DEMOCRAT.

—TERMS:—
One copy, one year.....$1.00
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WEDNESDAY, - - - MARCH 17

—Ex Senator Newton C. Blanchard, took the oath of office yesterday, and entered upon the discharge of his duties as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Louisiana.

—The Hon. J. G. Tate, Supreme Master Workman of the Ancient Order United Workmen, will lecture at the Court House, in Alexandria, at 7:30 o'clock this evening. The lecture is free and everybody invited to attend.

Rheumatism Quickly Cured.

After having been confined to the house for eleven days and paying out $25, in doctor bills without benefit, Mr. Frank Dolson of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., was cured by one bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm costing 25 cents and has not since been troubled with that complaint. For sale by Phoenix Drug Store.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale at the Eagle Drug Store.

—Our enterprising metropolitan contemporary the New Orleans *Picayune* has placed us under obligations with its handsome calendar for the current year and "Tourists Guide Book to the City of New Orleans." This book contains a fund of valuable information to the stranger visiting the city and will be mailed to any address on receipt of 14 cents.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.—The following marriage licenses have been issued by the Clerk of the Court:

White—A. M. Slay to Miss Ellen E. Prestridge; Jeff Graves and Miss Sallie Deville.

—We have received Vol. 1, No. 1, of The Editor, published weekly at Ruston, La., by the printing department of the Louisiana Industrial Institute. It is edited by the Faculty and students, Col. A. T. Prescott, President of the Institute, Business Manager. It is intended to make the students proficient in the practical art of printing. The initial number is replete with interesting and instructive articles, displays editorial ability and typographical neatness and we X with pleasure.

PETITION BEING NUMEROUSLY SIGNED.—Recognizing the efficacy of the political maxim that to the victors belong the spoils and that with a change of national administration Alexandria will have a new Postmaster, a petition is being circulated and numerously signed recommending the appointment of Mr. E. J. Barrett to succeed the present efficient incumbent, Mr. Jonas Rosenthal. Mr. Barrett was Posmaster under the administration of President Harrison, and discharged the duties in such a satisfactory manner that he is being indorsed for reappointment by almost everyone, irrespective of past or present political affiliation.

Amateur Comedy Company.

As will be seen by reference to an advertisement appearing elsewhere in this issue of the DEMOCRAT, an Amateur Comedy Company, comprising a cast of seventeen persons, will render at the Opera House, Alexandria, La., on Saturday night, March 20th, the laughable farce, "Here We Speak French," for the benefit of the drouth sufferers of North Louisiana. Their performances in other towns of South Louisiana for the same purpose, have been highly commended by the local press. Mr. A. H. Myers, business manager, called upon us several days ago and assured us that the performance would be under the supervision of a committee of citizens, who will take charge of the receipts and see that they are applied to the purpose for which intended, after deducting expenses, only hotel bills of the troupe, as their transportation is free on the railroads. As this is a gratuitous performance, for the relief of our starving fellow citizens in North Louisiana, rendered destitute by a visitation of Divine Providence, the performers should be greeted with a crowded house. Every one can afford to contribute $1.00 for such a beneficent purpose.

Mysterious Death of Brooks Robertson.

Brooks Robertson was found dead at the Churchill place, near Alexandria, between 7 and 8 o'clock on last Tuesday evening. The deceased was about twenty years of age, was living with his mother and brother, and was engaged in agricultural operations at the time of the tragic occurrence. The deceased and a young companion named Churchill had just returned from the woods, where they had been cutting wood. They took with them a breech-loading shotgun, one barrel of which was discharged at a rabbit and afterwards reloaded, and when they reached the house the mother, brother and other occupants were absent. The gun was deposited on the back gallery. Churchill says he left for the stable to feed the stock, the deceased complaining of feeling too unwell to accompany him. He had scarcely reached the stable when he heard the report of a gun, and returning, found Robertson had been shot in the region of the heart and also through the little finger of the right hand, from the effects of which he expired almost instantaneously, only uttering the exclamation, "I am dead," in reply to Churchill's question, "Are you shot?" He was killed with No. 6 birdshot, receiving the full load in his breast. His body was found in the yard several feet from the gallery, and the discharged gun on the gallery with the butt towards the dead body.

Justice of the Peace A. B. Rachal, in the absence of Coroner Luckett, impaneled a jury and held an inquest upon the remains. After hearing the testimony of Churchill, the only witness, the jury rendered a verdict that Robertson came to his death from a gunshot wound inflicted by a person or persons to the jury unknown. As there is no known reason why the young man should have committed suicide or why anyone should have had a motive for killing him, the probable theory in the minds of his immediate family and friends is that, being careless in the handling of firearms, the gun fell from the wall against which it was resting and was accidentally discharged. No arrests have yet been made, although further investigation may develop sufficient cause for warrants to issue.

