# Louisiana Democrat.

WEEKLY.

*Official Journal of the Town.*

*OFFICIAL JOURNAL of the DEMOCRATIC PARTY of RAPIDES.*


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—On the 10th inst., Judge Alfred Roman, of the Criminal District Court of New Orleans, rendered a decision in the case of the State of Louisiana vs. Joseph A. Walker, declaring the Sunday law constitutional and not in conflict with the laws of this State or of the United States.

—New England sentiment is shaping itself in such a manner concerning Blaine's candidacy for the Presidency that he realizes now that instead of shaking Edmunds he should have shook his hand. A large number of very earnest Republicans in Vermont and New Hampshire have declared their intention to oppose the nomination of the plumed and branded fraud.—[States.

—Patti, for her seven concerts in New York and Philadelphia, received $36,000, or over $5000 per night. At last accounts she had sent on to New York $46,000, her share up to that time of the receipts in the City of Mexico. All of this money has been invested in United States bonds. Patti will remain in Mexico until the last of the month and then go direct to San Francisco.

—Prohibition in the South, says a Nashville writer, has led to one result that is much commented upon in that city: "So great is the demand for liquor shipped in cases that the wholesale liquor dealers are kept busy night and day filling orders. One dealer said that his sales for November amounted to $47,000 more than those booked in the same month last year. The 'case system' of selling liquors is becoming more popular, and every mail brings orders from points all through the South."

—An invention that meets the wants of young ladies and others who do not wish to have their mail opened in transit or by friends and relatives to whom it may be intrusted, has just been patented, and is known as the safety envelope. It looks very much like any other envelope except on the gum flap, where there is a lock-stitch arrangement, two little strips of paper passing through slits prepared for them and lacing under the flap so that any attempt to loose the envelope by steaming or other known processes will result in breaking the lock and disclosing the burglary.

The River.—Red river is distressingly low, and it is no larger than a creek. It is full of sand bars and other impediments to safe and successful navigation. There are now two steamboats lying below the railroad bridge, awaiting a rise. The scanty supply of water for navigating purposes entails a hardship on those interested in steamboats, and on those who rely in a measure on river transportation to send their cotton to market, or receive their supplies or merchandise by that route. The river is now lower than it has ever been at this season of the year. —[Shreveport Times.

—The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations had Minister Manning's name before it to-day, but no decision was reached as to what their report would be, although a majority of the members present expressed their intention of reporting favorably on the nomination. Senator Frye, of Maine, formally announced his purpose to report adversely. It is not thought that the Senator's opposition will avail anything, as the President would not, both for his own and Mr. Manning's sake, have sent in the name unless he was pretty sure of confirmation.—[Washington City Special to the Times-Democrat, January 12.

—A Decision of wide interest to travelers was rendered by the Massachusetts Supreme Court a few days ago. When passengers are robbed at night in a sleeping car the Court holds that the sleeping car company is liable for the loss. "The company," says Chief Justice Morton, "holds itself out to the world as furnishing safe and comfortable cars, and when it sells a ticket it implicitly stipulates to do so. It is its duty to use reasonable means to guard the passengers against theft; and if through want of care the personal effects of a passenger, such as he might reasonably carry with him, are stolen, the company is liable. Such a rule is required by public policy and by the interests of both the passenger and the company."—[Ex.

## Free Trade.

The reduction of internal revenue and the taking off of revenue stamps from Proprietary Medicines, no doubt has largely benefitted the consumers, as well as relieving the burden of home manufacturers. Especially is this the case with "Green's August Flower" and "Boschee's German Syrup," as the reduction of thirty-six cents per dozen, has been added to increase the size of the bottles containing these remedies, thereby giving one-fifth more medicine in the 75 cents size. The "August Flower" for Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint, and the "German Syrup" for Cough and Lung troubles have, perhaps, the largest sale of any medicines in the world. The advantage of increased size of the bottles will be greatly appreciated by the sick and afflicted, in every town and village in civilized countries. Sample bottles for ten (10) cents remain the same size.

## WHAT IS DEMOCRACY?

In reply to a banter from the *Truth* the *Capitolian-Advocate*, last week, criticised specifically the political course of ex-Gov. Nicholls, in so doing, we threw our esteemed contemporary into the very awkward predicament of having to endorse the Hunt movement of 1884, the policy that inspired the appointment of Pinchback, Roxborough and numerous other colored Republican politicians, and the repudiation of the uprisings in a number of parishes which effected the liberation of the State from Republican rule and the election of ex-Gov. Nicholls.

Evidently, this was more than our contemporary had bargained for. It jumped the text sharply by charging us with having sacriligiously "undertaken the rather tough job of attacking and breaking down the Democracy," of its choice for next Governor.

