

LA ANNA COCO, P. O. KIRK'S MILL, Vernon Parish, July 8, 1877.

Mr. Editor:—

Four moves in one year, and here I hope my tent is pitched for a while. I like this country, I like these folks, you may sleep here with doors wide open at night, and the turkeys and chickens do not hunt the highest roost, but sleep on the fence at the front gate. This is not a town, or a city, only a sort of embryo village; but we hope one day to see it rival the great city of Leesville, its near neighbor. We have a Post Office, a blacksmith shop, saw and grist mill, cotton gin, a store, a young drug store, a resident physician, (J. H. Word, a native of Vernon,) a good and cheap boarding house. Mr. H. A. Blossat has established here a branch of his huge and mammoth Cattle store, as also at Hineson and at Rabb's mill. Mr. B is a deserving young Creole and it is to be hoped the people will give him their trade. The people of this Parish celebrated the 4th by attending a fish-fry at Parson Wright's. All went on merrily and Dr. Sam J. Hart stirred up a little of the old feeling by a neat little speech. This Parish is made up of a large part of old Rapides and a small part of Sabine. This portion immediately around here is quite thickly settled. We are about 12 miles from Texas. I am very comfortably situated, and aside from bygone memory, can say I am content. If I had a very long pole and line, I could angle in the Creek whilst I am writing this, fishing with my left hand and writing with my right. I have fished every day since here, (Sunday excepted) and never failed getting good sized trout every day. These good people are well fortified with Spiritual surroundings, Holy Grove Church two miles to the West Anna Coco Church 3 miles S. E., and Union Church on the Prairie 6 miles East of here. The people have no cause to complain of not finding places of worship convenient. The crops are good, some want rain for their corn. I think the farmers here are ahead of their Rapides neighbors. They cultivate a variety of plants; they do not bow to king cotton alone—they raise corn, cotton, sugar and molasses, large quantities of oats, rice, Ivory wheat, chufas and rescue grass; my landlord has a good start of Judge Orsborn's fine hogs, he expects to pick up in October over a hundred pigs from his breeders. People cannot starve here; some farmers are grinding oats to make into bread; I tried some oat porridge, not bad to take, but we need cloths to bolt it. It is a well known fact that oats form a great portion of the food of some people. The Ivory wheat, it is said, does not take the rust and yields abundantly. This will save bushels of corn.

The farmers ought to subscribe to the Democrat and I think they will do so to some extent next Fall—send me half a dozen copies for distribution. I saw at Mr. Rabb's the most prolific mulberry tree known. It bears from May to frost and in such quantities as to furnish all his poultry with food for that time, and a good deal to spare. Poultry will refuse corn and take the mulberries; another virtue of the tree is that it is propagated from cuttings. It will be a great acquisition to the hog crop; I have been eating peaches for some time and expect to enjoy that luxury until Fall without cost.

To-morrow is the day fixed for the trial at Leesville, of old man Gunter. He is to be tried before Judge Burr. If rumor be correct, I don't know what he is to be tried for. He only got a load of shot in his body, he shot no one as I hear, but the evidence will settle the case justly I expect, and now to conclude I have the satisfaction to announce to you the astounding fact, that for the space of one month I have not seen a drunken mad—vive reform—and down with rum. I shall bother you de novo in a few days.

HOPE.

A large number of new plays and adaptations of French plays are to be tried in this country next season. Of the adaptations there will probably be produced in this city—"Les Dominos Roses," now being played in London under the title of "The Pink Domino"; "The Flag of Honor" by the author of "Two Orphans"; "Bebe" with the new title of "Baby" and "The Willows," from George Sand's "Marc au Diable."— Florence will star with a dramatization of "Dombey and Son," John T. Raymond with a play by Bartley Campbell, called "Risks," Janauschek with a translation from the German, Lotta with a new piece by Marsden, Mary Cary with a dramatization of "Bleak House," W. H. Crane and Stuart Robson with a new piece by Boucicault, and McKee Rankin with Joaquin Miller's "Danites."

Resources of the New Orleans Pacific.

