

DEMOCRAT.

E. R. BLOSSAT, EDITOR



OFFICE—CORNER OF SECOND & JACKSON STS. OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE TOWN

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ALEXANDRIA, LA.

WEDNESDAY, - - JULY 31, 1878.

FOR SHERIFF.

ALEXANDRIA, LA., }
June 15, 1878, }

EDITOR DEMOCRAT—
Please announce that I am a candidate for re-election for SHERIFF of the Parish of Rapides, subject to the vote of the people at the ensuing election.
H. M. ROBINSON.

DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The following gentlemen are announced as the members of the Democratic Executive Parish Committee, and are requested to meet in Alexandria for the purpose of organizing, on Saturday, the 17th day of August, 1878:—

J. H. Sorrelle, Henry M. Rogers,
Ben. Turner, C. C. Weems,
Obe Johnson, H. F. Long,
E. R. Blossat, Pat Kelly,
D. W. Willis, F. A. Blanchard,
Mike Paul, R. L. Luckett,
W. Hobby, Jonas Rosenthal,
Jas. Andrews, Jr.

M. RYAN,
President Mass Meeting.

July 22, 1878.

THE POOL LINE.

The owners and managers of the New Orleans and Red River Transportation Company are again preparing to "monopolize" the good will and best business interests of the people of the Red River Valley, and seem to be imbued with the right sort of business pluck and disposition to make this "monopoly" a lasting one and favored by the people, whom they are striving to serve, and at the same time to make an honest living and derive a fair interest on their large capital. The stock of this Company, though large, is not owned by speculators and sharks and hawked in the streets, but is represented and owned by the men who do the work of the Company, command their boats, their clerks, and many of their other officers. They have "pooled" together, for self-protection and in the interest of home, all their hard earnings of long years, and ask to be judged purely by their merits and the tonnage facilities which they offer to shippers. Their card for the season of 1878-79 will be found in to-day's DEMOCRAT, and we call the special attention thereto of everybody.

PROFESSOR ALBERT IS GOING TO MARKSVILLE SHORTLY—THOSE WANTING PHOTOGRAPHS SHOULD CALL AT ONCE.

—We write by the card when we inform the public of the Parishes of Avoyelles, Rapides, Grant, Natchitoches and Red River, and more particularly travelers and transient river customers, that the splendid and well known sidewheel steamer, Ouchita Belle, commencing with the 1st of September, will enter the "Grand Ecure trade," as a Weekly Alexandria, Grand Ecure and Coushatta Independent Packet. She will be commanded by Captain Joe J. Dodd, and her office will be presided over by Eugene Barrow, well known here as an efficient river clerk, and who was chief clerk, last season, in the office of the Maria Louise.

—WILLIAM HUSTYRE, at the sign of the big white Plow, though he has kept his varied stock well replenished, is brushing up and is in full training for a big run in the Fall.—He has just finished a fine verandah to his commodious building, and is now briskly getting ready to take his New Orleans Fall trip, and make his stock the most complete one in Alexandria.

—LEVIN, though in person searching rest and fine trout in the Pine-woods, is in spirit and truth erecting, in fact, has nearly completed a new building, intended for a Billiard Saloon, and, in a few weeks, will be still the monarch of the varied and business situation of this Town.

—J. Madison Wells, President of the late Returning Board, Surveyor of the Port of New Orleans and Proprietor of "We the People," was in Town on last Saturday.

—We are thankful to Charlie Thom's pretty Pool Liner, Danube's clerks, for heaps of New Orleans and Western papers.

—The Danube will pass down to-morrow evening by 8 o'clock.

—"We the People,"—J. Madison Wells.

STILL AT IT.

We took occasion in last week's issue of the DEMOCRAT to tell our readers, in plain, unvarnished words, that the Rapides Gazette, the proprietorship of which is vested in the President of the late Returning Board, had been revived, and though under the garb of independence was nothing short of the same old organ of Radicalism, Louisiana Radicalism as practiced by the old regime of that remarkably corrupt and infamous organization, and especially as known, taught and practiced here by the leaders and masters of the Rapides ring and wing of the old hulk.—We knew fully well that we "could not quit" all at once on our old foe and must, as in duty bound, clinch the last nail in its coffin, but we did not think that under thirty days at least, that the new organ would show its cloven foot and unfurl its nasty bloody shirt, and take the witness stand in favor of our then assertion.

