

# THE CLARION.

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, 1883.

No. 27.

## Letter from Capt. Put. Darden.

PAULDING, June 27, 1883.

J. A. P. Campbell, H. H. Chalmers and Tim. E. Cooper.

GENTLEMEN: I have been travelling in the interior counties, and had my attention called to your open letter in the Herald of the 23d inst., asking authority for the statement "that a Judge of the Supreme Court had applied to a high railroad official for a pass for his family to make a jaunt north."

In my address at Woodville, discussing that portion of the Claiborne county Grange resolutions, referring to free passes, I am reported by the Woodville Republican as saying "upon good authority, that all but two Judges in the State travelled upon free passes from the railroads." Other papers report me as using different language.

I speak without writing, and as I cannot remember every expression, I must presume that I have been reported correctly.

I did not make the statement referred to in your letter, nor is the report in the Woodville Republican liable to such construction.

The Grange which I represent, does not propose to antagonize any individual class profession or official position. Since I have learned its purposes and methods I have used my best endeavors to ally all class antagonisms in order that by a united and harmonious effort on the part of our people, we might arrest the encroachment of monopoly and at the same time, restore the former prosperity of our State. With this desire on my part, I can say if in the discharge of my duty as Master of the State Grange, I have said anything, that can be properly construed as an attack upon the personal or official integrity of any Judge in the State, I have not intended it.

The Grange is in favor of supervision, because if common carriers are unrestrained in their charges, the people are liable to be wronged by excessive fares and unjust discriminations in the transportation of their products.

We are opposed to the free pass system, because its natural tendency is to influence the receiver of such favor whether he be judge or legislator favorably toward the corporations. I have advocated these reforms on principle, not on personal grounds.

But to return to the main object of this reply to your card. The substance of the statement which I have made is—that Judges including the Supreme Court Judges, have been provided with railroad passes, and to that statement I ask your attention: As the question has been raised I am satisfied that your answer, as to whether you or either of you, the present year or any previous year since your occupancy of the bench, have been allowed by any railroad company to travel in its cars free of cost, will be satisfactory to our people, and I will certainly take pleasure in correcting any erroneous impression I may have made. Awaiting your reply, I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

PUT. DARDEN.

The friends of Hon. Alex. Powe announces him as candidate for re-election to the Legislature from Wayne county at the November election, subject to the decision of the Democratic party.

The Programme of the Patrons Union.

The Patrons Union will hold its first annual meeting at the Lake Camp Ground in Newton county, beginning the 3rd Tuesday, the 17th day of July. All the subordinate Granges in the adjoining counties and others who desire to do so, are requested to send five delegates from each to participate in the meeting. This encampment will be conducted on the self-sustaining plan, though an eating establishment and a place to feed horses will be provided at small cost for the accommodation of those who do not come prepared to camp. The exercises of the encampment will consist of reports from the various committees, discussions, essays, addresses, music, and an exhibition of the products of the farm, garden, orchard, vineyard, household and needlework, useful farm inventions, live-stock of various kinds, poultry and whatever else members and visitors think would add to the interest and profit of the meeting. No premiums will be awarded, but a diploma will be given to those who present superior specimens of any kind on exhibition. The names of those appointed on the different committees will be published as soon as handed to the President. Those who desire to make inquiry in regard to accommodations and arrangements, will address the chairman on arrangements, Bro. M. J. Chandler, Lawrence, Miss.

Brethren, let all who are interested in the prosperity and success of our cause, arouse themselves now to the importance of this meeting and contribute to make it a grand success.

J. B. BAILEY, Pres't, Conchatta, Miss.  
J. S. SCOTT, Sec'y, Harpersville, Miss.  
MISS EMMA DAY, Corresponding Secretary.

## "Power and Expediency of Railroad Supervision."

Editor of the Meridian Observer:

In that excellent journal, the State Ledger, of last Saturday, is an editorial under the above caption, in which the editor says that nobody doubts the power of the Legislature to supervise railroads, but the true issue is whether it is expedient, and says "it is about time something more practical should be written on the subject," etc.

