

WEATHER REPORT

For the week ending Aug. 28: Max. Min. 23..... 92 70 24..... 91 67 25..... 93 70 26..... 91 68 27..... 93 68 28..... 94 71

ALEX. BAND, Observer, Mandeville Station, La.

The oyster season opens to-morrow.

Mr. J. E. Smith offers the Sun Postoffice property for sale. See advertisement.

The East Louisiana Railroad has filled up and greatly improved Gibson street in the last few days.

We received a short call last Wednesday from Mr. W. G. Hutchison, President of the Police Jury.

Watch the Moon put Jupiter's light out in one round, next Wednesday evening, between 8 and 9 o'clock.

The Vienne place, near Covington, was sold this week to Mr. R. B. Lines, a lawyer of Washington, D. C., for the sum of \$850.

Six bales of new cotton have come in up to the present date, and brought good prices, ranging from 10 1/2 to 11 cents per pound.

Christ Church (P. E.)—Eleventh Sunday after Trinity—Morning prayer and sermon at 11 o'clock. Sunday School at 10 o'clock.

We felt no particular interest in the arrival of the first bale of new cotton, but we do feel a deep personal interest in the arrival of the first oyster boat.

Volans of smoke have been rolling up from the steam pottery and furnace works this week, which looks like business is flourishing in that institution.

We return thanks to Mr. Ira E. Strain, the butcher, and Mr. A. J. Dutroch, of Cavern Vineyard, for some delicious soft-shell crabs, fresh from the Lake.

A number of the guests of Chalmers Cottage passed through town last Saturday in a gaily-bedecked ox wagon, and spent the day picnicking in the pine woods.

Two trains arrived on the East Louisiana road last Sunday, the regular excursion train having eight coaches. The Wednesday excursion was also well patronized.

Miss Hattie Koen, we are pleased to learn, is rapidly recovering from her recent severe burns, caused by a lamp explosion, and will be able to leave her bed in a few days.

Wooden bridges are rather costly. The big bridge over the Bogno Falls was completed the first week in September, one year ago, and the Police Jury this week spent \$60 on it for repairs.

A fine half-breed bull terrier, white and black spotted, followed Mr. W. N. Koen's carriage out of town last Thursday evening. The owner will find him at Mr. Koen's residence on the Abita.

The Committee on Improvements are having a new bridge built at Capt. Miller's and repairing the street leading to it. These improvements were greatly needed and will be highly appreciated by the traveling public.

The big bridge is being thoroughly repaired and strengthened with new piling, by Mr. Alf. Lacroix, under contract with Mr. Herman Shoults, member of the Police Jury for this ward.

Mr. Harry Lund, of the firm of Lund & Warren, Alexandria, La., is on a visit to his friends in Covington, and paid us a pleasant visit last Thursday. He is stopping at the residence of Mr. W. C. Warren.

Mr. C. L. Smith has moved into his handsome new cottage near the Farmer's office. It is one of the prettiest houses in Covington, and reflects great credit on Mr. "Tim" Brouss, the builder, and Mr. June Lacroix, the painter.

Rus Over.—Mr. Tom Passman brought in two bales of new cotton last Wednesday, which were bought by Hardy H. Smith. On his way home, and some ten miles from Covington, he was run over by his wagon, which was loaded with freight, the wheel passing over his breast, inflicting severe and probably fatal injuries. He was taken to a neighboring house, and is being attended by Dr. Tebanlt.

HURRY UP THE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE TOWN HALL.

As yet we have heard of no steps being taken toward getting up an entertainment for the benefit of the Town Hall fund. The public are anxious to see an entertainment given for this purpose, and will all patronize it, but there seems to be a lack of a leader—some one to take the matter in hand and push it forward. It seems to us that if the Town Hall Committee would confer with our musical and dramatic amateurs, a programme could be arranged, rehearsals commenced, and the date fixed for the first entertainment. Set the ball rolling, gentlemen, before the summer season closes and our visitors depart for their homes.