For the special benefit of our readers, the most of whom are the true people of Rapides, and who have all along asserted and swore, that "the country must and will be ruled by the people," we clip a few brochures from the last issue of the so-called organ of Independence, which will convince our people more understandingly than any words of ours; and here is a specimen one:

Hard times, under the Democracy, were to rapidly disappear in a revival of general prosperity. Business was to revive, productive industry to be stimulated, the idle were to be employed, and distress and want were to be banished from the land. Now, the Democracy have been in a majority in the House for two Congresses—for three years. How have these pledges been fulfilled? By a multitude of acts all hostile to a revival of trade. By its reckless war upon the tariff and currency, and by its revolutionary projects to Mexicanize the Republic. All confidence has been banished from business circles, capitalists have fled, investments and families multiply daily, with increasing distress and want.

We beg our readers to read the above tirade attentively, and then tell us, if for the worst of our foes and the dirtiest Returning Board demagogue in the land ever spewed more falsehoods, more slanders and more bloody shirt slang against the National Democracy, than every line of this independent distribe contains?—Please notice the choice and radical patent expression to "Mexicanize the Republic," and reflect that it comes from the home organ of the Returning Board, who stole the Presidency, and now avers that it is revolutionary, because the people dare inquire into the mode and manner the foul deed was done.

In another portion of the so-called independent journal and organ of Rapides Radicalism, all blended and fused into hatred and venom against the Democratic and Conservative elements of this Parish and which has been revived for the sole purpose of waging its old war and dislikes against our people, and who are marshalling their clans into one compact consolidation, under a new name, and are again on the war path for power and plunder, we cull the following choice morceaus, which again endorse our opinion that we were right in our premises of the nature of the organ's "independence," and that "we can't quit" yet awhile to sound the alarm to our people, our Rapides constituency, and if "the Court knows itself," it won't soon quit:

The unfortunate Glover, in his desperate endeavor to earn his pay as Grand Inquisitor for fraud, developed the fact that General Benning, the mountebank democratic military reformer of the Confederate House, pocketed double pay as an officer of the army. O, Democratic reform! truly thy name is humbug!

A GREAT CAPTURE.—"The negro, Cotton King, who murdered a white man in Limestone County, Texas, over a year ago, has been captured, and recognized by parties from Texas as the right man," so writes "We the People" about a notorious scoundrel and negro butcher, who lies in our Parish prison, and as in duty bound we will briefly tell all about him. He was Chief of police, under the Union (?) Governor of Texas, Davis, whilst the county of Limestone was under Martial Law, and as such spread himself in murdering white men. He murdered in cold blood, in the broad glare of day, no less than five white men, all good citizens and men of property, stands indicted for these five murders, besides is indicted as the principal in wantonly burning the Courthouse of that county.

He was shadowed here for several days by Mayor Paul, to whom had been made known the horrid facts by Deputy Sheriff Neal Davidson, and was accordingly arrested, and lodged in jail. We hope that Mayor Paul and Deputy Sheriff Neal Davidson won't be considered as Mexicanizing the country, because they have arrested this ex-chief of that same Radical party, which wants to rule again in Louisiana.

—We all had a good, stained glass peep at the Eclipse on Monday evening, which proved to be nearly total at this point.

LA RENAISSANCE.

The revived Organ of all the consolidated fragments, soreheads, papsuckers and haters of Democracy, has changed its name and has been re-christened "We the People," and in its typographical appearance makes a neat and decent appearance, giving practical proof that the new young man, at its helm, is a good and practical typo; and right here "to be plain," and to stop all such false ideas of his, let us assure him, in all sincerity and candor, that we intend "to allow him to attend to his own affairs," and that he is one thousand miles from the truth, when he romantically asserts that we "are prompted by jealousy," and that we "would lead the community to believe that we are as pure as sparkling water." Nor do we believe he has come here "to destroy the interest and welfare of the country."