The letter of Mr. Jas. G. Clarke, vice president of the N. O. Jackson and Northern Railroad, to Col. E. B. Wheelock, of the N. O. Pacific, giving an estimate of the running expenses of the N. O. P., and its trade resources and relations, printed in the Democrat yesterday, is a document of great interest to capitalists and others having funds to invest.—Mr. Clarke is an experienced, sagacious and courteous railroad man, and his views upon this enterprise are of the highest value. Even those who are ignorant of the country, (and its resources) through which the New Orleans Pacific is destined to pass and the country it will tap may safely rely upon the estimates and calculations presented in this letter. Our personal knowledge of the country shows us how extremely cautious Mr. Clarke has been. His letter, as far as it goes, is strictly correct; but it largely understates the trade resources of the New Orleans Pacific; in other words, to avoid the remotest possibility of giving an estimate that might be questioned or of exciting an expectation which might seem delusive, he has given us only a part of the truth.

In estimating the probable earnings of the road for the first year, Mr. Clarke assumes that it will carry 150,000 bales of cotton. The reader will readily perceive that this is an under-estimate, when it is stated that Shreveport itself ships an average of 110,000 bales of cotton per annum, and Jefferson 75,000 bales; while it is very reasonable to say that the Parishes of Louisiana and the counties of Texas below Shreveport will ship over the line 60,000 additional bales. We are satisfied that Mr. Clarke's estimate of 2000 car loads of stock and 3000 car loads of grain is at least twenty-five per cent under a full estimate. The passenger travel will be immense. Nearly the whole of the Texas and Arkansas travel, with all of that of Northwest and Western Louisiana, will use this line, as will a vast array of travelers from the West. Whether Mr. Clarke's estimate of \$100,000 from this source is correct or not we are not prepared to say, but it seems to us to be less than half what would be derived from travel, even the first year.

In his letter Mr. Clarke allows nothing for sugar and molasses, and yet the road passes for many miles through perhaps the finest and most productive cane growing region of Louisiana, and its revenues from the carrying of sugar and molasses will necessarily be very large. There is yet another very important source of trade and profit not included in Mr. Clarke's calculation. We mean the local traffic the road will develop as fast as it extends its line. If we estimate the gross amount of this trade at only ten per cent of the very low total of existing business—Mr. Clarke has made, i. e., \$840,000, it will amount to \$84,000, and yet this trade, created by railroad lines along their routes, in many instances can substitute as much as seventy per cent of their gross earnings; and it should be borne in mind that the New Orleans road will run for over three hundred miles through a country of unsurpassed fertility, whose staple products are the richest in the markets of the world and whose climate is mild and salubrious.

We make these remarks not as a criticism upon Mr. Clarke's letter, but simply to show that he has been cautious in his estimates and that no man can be deceived by them. His letter is absolutely impregnable. There is not a statement in it that can be shown to be in excess of the truth; on the contrary, every one of his estimates is an under statement of the resources of the road. It was wise in him to observe this moderation of statement for it cannot possibly deceive any man who may rely upon it, and it thus becomes a document of very great value to the company, who with the whole people of New Orleans, owe its author cordial thanks for having written it.—[New Orleans Democrat.]

FISHING TACKLE—A GREAT VARIETY. SPOON BAIT AND OTHER GOODS IN THAT LINE. DEALERS SUPPLIED BY HENRY ST. JOHN.

—Nor long ago an aged lady of Fontainebleau died, leaving large property, and, among other bequests, left to a local physician who had long attended her, a huge oaken trunk, the opening of which excited great expectations. But the contents did not prove to be particularly valuable. They were the drugs and doses which he had supplied to her for years past.

—The fact that some Russian troops have crossed the Danube has given a new impetus to the war spirit in Greece, and troops are being prepared for service as rapidly as possible.

Napoleon Bonaparte on the War in the East.

At St. Helena, Napoleon said to O'Meara: "In the course of a few years Russia will have Constantinople, the greatest part of Turkey, and all Greece. This I hold to be as certain as if it had already taken place. In the natural course of things in the few years Turkey must fall to Russia. The greatest part of her population are Greeks who you may say are Russians. The powers it would injure, and who would oppose it, are England, France, Prussia and Austria. Now, as to Austria it will be very easy for Russia to engage her assistance by giving her Serbia and other provinces bordering on the Austrian dominion reaching near to Constantinople. The only hypothesis that France and England will ever be allied with sincerely will be in order to prevent this. But even this alliance would not avail. France, England and Prussia united cannot prevent it. Russia and Austria can at any time effect it. Once mistress of Constantinople, Russia gets all the commerce of the Mediterranean, becomes a great naval power and God knows what may happen. She will quarrel with England, march off to India an army of 70,000 good soldiers which to Russia is nothing, and 100,000 Cossacks and others, and England loses India. Above all other powers Russia is most to be feared, especially by England. Her soldiers are braver than the Austrians, and she has the means of raising as many as she pleases. A hundred years hence I shall be applauded for my efforts in re-establishing the Kingdom of Poland; and Europe, and especially England, will lament that I did not succeed. There are only three means of attacking England with effect—detaching Ireland from her, capturing her Indian possessions, or a descent on her coast."