FIRST BALE.—The first bale of cotton of this year's crop, for St. Tammany parish, came in on Friday, the 23d inst. It was raised by A. and W. Blackwell, and weighed 498 pounds. It was bought by Eg. E. Smith, at 11.30 cents, and shipped via the East Louisiana Railroad to John T. Hardie & Co., New Orleans.

Covington Academy, Mrs. L. M. Cloud, Principal, will open on the second Monday in September. This is a model institution of learning, the Principal being an accomplished and experienced teacher, and the school is eminently worthy of the liberal patronage of our citizens.

The new bridge over the Pontchartrons, on the Covington and Mandeville road, was completed this week, and is one of the strongest and most substantial bridges in the parish. Much credit is due Mr. Geo. Chevalier, the builder, for the excellence of the work done, and to Mr. W. G. Hutchison, President of the Police Jury, who superintended it.

Mimes Leah and Rebecca Henriques left New Orleans on Saturday last for a visit of a few weeks at Mulberry Grove, near Covington. These charming young ladies will be sadly missed by their friends here, for their many social attractions make them great favorites. Miss Leah is gifted with an excellent voice, as sweet as the notes of a warbler, and her vocal talent is a source of great pleasure to her many friends.—Louisiana Review.

PLEASANT PARTY.—Last Tuesday night a pleasant party was given at the residence of Mr. Becker, five miles from Covington, on the Abita road. One hundred and three guests were seated at the supper table. Mr. Becker's large barn, just completed, was converted into a ball room, being tastefully decorated with evergreens and lit up with Chinese lanterns. The dancing was kept up till daylight, everything passed off pleasantly, and all present pronounced it the most enjoyable frolic that has occurred in that neighborhood for years.

ON TO FRANKLINTON.—Mr. E. S. Ferguson, the General Passenger Agent of the East Louisiana Railroad, paid us a pleasant visit last Wednesday. He informed us that the railroad company had received encouraging inducements to extend their line from here to Franklinton, and that he and Mr. Paul Gunman, the company's surveyor, would go over the route next week to see how the land lies, and ascertain the amount of bridging and grading necessary along the line of the road. He could not say when work on the road would begin, but thought it quite probable that the company would extend their road to Franklinton before building a branch to Mandeville.

DEAD.—At Columbia, Miss., Aug. 11, 1889, JOSEPH REAGAN, aged about 19 years, only son of Mr. Wm. P. Reagan, formerly of Covington.

Some three years ago Mrs. P. Welch, his only daughter, died; last August, Samuel, his oldest son, and now little Joe, his only remaining child, all by consumption. But he professed religion, took the Holy Sacrament, and died in peace.

DEMPSEY SULLIVATED.—Jack Dempsey, the "Nonpareil," middle-weight champion, and Geo. LaBlanche, the "Marine," fought thirty-six rounds, with four ounces gloves, in San Francisco, last Tuesday night, for \$6000. Dempsey was knocked out for the first time in his life.

Chas. Moran, Jr., State Armorer, and a married veteran of the Army of Virginia, died in New Orleans last Wednesday night.

A COVINGTON WEATHER SERVICE.

WHAT IS NEEDED.

[City Item.]

The Item begs leave to assure its respected contemporary, the St. Tammany Farmer, that there is no disposition at this end of the line not to give Covington the best advantages at the disposal of the Weather Bureau. A little discussion, therefore, will only help to clear away the obstacles. The Item made several efforts to find Mr. Pointes before the Farmer came to hand, but failing, now presents Mr. Kerkam's note, which indicates exactly what preliminaries are required to a full enjoyment of the benefits of the service. We shall be glad to further assist if shown how to do it.

Editor of the Item.—The Western Union Telegraph Manager furnished this office with a list of all telegraph stations in Louisiana that could be reached by paying one-half on a message, and Covington, La., is not on that list. Everything relating to the dissemination of the forecasts and cold wave and frost warnings was based on this list, and all places on the list furnished this office received an invitation to some flag and a staff, when the cold wave and frost warnings would be sent whenever the forecasts were to that effect.