But, to put it plain, once for all, and not in varnished romance, we will tell him, as the Editor of the revived Organ, and through journalistic courtesy acknowledged him as such, that we have heard it thunder in Rapides, when he was in his cradle, that we know who are the real leaders and master spirits of the new conspiracy just now organizing in Rapides under the tarashed, but yet rampant folds of the Returning Board Chief, that we have met this arch enemy of the people of Rapides on many fields, in an hundred skirmishes; we all here know his tactics, his pluck, his iron-clad determination to yet injure and damage us, and that we are now more than ready and determined to renew our allegiance to this people of Rapides, and contend for our rights with renewed energy and good will. We wish to preserve these rights as partially restored to us in the election of 1876 in our State, and do not mean that the old regime of carpet-bagery and scalawagism, which nearly swamped this fair State, shall ever again be under the iron heel of that same old party. That is what we are driving at, that is the reason that we "can't quit," and that is the reason why we don't intend to quit, so long as we control the editorials of this Journal, and so long as we are the humble, but bold and outspoken advocate and organ of the true people of this Parish. And once for all, let the new young man understand, that our aims tower above personal jealousy, or even bad wishes to him as an individual, for we are fighting, or rather preparing to fight, the old "Iliad of all our woes," and that for the love of our dear people, our home and our glorious old party, and have already enlisted for a long term. Let him, as the organ of the party here in Rapides he has assumed editorship of, meet us in fair gauge of battle on the issues of the hour, and let personal romances for the nonce be eschewed, and the people of old Rapides will decide between us as Journalists and party champions.

IF YOU WANT A GOOD, DURABLE AND EASY-RUNNING SEWING MACHINE, BUY THE "WILSON" FROM MOORE BLOSSAT, THE ONLY AUTHORIZED AGENT IN RAPIDES PARISH. OFFICE: CORNER SECOND AND DUBOIS STREETS, ALEXANDRIA, LA.

—The last Legislature, if for nothing else than the abolishing of the Returning Board, deserve immortal credit and honor, and their changes in the Election laws must add another chapter to their worth. Let our people remember, that for five consecutive elections, the Commissioners of Election were chosen by the Registrar, and that here all the Registrars, except in 1872, were strangers to us, importations out of the New Orleans Custom House, and that they appointed the Commissioners to suit themselves, never once giving us half a showing, and then if these fellows did not cook up the returns rightly, they had to pass through the fingers of the Chief cooks of the Returning Board, and as a matter of course we were cheated and counted out. Well, this is all now changed, and our last Legislature made the change, and we now endorse that change, and ask our people if it be not a good change, a reform and an honest change? We have now a gentleman, an honest man, one of our home people, as Registrar, and even to him is not given the appointment of Election Commissioners. That power is now delegated to the Police Jury, and they will, at their October meeting, appoint the Election Commissioners, and last, though not least, the Returning Board is abolished, defunct, and can no more do the voting for us. Surely our people must return thanks to our Legislators for this great boon, for this restoration of privileged rights, and forever be easy that their votes will now be counted as cast, and not as the Returning Board will it.

—We learn that Judge Blackman has fixed the bond of Jacob Gunter at \$2,000, and that of his son, David Gunter, at \$1,500.

YELLOW FEVER IN NEW ORLEANS.

The announcement of the appearance of this fearful scourge in New Orleans at this early hour, naturally creates a good deal of anxiety among our citizens. Many are already talking of places of refuge, and discussing where it is best to go. The breaking up and abandonment of houses is a fearful remedy. It means not only the loss of time and loss of money, but the suspension and destruction of all business. The farmer will not bring his produce to town to pay what he owes, nor to buy what the merchant has to sell. But as great as such a calamity would be, it is as nothing compared to the death and sorrow that will shroud the community; for there must be many who cannot even resort to the desperate remedy of abandoning their houses, and fleeing to the country.—And there still remains another consideration—the cost which the fearful struggle for relief and life which this dreadful scourge entails. So great is this cost that they are beyond the reach of the community afflicted, and must be supplied if supplied at all, by the charity of others.

Mr. Editor, you will not say that I have overstated the evils of a yellow fever epidemic—you may say that they are understated. Is there no remedy but a passive acceptance of the utter ruin, which we leave behind? There is a remedy safe and certain, just such a remedy as every brave and prudent people resort to when their life or welfare is endangered. To guard against an enemy, we build fortifications and put out pickets. It is now well known that yellow fever can come only by being brought by goods or individuals from the places infected with it. I presume no one will pretend that the advent of these cannot be prevented. One hundredth part of the energy labor and expense, which is required to contend with the disease, when in our midst, will be more than doubly sufficient to prevent its coming.—Perhaps this community are anxious to know the views of the Mayor and Town Council upon this question; what they design doing, if anything, and when they design doing it. I will suggest that it will hardly be wise to wait until the disease is in our midst, and then like the Board of Health and quarantine of New Orleans show an unwonted energy to eradicate it. Half the energy they are now displaying would have quarantined it out. Even if they can confine it to the localities in which it has appeared, the commercial injury which it will reflect upon New Orleans would have paid for efficient quarantines for an hundred years. As I have already asked, if our Mayor and Town Council design doing anything, of which I have no doubt, when is it to be done? I hope they will bear in mind, that the consequences of yellow fever is too great to risk anything, and their precautions cannot be taken too soon. If any blunders are to be made let them be on the side of safety. The enemy is on our soil, and when he comes he will not come openly, but comes as a spy, so disguised that it is difficult to learn how he comes, or to recognize him after he has come. Let them be so cautious and prudent that our citizens will be freed from the danger of panic, to feel safe in their houses.