Othee papers in sympathy with the *Truth* are now fiddling on the same string and, with equal caution, confiuing themselves to the same glittering generality.

As the candidacy of ex-Gov. Nicholls has been publicly announced and tacitly acknowledged by his silence, a courteous discussion of his public course is entirely legitimate. Therefore, it will be in order for his friends and supporters to meet the objections that will be made to his nomination, as they cannot justly claim for him privileges and exemptions that they have not accorded to other candidates.

While the discussion is upon the subject of orthodox democracy, we would remind our Reform friends that in 1882, when the Hon. Carleton Hunt was nominated for Congress by the Democracy of the First Congressional District, no complaint was heard about "bosses," "rings," false registration, etc., from the admirers of that distinguished gentleman. In 1884 though, all these battle cries were raised against the same men who had groomed Mr. Hunt in the previous campaign. A conclave was called by a self-constituted committee and his candidacy announced, no regard being paid to the Democratic organization formed at the time of his regular nomination in 1882. In fact all its overtures were rejected. During the campaign some of the supervisors chosen by the Republican Chief Supervisor Norton from among the supporters of Mr. Hunt, made affidavits before U. S. Circuit Judge Pardee alleging that the lists of registration contained 7000 fraudulent names, which they asked to be erased.

Senator Eustis, Attorney-General Cunningham, Judge Lazarus and Hon. L. O' Donnell, at the request of the Democratic State Executive Committee, appeared before Pardee and succeeded in preventing the contemplated high-handed proceeding which would have cut down very materially the vote of Mr. Cleveland.

With a full knowledge of these facts, ev-Governor Nicholls nevertheless took the stamp for Mr. Hunt and against Hon. Louis St. Martin, the regular Democratic nominee. In one of his speeches, he went so far as to say that "he would ally himself with men of all colors and opinions to defeat the ring."

As this remark had reference to the existing Democratic organization, it could not well be reconciled with a candidacy for a nomination under its auspices.—Surely, he could not now consent to lay down in peace and good fellowship amid the odious "ring" he thought he had a legitimate right of fighting with an alliance of "men of all colors and opinions" without infringing in the least upon the discipline of the Democratic party.

Having been reared in a school of Democracy which had taught us that party rules were binding upon all, we have applied strong condemnation upon men for whom we entertained great personal friendship and regard, who had arrayed themselves against the party nominees. Hence, it is adjudged that the course of ex-Governor Nicholls has not been in disaccord with the requirements of the Democratic party, we have done great injustice to men who had done nothing more than that which he has felt at liberty to do.

We submit, *therefore, that the limitations* of party allegiance should be clearly defined, to the end that its privileges may be enjoyed by all alike.—[Baton Rouge Capitolian-Advocate.

Another Gould Project.—A Little Rock, Ark., special to the *Globe-Democrat*, under date of January 6th, says: Another railroad project developed to-day, and was made public by the filing of articles of incorporation by Harlow M. Hoyt, of New York City, of the "Louisiana, Arkansas and Missouri Railroad Company." It is proposed to build this road from Brinkley, in Monroe County, through Monroe County and through the Counties of Arkansas, Lincoln, Drew, Desha, Ashley and Chicot to the Louisiana State line, there to connect with a road to be constructed to Alexandria, La., in Rapides Parish. The total length of the two lines of road is 260 miles. If this road is constructed it will open up one of the finest agricultural districts in Arkansas, now without railway facilities. The Company will ask the Legislature during this winter's session for the State land along the route. The capital stock of the Arkansas Company is $2,600,000. The officers are: Arthur W. Soper, New York City, President; Logan H. Roots, Little Rock, Vice-President; Joseph J. Slocum, New York, Secretary; Harlow M. Hoyt, New York, Treasurer. The Directors are: Samuel M. Dodd, St. Louis; A. W. Soper, J. J. Slocum, H. M. Hoyt, New York City; Logan H. Root, Little Rock; Jas. A. Gibson, DeWitt, Ark.; Wm. Block, Lewis Salinger, Brinkley, Ark.; Parker C. Evan, Clarendon, Ark. It is reported that Col. E. K. Sibley, now of the firm of Marquand & Parmley, New York City, and formerly with the Missouri Pacific Railway Company, and the Vulcan Iron Works, of St. Louis, are among the promoters of the enterprise.

—The Grand Jury of Pointe Coupee Parish has found a true bill of manslaughter against the officers of the sternboat J. M. White, lately burned. We consider this a piece of foolishness, as no convictions will be made.

—The last book Gen. Logan read was the biography of Gen. R. E. Lee.