Relative to a station of observation—had the St. Tammany Farmer informed this office that a suitable Observer could be secured, who would make observations voluntarily, as is done in the remaining parishes (and at Mandeville in St. Tammany), information as to where the necessary instruments could be purchased, instructions as to the manner of making observations, forms for recording the observations, and postage would have been gladly furnished.

All that was known of the desire of the St. Tammany Farmer to have a station of observation and a display station established was that a representative of the Item called at this office with a clipping purporting to come from the Farmer. A glance at the list of W. U. stations revealed the fact that Covington was not thereon, and a glance at the list of telephone stations failed to show the sought-for Covington.

If Covington can be reached at one tariff via W. U., and if Mr. W. B. Franklin or the editor of the Farmer will secure the flag for display of cold wave and frost warnings, I will have the warnings telegraphed to the address of the person who is to act as display man without expense.

If the desire for a station of observation is sufficient to induce the Farmer or the City Council of Covington to appropriate funds for the purchase of a set of self-registering thermometers, a rain gauge, measuring stick and a shelter for thermometers, I will gladly furnish any and all information and instructions, and publish the reports regularly with the remainder of the State reports.

Mandeville is a station of observation and not a regular cold wave station, although certain warnings have been mailed that place regularly during the past two winters. They receive the daily weather maps by mail, and can frame an idea as to coming conditions therefrom. Covington can have the same advantages when I am informed that everything is in order. The wording of the article in the Item of the 30th is that of the Item's representative, and I disclaim anything in connection with it except the sense of the article, which is mine.

R. E. KERKAM, Director Louisiana Weather Service.

We received, last Tuesday night, the following letter from Capt. Kerkam in relation to the above subject:

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 26, 1889.

EDITOR ST. TAMMANY FARMER: An Item representative to-day called my attention to a clipping from the Farmer of late date which is anything but complimentary. A week or more ago the Item man came to me with a clipping purporting to come from the Farmer, stating that a station of the State Weather Service was desired at Covington. I glanced over the list of stations furnished this office by the Western Union management that could be reached by wire from this city at one tariff per message, and Covington was not thereon. I glanced over the list of telephone stations and no Covington was to be found. I told the Item that it was impossible to establish a display station, since you could not be reached at one tariff via the Western Union, and had no telephone communication to receive messages D. H. through the courtesy of the Great Southern Co. As to a station of observation, it would be necessary to secure a man who would act as volunteer observer, a set of instruments and the proper exposure. As soon as these requirements were met I would take pleasure in furnishing instructions, forms, postage, etc.

The Farmer is not sent to this office and it was by some chance that I saw your first remark regarding a station. After perusing the second article, I feel as though it had been better had I not seen the first. It is a fact not generally understood that my work in con-

nection with the State work is purely voluntary, and that such collecting of data, issuing of bulletins and publishing of the Meteorological Journal is by my own pleasure, and through a desire to further the interests of the Signal Service in making its work more fully understood and of greater benefit to the people of the State. The fact that a man has no knowledge as to whether a certain town can be reached by Western Union at one tariff rate is hardly an excuse to head an article "State Signal Officer Kerkam's Ignorance, or words to that effect." Further, a line from you to me direct would have been seen and replied to in person; or a marked copy of the Farmer would have been understood. Very respectfully yours, R. E. KERKAM, Signal Corps Director.