—Since our last appearance of Yellow Fever in New Orleans, has been authenticated, and there can be no doubt that the dread plague is really there, but not as yet in an epidemic form. Thus far some twenty-five deaths of that malady have occurred, which causes a general consternation among the unacclimated and strangers, and hence a big exodus has taken place. Shreveport has declared her quarantine from the 28th, and permits no New Orleans boats to touch her wharves; and Galveston has taken the same course.

We believe the excitement here about it is premature, still we think early and instant precautionary and sanitary measures should be taken to prepare for the worst. Back yards, sinks and premises in Town should be extra cleansed, and that at once, and above all disinfectants should be freely used. One of the best and very cheapest is the free use of copers in privies, sinks and other receptacles of filth, and we urge all householders to start at this at once. A communication on this grave subject is published elsewhere, which we commend to the attention of all.

—The Packet Bart. Able, reached her Alexandria home, on sharp time Monday, with a big freight and her cabins full of passengers. She goes to Coushatta this trip, doing the business as far as that point of the Shreveport boat, that city being now under strict quarantine against New Orleans boats. She goes down on time this day at noon. Yellow fever excitement caused her clerks to hand more than our usual complement of papers.

A CARD.

Editor La. Democrat:
Please allow me a small space in your journal to make a correction.—My attention was called to an article in "We the People," better known as "Rapides Gazette," in its last issue in reference to our picnic. It was a Sabbath School picnic conducted by Mr. Horace Reason, Superintendent of the Alexandria, and myself of the Pineville M. E. Sabbath Schools.—What motive actuated the Editor of the "People" to publish such an article about I cannot see only that we are the riff raff and scum of idiots.—No air when we struck the shore as mentioned was sung, "I am gwine to eat that Methodist pie," and no air such as "I am on my way to glory." Then comes the slang phrase of "the Mrs. Joanas Cabbage fainted—halleluyah!"—and on our return no such airs were sung as "I am going home to die no more." When crossing the river for Alexandria the children desired to sing, and through the politeness of the gentleman at the wheel of the J. C. Rogers, we were carried up the river a little piece, and the children sang the following from the Gospel hymns and sacred songs of P. P. Bliss a Ira D. Sankey, entitled "I hear thy welcome voice," and "Pass me not O gentle Savior," led by Mr. Wm. Murray the organist of our church.

When the Editor becomes more acquainted with our people, or had he of waited a little while until he had become acquainted with us, he would have come to the conclusion that we were more of an intelligent people than he had thought. We would ask him to visit our church where gentlemen of the utmost respectability have visited us and some have preached for us. I need not mention their names, for they are too well known to every citizen of this town and parish, yea the State of Louisiana in the work of God and the upbuilding of our people. Again I would ask the Editor to visit our public schools and Sabbath schools and then conclude whether the article in the "People" is just and equitable to us. I am not acquainted with the Editor of the "People," but as this is the place of my birth, and know right from wrong, and this people is my people, I can not but speak at this bar room laugh and corner sport. The Methodist of Alexandria have as pretty a church as any town outside of New Orleans, and her congregation has the reputation of being one of the most respectable and intelligent as any, and she has supported some of the most intelligent preachers, Louisiana or any other State could afford. Our present minister in charge, Rev. J. F. M. Marshall is a gentleman above reproach, who is well thought of by all who have become acquainted with him, he understands the English language, and teaches his people higher and better things than imagined by the "People."

"Render unto Caesar his own."
First you must become acquainted with Caesar.
Mr. Editor I do this in justice to my people and our Sabbath Schools, not for any comment pro or con.
"Can that which is unsavoury be eaten without salt, or is there any taste in the white of an egg." Job vi—vi.
I remain yours respectfully,
H. J. WRIGHT,
Supt Pineville M. E. Church S. S.