The manner and cause of his death will be investigated by the Grand Jury, which meets on the first Monday of April. The deceased was a son of the late George H. Robertson and Mary A. Ringgold. His remains were interred the next day at 1 p. m. in the family burial ground at Pineville.

A Surging River.

From incessant rains in the North and West, a surging flood is pouring down the Mississippi river. The outlook now is gloomy for the planters in the alluvial regions. As usual, however, when the spring flood begins to pour down the river on its way to the Gulf, the Mississippi River Commission—an expensive sinecure of the War Department, which should have been abolished long ago—and the national and state Engineers daily issue reassuring bulletins to the people behind the weak embankments and in danger of being drowned, that the levees are all in excellent condition and capable of resisting the pressure of any volume of water that may be precipitated against them.

While we trust that they may be correct in this instance, experience has demonstrated that they have "reckoned without their host" in other high water years and that their comforting assurances are not worth the paper upon which they are written. A long residence behind the levees of the Mississippi has taught us that the engineers are not infallibe and that the people had best not be lulled to sleep by their roseate publications of the splendid condition and strength of the levees, but had better prepare while time yet remains for the preservation of person and property from the incursions of the irresistible flood, as the levees cannot resist—a fact demonstrated by every high water year—an unusual pressure of water against them and will give way in some weak place, to flood a large scope of country and destroy bright prospects for the coming crop.

The BUCKSKIN BREECHES are made as carefully as more expensive pants. The seams won't rip nor will the pockets. The buttons are riveted on, they fit and look well. These are the points that make them the best working pants that can be had at any price.

PERSONAL.

—Mr. J. Y. Hathorn was in town last Saturday.

—Mr. G. W. Bennett, of Theoda, was in town last Friday.

—Mr. G. A. Roberts went to New Orleans Sunday night.

—Mrs. C. E. Roberts went to New Orleans Sunday night.

—Mr. Leroy A. Calhoon, of Glenmora, was in town last week.

—Mr. F. M. McCann, of Welcheton was in town last Thursday.

—Miss Mary A. O'Shee returned from New Orleans last week.

—Miss Kate Bringhurst returned from New Orleans last week.

—Miss Inez Rushing returned from New Orleans last Saturday.

—Mrs. C. P. Chenette returned from New Orleans several days ago.

—Miss Fannie Barrett returned from New Orleans last Friday night.

—Mr. Ed. Millerick, of Vilas P. O. Grant Parish, was in town Monday.

—Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Henderson, of Lamourie, were in town last week.

—Capt. F. M. Welch, the builder of railroads without money, was in town last week.

—Mr. Albert Rachal returned last Thursday night from a visit to relatives at Natchitoches.

—Mr. Ben Schmalinski was initiated into Lodge No. 3410, Knights of Honor, last Wednesday night.

—Miss Evelyn Carnal, of Lecompte, who has been visiting Mrs. J. G. White, returned home last Saturday.

—Mr. H. B. Mercer, of Buckeye P. O., one of our prominent educators, gave us a pleasant call Monday morning.

—Mr. J. W. Simpson, of Forest Hill, was in town last Wednesday to attend the meeting of the Knights of Honor.

—Mr. Elmer F. Zinser, General Agent of H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, Ills., gave the DEMOCRAT a business call last week.

—Mrs. F. W. Bradt, of Atlanta, Ga., who has been visitig her parents Dr. and Mrs. S. H. Rushing, returned home yesterday.

Mrs. R. L. Randolph went to Cheneyville Monday morning, to assist in nursing her father, Capt. C. J. Barstow, who is quite ill.

—Miss Carrie Eudel, of Henderson County, Texas, who has been visiting the family of Mr. and Mrs. Rosenthal, returned home Sunday evening.

—Messrs. Jacob Geiger and George Ratcliffe left yesterday morning on an extended visit to the White Sulphur Springs in Catahoula Parish.

—Miss Olla Johnston, of Bagdad, who has been visiting her cousins, the Misses Clements, returned home Saturday, accompanied by Miss Lizzie Clements.

—Col. Thos. C. Wheadon, of Mooreland, the affable and efficient member of the Police Jury, from the Lamourie ward, was in town last week, exchanging greetings with his host of friends.