I am glad the question of the constitutional power of the Legislature in this respect is conceded; the question of expediency is readily settled. Merely to state the facts is to decide the question. If the editor of the Ledger will take the pains to examine the freight tariff of any railroad in the State he will find the most unjust, outrageous, and, I might say, iniquitous discriminations against the interior towns; and when I say towns I mean the whole country tributary to the towns. Take, for instance, the Mobile & Ohio Railroad. It will haul a bale of cotton from Corinth to Mobile, a distance of over three hundred and thirty miles for two dollars, whilst from Shubuta to Mobile, ninety-six miles, it charges three dollars.

It costs about as much to ship a bushel of corn from West Point to Meridian, as it does to ship one from St. Louis to Meridian. The result is the people here pay from 75 cents to \$1 a bushel for corn, while our neighbors up in the prairies, about Macon, Columbus, Egypt, West Point, etc., are forced to sell their corn at from 25 to 50 cents per bushel.

I have known merchants at Enterprise, Miss., to ship flour by the car load from St. Louis to Mobile, and then ship it back to Enterprise, and save five cents on the barrel over the regular rate from St. Louis to Enterprise. I knew a man who shipped a sewing machine from New York to Clinton, via Jackson, Miss., and the freight from Jackson to Clinton, a distance of about twelve miles, was about the same as that from New York to Jackson.

Now, when we consider the fact that EVERY RAILROAD in the State, except the Natchez and Jackson, runs through the State—that is, has no terminus in the State, and that not a city or town in the State gets the benefit of the so-called through rates, thus emptying the treasuries of the whole State into the laps of Memphis, Charleston, Mobile, St. Louis, New Orleans, Chicago, Cincinnati, and other cities, to the detriment of our own, the question of expediency becomes no question at all, but, on the contrary, it becomes a question of necessity.

Mississippi, with her untold millions of wealth, and her annual products, amounting to millions of dollars, has not a single city of over ten thousand inhabitants. And why? Because our products, such as build up cities, are shipped beyond the limits of our State, and this of necessity, because the railroads run beyond and discriminate against the interior towns.

Meridian and Vicksburg have been the termini of the Vicksburg & Meridian Railroad, but that will soon be no longer the case. Meridian would to-day be a little railroad town of two or three hundred inhabitants but for the competition of the several roads running here; and yet with her splendid compresses, and her banks, and her cotton merchants, thousand of bales of cotton are hauled by her very doors to cities beyond, simply because the railroads give cheaper rates. Give us fair rates to Meridian on cotton, and there is no reason why, with our facilities, we should not handle one hundred and fifty thousand bales per annum; and estimating that each bale would leave here say \$2.50 that would give us \$375,000 per annum from cotton alone.

This sum of money annually spent here would bring other industries and enterprises, and my friend of the Ledger could easily imagine how long at that rate it would take to give us a population of 30,000 or 40,000 souls.

But, aside from all this, upon principles of justice, railroad companies ought to be required to treat all sections as nearly equal as possible—that is to say, there is no justice in making the people of Brandon pay twice as much per mile (by the hundred weight) freight as the people of Jackson, and yet they do it. And not only Brandon but every interior railroad town in the State does it.

I think railroads are grand institutions, and I am utterly opposed to any harsh or unjust legislation, but they must be put under legislative control. It is not only expedient, but necessary.

## Fusion in Madison.

CANTON, July 2d, 1883.

EDITORS CLARION: The Democrats and Republican parties met here to-day, in separate Conventions and ratified the fusion ticket. The fusion promises to work harmoniously, and I hope will do so. The Democrats as a party will faithfully abide by it, and so too will the Republicans, if not tampered with by the malcontents, i. e., the "Independents" "so-called," alias soreheads, etc.

We always did regret that Col. Singleton did not fillibuster with others pending the count by the Electoral Commission, but our eye has reposed with pleasure on the moral courage he exhibited in opposing the measure. The odds against him were great, but he was unshaken:

"As meets a rock a thousand waves, so Inis-fail met Lochlin."

## UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT.

OXFORD, June 28, 1883.

