate capacity, we must determine what, irrespective of the slaves, has been the deterioration of property there since 1860. To do this, however, it is not enough to simply compare the table of values in the two censuses. We must first make allowance for the fact that in 1860 the money of the United States was gold, and in 1870 inconvertible paper. Now, in 1870 the premium on gold averaged 23¼ throughout the year; that is to say, the paper dollar was worth somewhat more than eighty cents in gold. To compare the valuation of 1860 with that of 1870, we must, therefore, strike off one-fifth from the valuation of the latter year. When we have done this, we find that, deducting the worth of the slaves, the value of the real and personal property of the eleven Confederate States in 1860 amounted to 640,446 200*l.*; in 1870 the value had fallen to 473,979,316*l.* The depreciation of property in the ten years had been, therefore, over 27 per cent, or not very far short of six shillings in the pound. It will be recollected that this is actual loss—loss of property that once existed: consequently, it conveys a very inadequate notion of the real impoverishment of the South. The rate of increase in the value of property all over the Union during the decade averaged about 100 per cent. In some States, such as New York, the rate approached double the average, but for the whole Union, with all the war, and including the South, it was as stated. If the rate had reached this average in the South, the value of the real and personal property of the Confederate States would now be nearly 1,280,000,000*l.* sterling, whereas, as we have seen, it is very little more than one-third as much. Including, then, the prevention of increase, as well as the actual loss, we find that the South is now poorer than it ought to be by a sum greater than the whole National debt of Great Britian—and this, be it remembered, takes no account of the retardation of production all over the Union in consequence of the war! It would be futile, however, to attempt to estimate the loss on a basis including this new element of retardation.

If now we proceed to inquire on what kinds of property this tremendous loss more especially fell, we find that it was pretty equally distributed over all the constituents of wealth in the South. For example, the value of all the farms in the States that seceded was considerably under one-half their value as returned in 1860. More even than this, it was actually less than the value returned twenty years previously. In other words, to use the striking expression of an American writer, in agriculture the South has retrograded a quarter of a century. The full significance of this fact only comes out when we call to mind that in America generally the construction of a new line of railway immediately and enormously enhances the value of the land through which it passes for fifteen miles on either side; that in the South about 2800 miles of railway were constructed in the ten years here under consideration; and that in this one industry alone a capital not very far short of 20,000,000*l.* sterling was sunk. Yet, as we have seen, notwithstanding this vast outlay, and notwithstanding the further fact that the farming area thus opened by railway communication was more than doubled, the value of the farms themselves, actually fell to less than one-half. After this one is prepared to find that much of the land once productive has returned to waste, the average under cultivation having decreased during the ten years about one-sixth; that there has been an immense falling off in the number of horses, sheep, milch cows, and stock generally, though the price of meat has risen very considerably; and, lastly, what is a matter of course under those circumstances, that farming implements have suffered a depreciation of fully one-half, notwithstanding the very great addition to the cost of the implements themselves, and, therefore, to their appraisement, due to the protective policy in force. While, however, as we have now seen, the value of property had fallen to less than a half in these distressing ten years, the taxation had more than doubled in the same period. In this statement we do not include the Federal taxes. How exorbitantly these have increased in consequence of the war, and how oppressive are the protective duties now levied, are matters of public notoriety. In this respect, however, the South bears a burden common to the whole Union, though, of course, its weight is more oppressive to her poverty than to the comparative wealth of the North and West. But we here refer only to the State, county, town, and other local taxation of the several States that formed the Confederacy. When we allow for the depreciation of the currency, and then compare the local taxation of 1860 in these eleven States—West Virginia being reckoned with Virginia—we find that it has more than doubled. But the wealth being in 1870 only half what it was in 1860, the burden on the taxpayer had really been multiplied more than four times. And this, it will be recollected, took place in five years, the fall of the Confederacy dating only from the early summer of 1865. With this oppressive increase of taxation the increase of debt fully kept pace, although, as will be remembed, the Confederate debt, and the various debts incurred in aid of the Confederacy by the States, counties, towns, and the like, were repudiated wholesale by the conquerors.