—DEPUTY SHERIFF W. E. Hall, of Bell County, Texas, reached here on Thursday night last on the Silver City, and had as prisoners Jacob and David Gunter, charged with the murder of Calvin Bass. They were lodged in our Jail, there being no Jail in Vernon Parish. It will be remembered that the killing of Bass by the Gunters was under peculiar circumstances, and that Jacob Gunter is an old and respectable citizen of Rapides, and withal a good man, and that both he and his son were tried in Vernon Parish, were found guilty and sentenced for a term of years to the Penitentiary, but made their escape. The trial of the Gunters, at the time, created a great deal of interest, they were zealously and ably defended by Col. R. A. Hunter, a warm and life-long friend of the older Gunter, and bills of exception were filed in their cases, went up to the Supreme Court, and that tribunal sustained Col. Hunter's exceptions and sent the case back for a new trial. We mention these facts in justice to the prisoners, the oldest of whom we have favorably known for years, and as this matter has to come de novo we bespeak in their favor a suspension of public opinion, and let their trial be on its merits and in the interests of pure justice.

—The evil of our Monday's mail failure, owing to the Natchez's substitute is cured, Post Master DeLacy and Col. McGinnis, the general agent and manager of the Red River mail route came to our relief in business style, hence we received it here before 8 P. M., just gaining 72 hours under the old management, so now the Yazoo Valley can rip at her snail pace, but she can only throw us eight hours behind usual time.

RED RIVER FREIGHT.

Editor Democrat:
I believe it is the province of the journalist to publish whatever is of vital interest to the business community. Impressed with this belief, I beg space in your columns, as well as the indulgence of your readers, to make a few remarks upon a question affecting not only the commercial interests of this Parish and the whole Red River country, but the interests also of the planters and farmers and all the other citizens thereof. This question is designated by the caption of this article, and I propose to show, as briefly as I can, how this people are imposed upon by the concern known as the "Pool Line," by its high freight tariff, and how it is working to perpetuate a monopoly and to enrich itself at the expense of the merchant and planter and the farmer and mechanic of this fertile Red River valley.

It has been shown before by other correspondents in your paper at what little expense steamers can run in this trade, in comparison with say ten years ago—in price of fuel, wages, provisions, repairing or docking, and even in the price of building and furnishing the boats—in fact, a great reduction in everything except, perhaps, the single item of insurance; and as the boats themselves cost from 25 to 50 per cent. less now than then, of course there is a consequent reduction in insurance, as there is less capital to insure. As the price of all commodities are much lower—the dollar itself being enhanced in value—our great staple, cotton, is from 50 to 75 per cent. lower than but a few years ago, and there has been a proportionate reduction of freight in all other streams throughout the country, yet this Red River steamboat monopoly continues to keep up the tariff up and down.—One dollar and fifty cents, the minimum rate on cotton—and some of it may be worth only \$15.00 per bale, "but, sir, we have accommodated you in taking it," is the rough rejoinder which, no doubt, you would get for complaint.

And why is this thusly? may I ask. Who is to blame more than the merchants of Red River who, by their lethargy, permit this monopoly to be fastened upon this important branch of our trade? Do you expect to find any of the milk of human kindness in a monopolist's heart? If any at all, the milk must be mighty sour.

I am constrained to make these strictures upon our river transportation, from the fact that the pool liners have again been soliciting contracts for another year, offering a small bonus or rebate of 10 per cent. on all up-stream freights—a very great sugar plum! And if no opposition come in, they begrudge even that. They want it all. I fear they (the pool line) will be like the dog in the fable. They will drop the bone for the shadow, which looked large, and lose all.