In reply to the above we will state that we based our remarks in last week's Farmer on a reported interview which appeared in the City Item, in which Capt. Kerkam was made to say, in reference to our suggestion that a Signal Station should be established here, "If Covington had telegraph or telephone communication, and was ready to build an observatory, and would propose a suitable person as volunteer observer, there would be some sense in the thing." From this we naturally concluded that he was not aware of the fact that we were connected with the city by telegraph. If he had said we had no "one tariff rate," it would have been different. Probably he expressed himself that way and was incorrectly reported by the Item, hence the misunderstanding. We have positive assurance of the fact that there will be no difficulty in securing a one-tariff rate over the East Louisiana line to Covington. It seems to us eminently proper that the telegraph operator should also be the Observer, as he could display the warning signals immediately upon receiving the message. We need a station here, and, as the Item says, "a little discussion will only help to clear away the obstacles" in the way of our securing one. This discussion has developed the fact that there are no obstacles that cannot be cleared away. Let Covington and the Railroad Company do their part, and Capt. Kerkam will promptly do his. He is one of the most efficient Signal Officers in the United States, takes a lively interest in the matter, and has done much to improve the service by establishing stations wherever it was practicable to do so. He has told us how to go about securing a station, and it will be our own fault if we do not have one here. It is important that it should be established without delay, as the season is fast approaching when cold wave and frost signals will be of great benefit to our planters and farmers.

The Congressional election, in Third District, will take place next Tuesday, when Hon. Andrew Price, Democrat, will be elected by about 4000 majority.

Louisiana Review: It has been many years since the outlook for a brisk business season in New Orleans and throughout the State has been so promising as it is at this moment. A notable advance in the value of property is reported from every quarter of the State, not less than twenty millions being the estimated increase in country assessments alone this year.

Secretary Bank, of the Department of Agriculture, has authorized the preparation and publication of a manual giving the symptoms of the more common diseases incident to live stock, together with the most reliable cures therefor, the text to be accompanied by plates illustrating the same. The work will be issued first in bulletin form, and then republished in one volume for free distribution as a public document. The diseases of sheep and their curas will be the subject of the first bulletin, and it will appear within a few weeks.

CITY vs. COUNTRY NEWS-PAPERS.

Many unthinking people are apt to compare their local paper with its metropolitan contemporary, in regard to quantity of reading matter and subscription price, greatly to the local paper's disadvantage. They are apt to regard as an imposition the attempt of the country editor to charge \$2 00 per annum for his six or seven column folio, when for half that amount they can get a great ten or twelve page weekly, containing the general news of the whole world. There is as much sense in making such a comparison as there is in comparing the price of a keg of nails with the price of a case of beer. The local paper occupies a field distinctively its own, and this field is one which the metropolitan paper has neither the ability or the inclination to fill.—Bankie Blade.

OATS TO BE PLENTY—A LARGE WHEAT CROP.

According to the statistics furnished by crop correspondents the oat crop of the present season will be the largest ever harvested in the United States, but the yield will not be so heavy as at first anticipated, owing to the excessively wet weather and frequent wind storms that have lodged and rusted the straw on many fields. A larger acreage was sown to oats in Illinois than in any other State, and her crop will therefore be larger than that of any other State. Considering the average yield per acre and the condition at harvesting time Iowa and Wisconsin take the lead. Indiana will do almost as well. The crop will be a heavy one all over the country save in Dakota, where, as has been previously reported oats are almost a total failure owing to drought. The total oat crop of the United States will be 763,160,432 bushels, or a gain of 61,425,000 bushels over the oat crop of 1888.

The wheat crop of this country will reach this year the extraordinary figure of 500,000,000 bushels which last year was only 415,000,000 bushels. As we use 350,000,000 bushels for home consumption, a surplus of 150,000,000 bushels will thus be left for exportation. And as the wheat crops in every other country are much below the average, the sale of this handsome surplus at high figures will be a nice picking for American farmers.

According to the Marksville Bulletin, Congress at its last session instructed the Public Printer to make the following changes in spelling: Drop the *u* from words like catalogue but not from vague. Drop the final *e* from words like favorite, but not from polite. Drop the final *u* in words like programme. Change *ph* to *f* in words like phrase; substitute *e* for diphthongs *oe* and *oe* when they have the sound of that letter. It is said that the National Editorial Association, now in session at Detroit, Michigan, will adopt the new system of spelling.