In 1860, it is not necessary to remind the reader, all property in the South was owned by the whites—practically we may leave out of account the inconsiderable number of free people of colour to be found here and there. Upon the whites, therefore, fell the whole of the losses we have now been enumerating.—These losses, as we have just explained, were of three kinds—losses from the liberation of the slaves; losses from land going out of cultivation, from the destruction of property, and from the depreciation of that which remained; and losses from non-production, from the hindrance of that fructification of capital which was going on when the war broke out, and was continued elsewhere throughout the Union. Taking the lowest estimate the facts will admit of—calculating, that is, the increase that was prevented, not at the high rate that prevailed in the South itself during the preceeding ten years, but at the retarded rate of the whole Union for the ten years under review—these several losses added together would amount to a sum exceeding the national debt of Great Britain by considerably more than a half. Such a sum, if now realized, would pay off the national debts of both the United Kingdom and the United States. Or, it would recoup France for all her losses in the disastrous war against Germany, exclusive of lives, but inclusive of the indemnity and of general damages: and it would yet leave a surplus nearly sufficient to buy up all the railways of England, Ireland, and Scotland. And this increditable loss was suffered in the brief space of ten years by a population no larger than the present population of Ireland.—Truly, it is no wonder that there should be distress in the South. But is it all attributable to war and emancipation? Most certainly not.—Both Maryland and Delaware, as the reader knows, were slave States, yet the material and moral progress of both has been unquestionable. If it be objected that they escaped the ravages of war, then take Missouri. Not only was Missouri a slave State, but, with the single exception of Virginia, no part of the South suffered more severely from hostilities.—Yet there the value of farms has increased fifty per cent., and three million acres of new land are brought under cultivation. It is very clear, therefore, that war and emancipation combined are not sufficient to account fully for the condition of the South as revealed to us in the Census Reports. What, then, are the causes which have aggravated the effects of internecine strife and social and industrial revolution? They are two: "carpet-bag" misrule and white ruffianism.

When the armies of Lee and Johnston surrendered, the government of the North found itself called upon to recast society in a conquered land inhabited by two antagonistic populations. The larger of these was, perhaps, the fiercest and the proudest upon earth. Until then it had been a caste apart, an aristocracy of wealth, intellect and color, resting upon and supported by a servile race, and wielding the destinies of a great country. The smaller had been the property of the superior people, and was actually without possessions, without knowledge, and without morals. It had just been freed by invading armies from the most terrible slavery the world has ever seen, and it was removed from absolute savagery by no more than two or three descents. Nothing, therefore, could be more evident than that, if these populations were left to themselves, the former would speedily reenslave the latter. That, of course, was not to be permitted. After sacrificing a million of lives and a thousand millions of money, in striking down a system, no people could or would allow it to be set up again.—Under those circumstances the wise and humane course would have been to place the South for a generation under military government. It would have been wise, for it promised better than any other policy to attain the object in view—the pacification of the country. And it would have been humane: to the blacks, as it would have insured them full protection; to the whites, as it would have saved them from the last degredation of all in their eyes, that of being subjected to their own slaves.

But the Federal Constitution promised a republican form of government to all the States, and the people of the North shrank from openly and avowedly, in the face of all the world, breaking through the unmistakable letter of the Constitution. We would not lightly reproach a people for not having undisguisedly violated a fundamental provision of their organic law. However little may be the value of a mere technical adherence to legal requirements, it is certain that without a respect even for the technicalities of law no free and stable government is possible. At any rate, it does not lie in the mouths of Englishmen to reproach others on account of such conduct. But whether praiseworthy or the reverse, the decision of the people of the North was to obey the letter of the Constitution. With that obedience, however they rested satisfied. Congress, a mere creature of the Constitution, and with no more legal right, therefore, to interpret its construction than was possessed by any Southern legislature, undertook to decide what satisfied the requirement of a republican form of government. It imposed conditions, exacted guarantees, and over-rode the popular will. In short, it disenfranchised the political people of the South, those who had been trained to public life, and had had experience in the conduct of affairs, and enfranchised those who had no more conception of political rights than they had of the ultimate constitution of matter. Of course, these latter could not carry on a government; therefore, from all parts of the Union there flocked to the South penniless adventurers, with philanthropy on their lips and the hope of plunder in their hearts. With the ingenuity of inventing nicknames characteristic of Americans, some denunciatory Southerners stigmatized these adventurers as 'carpet-baggers,' implying that they carried all their worldly goods in a carpet-bag. The nickname caught the popular fancy, and has clung to the class. Meantime the 'carpet-baggers' gained the confidence of the negroes, and succeeded in setting up in the several conquered States what pass for republican governments. It was not so much due to their own influence that they did so, for, in fact, they were introduced, if not put in their places, by the military governors appointed directly from Washington on the downfall of the Confederacy. Under such nat[illegible]

(CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE.)