## Judge Blackman's Decision in the Marksville Court House Case.

Judge Blackman has rendered his decision in the Court-House case. He has perpetuated the injunction and declared the late election null and void. The decision will be found elsewhere in to-day's issue of the *Review*. It is lengthy, but we think may be condensed substantially as follows, viz: He thinks that the proviso to Act 104, which required the submission of the question of tax at the same time with vote on the removal, is unconstitutional, and that its unconstitutionality destroys the whole act, as in his opinion it was the initial of the legislature that said proviso should be submitted to the people, otherwise the act would not have been passed. The premises in the opinion seem to us to be at manifest variance with the conclusion. We fail to apprehend the reasoning on the intent of the act. Legislative intent is not a matter of inference or opinion, but is clearly and exclusively deducible from the title to an act, otherwise we would grope in the dark and be left to conjecture for such intent. We hail the decision with pleasure as it is number one of the two remaining acts in the closing drama of the Court House question. The curtain will rise again when the Supreme Court meets in Opelousas in July. The fate of Act 104 will then be decided. What that fate will be, time will determine. Whatever it be, we trust it will be received without bitterness by the vanquished. As for us, we wish a final decision in the matter, be that decision what it may.—[Marksville Review.

We give up much of our space this week to the publication of Judge Blackman's decision on the Court-house question, a matter of such great importance to our people that we know that it will be read with great interest by all of our readers. The decision of the learned Judge grants the order restraining the Police Jury from removing the Parish seat from Marksville. The removalists will probably take an appeal, and in that event the case will go to the Supreme Court which convenes in Opelousas in the month of July next. The *Bulletin* has no crowing to do, nor is it so wise in law as to intrude upon its readers an occasional leader on the Constitutionality of the election. It made its fight before the election, on the proper field and in the proper form, and the moment the question was lodged in the Courts it had little more to say. —[Marksville Bulletin.

## Interesting Experiences.

Hiram Cameron, Furniture dealer of Columbus, Ga., tells his experience, thus: "For three years have tried every remedy on the market for Stomach and Kidney disorders, but got no relief until I used Electric Bitters I took five bottles and am now cured, and think Electric Bitters the best Blood Purifier in the world." Major A. B. Reed, of West Liberty, Ky., used Electric Bitters for an old standing Kidney affection and says: "Nothing has ever done me so much good as Electric Bitters." Sold at fifty cents a bottle by Jacob Geiger.

Gov. S. D. McEnery.—The name at the head of this article should bring a thrill of joy and enthusiasm to every true Democrat, every true son of Louisiana and more especially every true son of Ouachita. While we do not know whether he will be a candidate or not, yet we feel it but our duty to land his name. There are other names mentioned for the honorable position whose character is unimpeachable.—The just and pure Moncure, the famed and honest Nicholls, the honest and fearless; yet we can but stand for Sam McEnery. In the dark days of '76, he was the leader of our reconstruction, and at every crisis he was our help and adviser. True his name is linked with some who are considered of disrepute, yet we dare say he stands aloof of anything small or dirty. He is our's and we should be his. His name, though terrible to his foes, yet welcome to his friends, shall be remembered with the warmest emotions of gratitude by those whom he has contributed to make happy, and by all mankind when Packards, Warmoths, Kelloggs and Pinchbacks are sunk in their minted oblivion. Let S. D. McEnery cut loose from the ring rule of New Orleans, and a more honest and incorruptible official cannot be placed at the head of our beloved State.—[West Monroe Union

—The editor of the Marksville *Bulletin* is pleased with the Sunday law. He says. "Here in Avoyelles the law is looked upon as a blessing to the people and it will be most cheerfully obeyed. And this is the feeling that we would like to see prevailing all over Louisiana. The mission of true journalism in this instance is to join hands with the ministers and together inaugurate a crusade against palpable sin and those who would so wantonly desecrate the Lord's day."

—The Methodists of Louisiana have 224 churches, worth $380,740, and 53 parsonages, worth $44,996. The value of the school property belonging to the denomination is $27,000.

## A STRANGE SEPARATION.

### How John V. Ayer's Wife Was Induced to Leave Him,

AND HOW THEY MET AFTER EACH BELIEVED THAT THE OTHER WAS DEAD.

A special to the Cincinnati *Commercial-Gazette*, from Washington City, says: Recently most of the newspapers of the country printed the following dispatch:—

"CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—Mrs. Harriet Hubbard Ayer, formerly of Chicago, but now residing in New York, instituted a suit for divorce to-day against Herbert Ayer, on the ground of infidelity and desertion. Mr. Ayer was formerly a wealthy merchant of Chicago—failed some years ago."