The first patent poultry car that has ever been sent south of the Ohio river arrived in New Orleans last Thursday week, over the Illinois Central road. It came from Oswego, Kansas, and contained 500 dozen fowls. The car is a mammoth cage divided into compartments that will contain two and a half dozen fowls. Through the center of the car is a passage two and a half feet wide, and this is crossed by a second aisle midway the car. On top of the car is a tank that contains 750 gallons of water, and under the center is a receptacle for food. These cars will in future be sent to New Orleans weekly.—Louisiana Review.

PREPARE FOR THE CENSUS.

The eleventh general census of the United States will be taken next year. It is especially important that the returns in relation to farm products and live stock shall be full and correct, agriculture being the leading industry of the country. The enumerator will visit each house during the month of June, 1890, and every farmer should be prepared to give accurate figures, showing the desired facts. The census year began with June 1st, 1889, and ends May 31st, 1890. If all farmers throughout the country will keep accounts of the products of their farms for that year, it will enable them to give correct figures instead of guess work.—The Voice.

MAKING HAY.

In the olden time it was thought necessary to dry the entire moisture out of the new cut grass before it was put away for hay. This has been discovered to be an error. The best hay is that which has been cut and partially dried before going into the stack. The study and experiments with ensilage led to this discovery.

Beware of SARDINES and STAYED APPLES.—The Iberville South says: Brothers Wimberly and Henry, two brilliant young Methodist ministers, have been making a religious round in the neighborhood of Thibodaux lately, but one night last week they tickled a box of sardines which knocked them both out in the first round. Brother Wimberly says that after eating the sardines they partook of some stewed apples, and that the acid from the apples coming in contact with the small quantity of sardine introduced into the stomach through the medium of the sardines caused the eruption. They were attended by Dr. Dansereau, and in a short time were on the broad road to recovery.

SCHOOL LANDS.

A TALK WITH COLONEL MARTIN, CHIEF OF THE U. S. LAND OFFICE.

Col. M. Martin was asked this morning would he kindly locate the lands in this State which are assigned for educational purposes. The Colonel said: "The task you ask me to perform could not be done in two years by a clerk working nine hours a day. Each township in the State originally assigned for educational purposes one-sixteenth of its territory, and there are over one thousand townships. In after years when some of the allotments were about to be taken up, it was discovered that many of them were occupied by settlers who are able to substantiate a claim. An adjustment was made, John McKinney in charge of it, and the State made indemnity, but the lands which now are intended for educational purposes are so situated that it would take a long time to hunt up the records to find them."—Daily News.

MANDEVILLE ITEMS.

MANDEVILLE, Aug. 29, 1889.

EDUCER ST. TAMMANY FARMER: After a dry spell, yesterday we had one of the most beneficial showers, which will invigorate the potato crop, but was not so welcomed by the mowers, as several farmers have begun gathering their hay crop, which, by the way, will be one of the best crops that has been housed for years.

Our town is still full of visitors. The exodus has not as yet begun, and from hearsay, those spending the summer here will remain until the latter part of September.

Misses Chas. Fenner, Jas. A. Wright and Mrs. Wintz are registered at Colomes'. At the Crescent Hall, Mrs. Young and family, Miss A. Farr, R. Geraci, Chas. Montague and P. Loceasio.

One of our monthly visitors, of turpentine fame, John Watham, Esq., found it too long to wait, and has made his appearance as a tri-weekly. He is the guest of Mr. P. Arceneaux, of Paul's Exchange.

Those energetic Mugnier Bros., of the Crescent, are always devising some new plan to amuse their customers. After the soiree of last week, on Tuesday last they organized a mammoth picnic to Ravine des Cannes, on the Bayou Lacombe road, for the special benefit of their boarders and invited guests. Carriages, buggies, and Charley Schneider's four-mule wagon were loaded down with the gayest and loveliest creatures to be seen anywhere. They were well provided with the choicest viands and liquors that could be procured, and the echoes of Big Branch resounded with their merry laughter and caps until near sundown, when they retraced their winding way toward home, arriving at early dusk, to plunge themselves into the briny waters of Lake Pontchartrain, to drown, if possible, the robbings and ticks that had gathered unintentionally in their perambulations among the wild herbs of the St. Tammany forest.

