

The St. Tammany Farmer.

"The Blessings of Government, Like the Dew from Heaven, Should Descend Alike Upon the Rich and the Poor."

W. G. KENTZEL, Editor.

COVINGTON, ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LA., SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1902

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Horse Branch Items.

March 28, 1902.
Editor St. Tammany Farmer:

Here your pencil shaver comes again with a few more locals, as I have to stay out in the woods most of the time on the turf to keep from bogging down, for there has been so much rain it is a hard matter to stay in the field long at a time. We would like to see it clear up for a while.

The health is tolerably good with the exception of severe colds. I never heard so many people coughing at one time in my life as there has been for the last week.

Miss Ruth Scott closed her subscription school last Wednesday, the 19th, and has gone to the city on a visit to home folks, when she will return and take up our free school on the 31st inst.

We are proud to see so many long letters from our correspondents in last week's issue. We hated very much to see the Bogue Falia start on the "whole hog or none" and the "captain." I think if Bogue Falia had a good Sunday School and a captain of a broom brigade, they couldn't have so much time to throw reflections on those trying to do good and trying to follow the divine law which we ought to follow. We hope the writer will refrain from personal reflections.

The time is close at hand to begin to get your fishing tackles for the occasion.

Corn planting is progressing slowly on account of too much rain.

Wm. Jordan is on the puffy list the last few days.

This community is in sympathy with the sad bereaved Core family, Mrs. Mary Core, one sister, a wife and three children, who, in the death of Mr. Milton Core, are bereft of a son, a brother, a husband and a father. Bereaved ones, weep not for the deceased, but rather rejoice, for life is uncertain, death is sure. We too must be called away sooner or later, to meet at the judgment bar of God. Be ready to meet all who have gone before, where there will be no more parting, but joy everlasting in heaven.

Well! well! "Wild Wood," it seems you are having trouble with your Mary. Of course I will share a part of your troubles, as my red headed girl is gone and old things have passed away and all things have become new. Now brother, can't you bring things to the point? If you can't you will have to do as I did, let her go and get a better one, for there is still just as good fish in the sea as has been caught out of it. I am ready to help you any time. Tell me what part of your troubles you want me to take. I ain't much of a hand on running nor laughing, but sitting or standing I am a june-bug.

Best wishes to the editor and his force.
I. C. U.

A Momentous Crisis.

"The red or the black?"
His uncertainty was almost feverish.

"The red or the black?"
Yes, it was an even chance, yet the stake was great. It was one of those crucial moments of human life when a short insight into the future means a vast deal.

He was young, and it seemed almost impossible that gaming had marked him for his own. Yet there before him the two colors stared him in the face. No one to gaze into the clear-cut, handsome countenance would for an instant have suspected that the spoil of chance had enthralled him. His father had been a church deacon, and on his knees as a boy by his mother's death bed he had promised her that he would try to become a good man as he grew older. He had gone to Sunday School, and all his young life had really wanted to follow the maxims he had been taught. And, yet, here he was with those fatal colors before his eyes. Had he really sunk to such depths of infamy?

Yet, who can foresee the result of exposing a fertile soil to the wind-

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borne seeds? Who knows but that the whitest fleece may not temporarily conceal the raging beast of prey beneath?

"The red or the black?"
And this young lad had been only since he rose that morning under that magic spell of chance.

"The black! Yes, yes, the black! It shall be the black!" He gasped the words with set teeth as snatching up the black necktie on his chiffonier he quickly encircled the white collar, slipped on his coat, and sailed forth to his day's work.
—Cecil County, Pa., News.

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