—Col. James C. Wise, the "old warhorse of Democracy" of Rapides Parish, was in town several days last week, exchanging salutations with his many friends, both of the ante and post bellum period.

—Capt. Ben Turner, of Pineville, returned from New Orleans last Thursday, whither he went as a delegate to represent Alexandria Lodge No. 3410, Knights of Honor, in the sixteenth annual session of the Grand Lodge of that Order.

—We regret to learn of the serious illness of our old friend, Capt. C. J. Barstow, of Cheneyville. Although a septuagenarian, we trust that his vigorous constitution will enable him, as it has on more than one occasion, to "pull through" and remain with us for yet another score of years.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.—The following transfers of real estate have been registered in the Recorder's office during the past week:

Marion Williams to Mollie Gibson, 48 acres of land in Sections 20 and 24, in T. 5 N., R. 1 E. Price, $400.

Mrs. Malinda E. Ford to Geo W. Bennett, 140 acres of land, with improvements thereon, on the right descending bank of Bayou Boeuf, bounded north by public road south by lands of Haas, east by lands of purchaser and west by Waverly plantation. Price, $1500.

John Smith, Sr., to John R. Richmond, 25 acres of land in Sec. 19, T. 1 N., R. 2 West. Price, $25.

Mrs. Nellie Schrader to Dr. James A. White. The undivided 1-14th interest in and to lot 20, in the town of Pineville, fronting on the West side Claiborne road. Price, $35.

Pauline Bell to Minors, Sallie, Huldah and Benjamin Kraft. Donation. A lot of ground, with improvements thereon, in the Welch Addition, being lot 3, of square 39.

Wm. Butter to Forest Hill Lumber Co., 160 and 34-100 acres, less 10 acres reserved containing residence and improvements in Sec. 36, T. 1 N., of R. 2 W. Price, $750.

Knights of Honor.

The sixteenth annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, Knights of Honor, of Louisiana, was held in New Orleans last week, the session occupying several days. After the transaction of routine business, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

William Laughlin, Grand Dictator, elected by acclamation, there being no opposition.

James Simon, of St. Martinsville, Grand Vice Dictator.

Patrick H. Boyle, of New Orleans, Grand Assistant Dictator.

D. J. Searcy, Grand Reporter, re-elected.

Grand Treasurer, Eddy Denekamp, re-elected.

Grand Chaplain, L. V. Settoon.

Grand Guide, Wm. Rogers.

Grand Guardian, W. B. Sauls.

Grand Sentinel, B F. Goldsby

Grand Trustees, Henry Tharp, Jno. J. Wax, and J. M. Moore.

Supreme Representative, L. E. Bentley.

Supreme Alternate, Eugene F. Dyer.

—It has been held that consumption is hereditary, and the fact that one person of a family had died with consumption was considered a sure sign that others of that family could not escape it. This is partly true and partly untrue. A man with weak lungs is likely to transmit that weakness to his children. But there is no reason in the world why the weakness be allowed to develop. Keep the lungs full of rich, red, wholesome blood, and the weakness will disappear. Decaying tissues will be thrown off, and new material will be added until the lungs are well and perfectly strong again. This is the thing that Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery does. This is what makes it cure 98 per cent of all cases of consumption where it is taken according to directions. It searches out disease germs wherever they may be in the body and forces them out of the system. It supplies the blood with rich, life-giving properties. It makes the appetite good, digestion perfect. Send 21 cents in 1-cent stamps to World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y., and receive Dr. Pierce's 1008 page "Common Sense Medical Adviser," profusely illustrated.

—Miss Olive Kitzmiller, of Dallas, Texas, arrived Sunday. She is a fashionable milliner and has accepted a position at the Fashion Bazar of Mrs. Julie Weil on Second Street. This establishment is in receipt of a line of new goods and will have a Spring opening on the 29th, 30th and 31st days of this month.

DEATH OF "AUNT" MILLIE.—"Aunt" Millie Marshall (colored) died suddenly at her residence in this city, on Sunday morning, March 14th, 1897. The deceased was about 61 years of age and was known and respected by every one. She kept a small boarding house and by prudence and economy, had accumulated sufficient money to purchase a lot and build a residence upon it, into which she had only recently moved. She was raised at Evergreen, in Avoyelles Parish and belonged to the Marshall family when the shackles of the slaves were unriveted by proclamation of President Lincoln. Her death is supposed to have been produced by heart failure. She leaves a son, Oliver Bassett, a barber of this city, two daughters and a number of grandchildren to mourn her demise. Her remains were interred in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Pineville, at 1o o'clock on Monday morning.