Shakespeare as an Actor.

There is a tradition that Shakespeare played the part of a king with peculiar grace and majesty. In confirmation of this a pretty story is told. It is said that one day when the queen was in the theatre, Shakespeare mimicked royalty so well that Elizabeth, who was always ready to have a little fun with a clever man, even though he was a poor player, whispered to her ladies that she would try if she could not make this pretended monarch turn into an awkward fellow enough at a moment's warning. Accordingly at a critical point in the scene the queen, who was sitting just over the stage, which was then held to be the place of honor, let her handkerchief drop at the feet of Shakespeare, who was just then standing close below her. Her mischievous majesty expected to see the actor start and redder and lose his cue. Instead of that he finished his speech with all his usual power, and without seeming to notice the handkerchief. Then stooping and picking it up, he gave it back to the queen with a bow, in which there was an indescribable mixture of dignity and homage, saying, as he did so, these words to his train of stage courtiers: "But ere we get to horse and ride away; let us pick up our sister's handkerchief."

ROGERS' ENGLISH TABLE AND POCKET CUTLERY.—LADIES' SCISSORS AND OTHER FINE GOODS KEPT BY HENRY ST. JOHN.

—The Cossack cavalymen are all comparatively young men and have young wives. Whenever they set out on a campaign, they buy a white scarf, or handkerchief to take with them. At the close of their period of service, they return to their villages and are met by the whole population. Now a wife who has been unfaithful to her lord, kneels down before him in the road, puts her face in the dust and places her husband's foot on her neck. This is a concession of guilt, and at the same time a prayer for forgiveness. If the husband then covers his wife's head with the white scarf, it means that he forgives her and agrees to forget her fault. If the white handkerchief is not produced, the woman returns straight to her father's house without again entering her husband's dwelling, and a divorce is pronounced. Mr. MacGahan recounts a tragical story which a soldier told him on the Danube. A returning Cossack was informed by a malicious neighbor before he reached his home that his wife had been unfaithful. His comrades perceived that he had all of a sudden taken to drink and dissipation, although he was not a man given to these vices. When he reached his village his wife, as he feared, came forward, knelt down, and put her face in the dust at his feet. The spectators saw him look at her as she lay in the dust for a long time. Two or three times he put his hand in his breast for the white handkerchief as if he were going to cover the repentant woman's head—two or three times the movement was restrained. Finally, as if driven by a sudden impulse, he drew his sword, and with one stroke severed her head from her body. The punishment for the crime was two months' imprisonment, while the malicious neighbor who had taken the trouble to inform him beforehand of the wife's misconduct was sentenced to Siberia for three years.

—Lord Falmonth is a lucky man this year, winning the Derby, the Ascot Cup, and carrying off the champion ball prize at the West of England Agricultural Show.

ESTRAY LAW OF RAPIDES.

ESTRAY LAW PASSED BY POLICE JURY, JUNE 11TH, 1875, AND AMENDED FEBRUARY 15TH, 1877, AND JULY 5TH, 1877.

SEC. 1. Be it Ordained by the Police Jury of Rapides Parish, That all Ordinances relative to Estrays in said Parish, be amended and re-enacted so as to read as follows:

Any owner or agent of real Estate in the Parish of Rapides, or householder in the Pinewoods portion of said Parish, is hereby authorized to take up any stray mules, oxen or horses, and he shall within five days after such estray is taken up, deliver the same to the nearest Justice of the Peace, for which such person shall receive the sum of TWO DOLLARS, to be paid by the owner of such estray if any appear, and if no owner appear, out of the proceeds of the sale of the estray, if made under the provisions of Section 3, of this Ordinance.

Any person other than such as are above described, who shall take up a stray animal, shall be subject to a fine of \$25 to be recovered by the Parish Attorney before a competent Justice of the Peace, and half of which fine shall go to the owner of such estray and the balance to the Parish.