Our merchants throughout the Red River Valley should go to work at once to organize Exchanges for their own protection, so that they can rather name the rates they would pay instead of having onerous rates imposed upon them by the steamboat owners and monopolists. If some such organization on the part of the merchants is not effected, in a little while they may look out for intimidation from these river lords. First, "will not take your letters"—next, "cannot take your freight; too much load on, or have all engaged I can carry," etc. Merchants and planters of this section, wake up, and have an eye to your duty. You know very well that \$1.50 as the minimum or high water tariff on cotton is an unjust tax on our most important industry. Already complaints have been made again and again on the various charges made by the cotton Factor on a bale of cotton—the brokerage, draying, storing and weighing, etc., and the several little perquisites, which go to swell up the charges on cotton, which added to the freight at \$1.50 per bale and double that in extreme low water, will amount to about 15 per cent of the value of the bale of cotton. Gentlemen of the river, come down. Make your rates conform to the necessities of the times. The politics of to-day is opposed to monopolies of all kinds. It is a sort of communism if you will, which pervades the hearts of all, that brings about or generates this anti-monopoly feeling. In conclusion, we'll quote a passage from the U. S. Economist, which is applicable to our steamboats as well as to the Railways for which it was intended. "The business men of the nation are unalterably opposed to any pooling system that will perpetuate a tax upon their industry, and allow monopolies to control the great carrying traffic of the land." And again: We advocate a tariff of rates sufficient to keep you in good order and well equipped, pay a reasonable dividend upon a fair valuation of capital stock, but are opposed to an combination whereby the commerce of the country is forced to enrich you in one season. CROCODILE.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, }
July 23, 1878, }

EDITOR DEMOCRAT—
Late events have made General Ben Butler a significant figure in our general politics. This able and unscrupulous lawyer now practices before the United States Court of this District, and by virtue of his position on the House Judiciary Committee, bull-dozes the Judges into absurd demands he makes in behalf of his clients. The same Judges were on the bench through the corrupt times from 1871 to 1875, when what is properly known as the "Washington Ring" flourished, and there is not one of them, though they may all be pure as Marshall, who cares to have an investigation into the part borne by the District Judiciary in strengthening the hands of the Board of Public Works. Butler knows this, and his practice here now, considering the position he holds, is little different from blackmailing. Said a man to me last evening who had yesterday been beaten, as he thought, because Butler was against him, "Let them elect him Governor of Massachusetts, so as to get him off the Judiciary Committee of the House, and we will have a show for justice in the District Courts." Perhaps this kind of practice illustrates, as well as anything can, the character of Butler, yet, as I said, he is becoming an important factor in our politics. Whatever dissensions exist in the Democratic or Republican parties had better be healed, so that whatever other calamity may befall us, we may be spared the shame of seeing such a man as this swindle his way into the White House.

If Secretary Schurz means to reorganize the force in his Department without regard to politics, one cannot understand his recent acts. Commissioner of Patents, Spear, of Maine, has been asked to resign. He is a friend of Blaine. Commissioner of Pensions, Bentley, of Wisconsin, is away on leave and is not expected to return. He is a friend of Howe. Other changes, by which friends of prominent "stalwart" Republicans are to be retired to private life, are spoken of. From the latest indications the places will all be filled by Administration Republicans, if enough of them can be found. If the Secretary ever intended to make his reorganization non-partisan he has evidently reconsidered that intention. What he or his Chief expects to gain in the face of the Fall elections, by further dividing their party, is a mystery.

It is said that Government employees here will be paid for the month of July in solid gold and silver money. This will be the first time since 1861, and it is safe to say that many a veteran clerk will celebrate, on August 1st, the return of the "good old times." But the purchasing power of the greenback is the same as of gold, and the change will be interesting rather than important.

Republican papers, no doubt from the best and most disinterested of motives, have tried to create an impression that Voorhees, of Indiana, would not be elected his own successor to the United States Senate. There has been no doubt of his election among well-informed men, and the indications now are that no other Democrat will be mentioned in the Legislature. NEMO.

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.—WE ARE THE ONLY AUTHORIZED AGENTS FOR THE SINGER NEW FAMILY SEWING MACHINE IN THE PARISHES OF RAPIDES, YVERNON AND GRANT. FERGUSON & ECHNACK, WATCHMAKERS and JEWELERS.

—The proposed Amendments to the Constitution, to be voted on at the election in November, are officially published in the present issue of the DEMOCRAT, and will continue so to be published till election day. For information sake, we ask our readers, at their leisure, to peruse the Constitution of the State, to notice plainly its defects, and it has some damnable ones, and then read the proposed Amendments, and we are certain they will be able to judge for themselves the true merits of the issue.

—The enemies of good government in Rapides, and the sticklers for independence, which means nothing but of genuine radicalism, may as well make up their minds that their opponents, the conservative elements, under the all concealing banner of Democracy, mean fight, and that they intend to make the coming canvass the liveliest that Rapides has seen for many years.

—Well poised rumor announces a candidate, in our Town, for the price of a gentleman's boot on the seat of his pants, "to frame as a certificate of gentility."

—A REAL shark was caught in Red River, opposite this Town, by the fisherman, Asa, a few days since.