There is a curious history connected with this case. In 1840 or 1841 Mr. John V. Ayer, a young New England man, went to New Orleans to make his fortune and settle there He was enterprising and energetic and went forward rapidly. He joined in Southern sentiment and ideas to some extent and became very popular.—He met a young lady in society and they fell in love with each other. The young lady's people objected to the match because of Ayer's Northern birth, but the two were quietly married. Within a year such a pressure was brought upon the young wife by her people that she was induced to leave her husband and go back to the home of her parents. Ayer was nearly heartbroken over her desertion and decided to leave the South and go back to the North. He closed out his business and departed, after appointing a lawyer to look after his affairs, as he knew that his wife expected soon to be confined. He settled in Washington and went into the lumber business, and began to prosper at once, as he was a very keen and shrewd business man. Such a man is bound to succeed in any department of effort. In a short time he received from his lawyer a letter notifying him of his wife's death in childbirth. The letter gave him all particulars, with a description of his wife's grave and a copy of the epitaphs on her tombstone. Soon after he moved to Chicago and went into business there. He soon became a very wealthy man; indeed, was reckoned among the most solid men of the city financially. He was the second partner in the noted firm of Hale, Ayer & Co., iron manufacturers, which had mills in Chicago, Youngstown, Ohio, and in Pennsylvania. He was married, and had several children. In 1864 he went to New Orleans, accompanied by his oldest child, John V. Ayer, Jr., a young fellow nearly 20 years of age and full of spirit and adventure.—The father and son stopped at the St. Charles Hotel, and in Parlor C kept open house all winter, making it merry for the old friends of the father. One night, at a dinner given at the City Hotel, where Mr. Ayer was a guest, he recognized his first wife in the person sitting near him. At the same time she recognized him, though neither spoke. The next day he traced her out and sent her a note, which was answered. Twenty or more letters passed between the two before a meeting was brought about. These letters are still in existence, and nothing in all truth or fiction or romance could be more pathetic. Finally they met and talked for hours.—He told her of the information sent him of her death, of his subsequent marriage, and his life since then. From her he ascertained that she had been furnished with like information about him; that she had married a wealthy planter living in Rapides Parish. Instead of dying in childbirth, she had given birth to a son who was then in the Confederate army, and by her second husband she had two daughters. Her husband had been impoverished by the war and was dead. She was struggling to support herself and two daughters. Mr. Ayer settled upon her and her daughters $150,000, and established them comfortably in New Orleans in her old home. He then went to Washington and, using every influence, procured letters from Lincoln and Stanton, and went through the lines to Richmond. He got letters from Jeff Davis and the Confederate Secretary of War and his son's release from the army. With these papers he went through the Confederate lines at Bayou Sara and found his son.—He took him out of the army, and after a reunion in New Orleans between him, his first wife, her two daughters, his son by his first wife and his son by his second wife, went on with the two boys to Chicago. Singularly enough, not one of the children had ever heard a word of the previous marriage, and the first son had never dreamed the truth of his parentage. Nor had the other children on either side ever known of any previous marriage by their parents. Mr Ayer took his young ex-Confederate son home with him and made him a partner in his business. He seemed to worship the boy, and to almost forget the children of his second marriage in his affection for this child of his first love, come back to him from the dead. In a short time he started him in the banking business, and lavished upon him all the money he could spend. That was a good deal, for the young man was a lively one, and for several years he was a leading spirit of Chicago. He had the finest horses and carriages, he had a kennel of hunting hounds and a full stable, and excellent gun and rod outfit. His father's house was a fine mansion, and through the indulgence of the parent he carried things with a high hand and was very popular. Afterwards things went wrong, and there were financial failures and reverses, an unhappy marriage, and now a divorce. This young man was Herbert Ayer, the gentleman who is spoken of in the dispatch I quoted in the beginning of this strange story, as related by Captain John A. Duble, the well known old river man, who was an intimate friend of Mr. Ayer.

Startling But True. — Wills Point, Texas, December 1, 1885.—After suffering for more than three years with disease of the throat and lungs, I got so low last Spring I was entirely unable to do anything, and my cough was so bad I scarcely slept any at night. My Druggist, Mr. H. F. Goodnight, sent me a trial bottle of Dr. Bosanko's Cough and Lung Syrup. I found relief, and after using six $.00 bottles, I was entirely cured. J. M. Welden. Sold by Jacob Geiger, Eagle Drug Store.


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| 4 Large Prizes of $5000 | 20 | 000 |
| 20 Prizes of $1000 | 20 | 000 |
| 50 Prizes of $500 | 25 | 000 |
| 100 Prizes of $300 | 30 | 000 |
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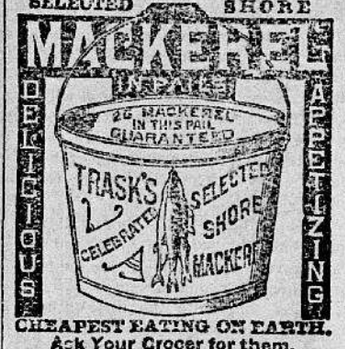


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