SEC. 2. The said Justice of the Peace shall have the care and custody of said estray until sold according to law, and he shall receive compensation for the same at the rate of 15 cents per day, for such horse or mule, and 5 cents per day for such ox; he shall cause such estray to be appraised by two resident citizens; he shall keep a record of said appraisement, of the mark, brand, color, size, and kind of animal, and the date of the taking up of the same; he shall forthwith furnish a copy of said record to the Recorder of the Parish, whose duty it shall be to enter such record in a book, kept for that purpose, and all Justices of the Peace throughout the Parish, shall render to the Police Jury at each regular session a complete statement of all proceedings had by them under this Ordinance.

SEC. 3. Said Justice of the Peace shall advertise the record of said estray as set forth in Section 2 of this Ordinance, by one insertion in a paper published in Alexandria, by posting the same in public places in his Ward, and if said estray be a horse or mule, and no owner appear in sixty days, or if the same be an ox and no owner appear in thirty days, it shall be lawful for said Justice to sell the same, at his place of holding Court, after ten days public notice, for cash, if the amount of the appraisement be bid, if not bid, on twelve months credit, for all sums over and above the necessary expenses, the said sum to be secured by notes with solvent endorsement.

SEC. 4. The said Justice of the Peace shall receive a compensation of two dollars for his services in the case of such animal that may be brought before him, the said sum to be paid by the owner of said estray, or if sold, out of the proceeds of said sale.

SEC. 5. In all cases, if the owner appear and prove his claim before the sale, the person who took up such estray shall receive his compensation from said owner before delivery, as though the sale were made, but in such case the Justice of the Peace shall receive only one dollar in addition to the allowance per day for taking care of said estray, as provided in Section 2 of this Ordinance; if no owner appear as prescribed in Section 3, and the sale be made, the Justice of the Peace shall retain the expenses incurred as above set forth in the Ordinance, out of the proceeds of the sale, and he shall without delay, deposit the balance in the hands of the Parish Treasurer.

SEC. 6. If any person or persons, who may take up an estray, shall fail to comply with the requirements of this Ordinance, or shall work such estray, previous to bringing the same before the Justice of the Peace, he shall be subject to pay to the owner of such estray, the sum of one dollar per day for each day he shall work the same, and any damage the said owner may have sustained before, to be recovered before any competent Justice of the Peace.

SEC. 7. If any person who may take up an estray shall fail to report the same to a Justice of the Peace as provided for in Section 1 of this Ordinance, he shall be subject to a fine of \$50 recoverable by the Parish Attorney before any competent Justice of the Peace.

SEC. 8. If any person shall take up any wild cow or cows, without the consent of the owner, he shall be subject to a fine of \$25, one-half of said fine to go to the owner of said cow or cows, and the balance into the Parish Treasury to be recovered before any competent Justice of the Peace.

SEC. 9. Any Justice of the Peace, who shall fail or refuse to pay to the Parish Treasurer, the proceeds of the sale of stray animals, as provided in Section 4 of this Ordinance, shall be subject to a fine of \$50, to be recovered by the Parish before any competent Court.

SEC. 10. The office of Parish Ranger is hereby abolished, and all laws and parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SEC. 11. This Ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage.

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One Oz. Cabbage Seed Free!

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TURNIP SEED

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State in what paper you saw this advertisement.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

JAMES F. GARNER vs. Mrs. VIRGINIA BLOSSAT No. 2245. and husband. Ninth Judicial District Court—Parish of Rapides.

BY VIRTUE OF AND TO SATISFY a writ of seizure and sale issued and to me directed in the above entitled and numbered suit, I have seized and will offer for sale at Public Auction in front of the Court House door, in the Town of Alexandria, La., between the hours prescribed by law, on SATURDAY, the 18th day of AUGUST, A. D. 1877,

the following described property, to-wit:—

A part of lot No. (3) three in square No. seven (7) of the upper suburbs of the Town of Alexandria in Rapides Parish, this designated on the plat of that Town, being at the corner of Second street and the cross street that runs from the River by the Warehouse to Dr. Casson's residence, and fronting on that cross street, (Beauregard street,) with a front of ninety-five feet, and running back in parallel lines to the property of J. Orsborn, the depth of half a square, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon; bounded by the Warehouse property, Second street and J. Orsborn and Beauregard street.

TERMS—CASH, subject to appraisal. H. M. ROBINSON, July 18, 1877. Printer's Fees \$9.00.

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HENRY ST. JOHN. July 4, 1877.

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ON HAND 100,000 FEET OF FENCING, 100,000 " " PLANK 100,000 feet Weatherboarding.

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