On the 31 of September, about half-past 8 o'clock, an occultation of the planet Jupiter by the moon is announced to take place. It will be visible here with the naked eye, and our whole population will surely be on the lookout for this astronomical phenomenon. In view of this event, the Mugnier Bros. have decided, for the accommodation of their guests, to decorate and illuminate their large bath-house, and also the Crescent Hall, so that the ladies will have a fair view of the phenomenon without being crowded and jammed by Tom, Dick and Harry.

We expected to see in the Farmer a report of an inquest held near Mandeville, on Bayou Casteing, some three weeks ago, but as it has been overlooked, I am requested to mention the fact. The body found, it seems, could not be identified, or whether it was that of an Indian or white woman, as half of the corpse had been burned and the features or color could not be recognized—even the hair was nothing but a lump of crisp stuff; but a party at the inquest informs me that the hands and feet were of the most elegant shape and very small, denoting that they belonged to some refined female. As there are so many dark plots happening every day throughout the country, I thought myself justifiable in mentioning this case, as it might be the means of unraveling the mystery.

Some parties, who meet only to talk about other people's business, have thought proper to ridicule the "Mandeville Items," saying that your correspondent could not frame such articles in English. To them I will state that I do not need their assistance, for if they are so concocted in judging one who does not ask them any favors, not boasting of being like them "Academicians," I can at any time compete with them, not in their slanders, but in French or English, verbally, grammatically or arithmetically.

[The fact that there are some who are envious of "Tennis'" intellectual ability and success as a correspondent, is one of the highest compliments that could be paid him.]—En.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in the Covington (La.) Postoffice, Friday, Aug. 30, 1889. Persons calling for the same will please say advertised: Andy Geo G. Andy Geo A. Bronen E. F. Bernathum Albert. Macoune E. Mrs. Martin J. W. Porter O. S. If not called for in thirty days from date, the above letters will be sent to the Dead-Letter Office. A fee of one cent additional postage is required on all advertorial letters. CHAS. HENRY, P. M.

New Advertisements.

Smith Bros. & Co. vs. Wm. C. Morgan.

State of Louisiana, Parish of St. Tammany—Eighteenth Judicial District Court.

By virtue of a writ of seizure and sale from the honorable the aforesaid court, and to me directed, bearing date August 31, 1889—

I will proceed to sell at public auction, at the door of the Court-house, in the town of Covington, St. Tammany parish, Louisiana, on SATURDAY, October 5, A. D. 1889, between legal sale hours, the following described property, to-wit: A certain tract of land situated in the parish of St. Tammany, La., being a portion of section 31, township 7, range 11 east, beginning at a gum tree on the north bank of Pontchartrons bayou, thence west 41 degrees 11 east 12 chains 58 links to a maple tree, thence north 45 degrees 15 east 12 chains 73 links to a pine tree, thence west to Bayou Mergo, thence down said Bayou to the Tchoufouca river, thence down the Tchoufouca river to the said Bayou Pontchartrons, thence up said bayou to the point of beginning, containing 65 acres, more or less, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon. Seized in the above entitled suit. Terms of sale cash. W. P. COOK, Sheriff. COVINGTON, LA., Aug. 31, 1889.

FOR SALE.

Eighty acres of land and the improvements thereon, known as "San Postoffice," on the Pearl River road. Apply to J. E. SMITH, Covington, La.

Homestead Application. In accordance with Act No. 65 of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana of 1888, I hereby give notice of my intention to homestead the following State land, viz: Southwest quarter of section 24, township 5, range 11 east, in St. Tammany Parish, La. CHAS. F. SCHUMBERG, Covington, La., July 27, 1889.