DEAR CLARION: Arriving here at the "eleventh hour" of Commencement week, I am unable to enter into that detail necessary to a complete record of Thirty-first Annual Commencement of the University of Mississippi. The general sentiment is, that it has been one of the most successful in its history. The crowds of visitors have not been as large as on many like occasions, but the interest has been unabated from the first, and all the debates, orations and essays have been of a high order of merit. The Trustees, with one exception, I believe, have all been in attendance, and they report everything working quietly and regularly—no clashing or bickerings, but all things working together for the good of this grand old institution. No changes in the Faculty have been made, except the addition, as Tutor, of Mr. John M. Steen, of Rankin county, an A. B. of the class of 1882.

### THE LITERARY SOCIETIES

Held forth on Friday and Saturday nights. Of the Hermean declaimers, eleven in number. Mr. Hillie M. Quinn, of Pike, and Mr. Wm. F. Stevens, of Perry, were pronounced first and second best, and were awarded gold medals accordingly. These two were so nearly equal in merit, the judges had to decide by lot. For the honors of the Phi Sigma Society, there were nine competitors. John M. Matthews, of Copiah county, and John L. Hebron, Jr., of Washington, county were awarded the medals.

### THE COMMENCEMENT SERMON

Was preached on Sunday morning by Rev. Dr. D. W. Gwin, of Atlanta, Ga. His theme was "Purity of Character the Basis of Life." It is spoken of as an exceedingly appropriate and intensely practical discourse. The Doctor certainly looks like a born orator.

### THE SOPHOMORE PRIZE DECLAMATION

Took place on Monday morning. This is always an occasion of very special interest, inasmuch as two gold medals are annually awarded by the Trustees to the best speakers. The subjects of the orations are selected, and the audience are such as to bring out all the declamatory powers of the speakers. Want of space forbids my giving the entire programme. The medals were awarded to Richard W. Jones, son of the Professor of Chemistry, and Robert E. Jackson, of Arkansas. The medals are presented during the proceedings of Wednesday, and the judges are supposed to keep the matter confidential until that time.

### MONDAY NIGHT

Was devoted to a debate between selected speakers of the two Literary Societies—Messrs. R. P. Willing and W. D. Hedleston representing the Phi Sigma, and Messrs. J. M. Steen and R. P. Willing, the Hermean. "Has the intellectual, moral and religious condition of the negro race improved since emancipation?" was the important topic discussed. Whether it was the force of argument or the leaning of the audience toward the negative side of the question that prevailed, I am unable to say, but the decision of the judges was in that direction. Messrs. Hedleston and Witherspoon won the medals offered by their respective Societies, as the two most distinguished in the debate.

### TUESDAY MORNING

Four members of the Junior Class delivered orations, and all of them are highly complimented. Their names and subjects are: John H. Shumaker, Atlanta county—"The Voice of History"; Wm. J. Mayo, Arkansas—"Duty, or the Value of Time and Opportunity"; Robt. M. Buck, Holmes county—"E Pluribus Pugnabunt Calibus Unum"; Crawford Jackson, DeSoto county—"Union and Unity of Purpose."

### THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Held its annual meeting Tuesday night. The attendance of members was not large, but the proceedings were interesting, and witnessed by a large and appreciative audience. Judge H. H. Chalmers presided. Col. Thos. R. Stockdale, of Summit, delivered the annual address, his subject being, "The Anglo-Saxon Race: past, present and future,"—a big question, but handled in a manner that I have heard competent judges say was very fine. Col. Stockdale graduated in 1869. He is a most accomplished gentleman, and a great favorite in South Mississippi, where his talents and unassuming worth are best known. Mr. Dabney Marshall, class of 1882, recited an original poem, which elicited hearty applause. Col. A. Y. Harper, of Okolona, was elected orator for next meeting, and Rev. J. C. Carothers, of Grenada, requested to write the annual poem.

### WEDNESDAY MORNING

There was another large audience in the college chapel, when Rev. M. Rhodes, D. D., of St. Louis, delivered the honorary oration, his theme being, "Life: its Scope and Mission." The matter of the oration, and the manner of its delivery, are spoken of in terms of great praise. Dr. Rhodes is a minister of the Lutheran Church.

### CHANCELLORS RECEPTION.

Gen. A. P. Stewart and his accomplished lady, "received" on Wednesday night, in the college chapel. There was a large gathering especially of the young people, who called to pay their respects

to Mr. and Mrs. Stewart and to devote the remainder of their time to each other. On such occasions we may well suppose that

"Beauty's pensive eye  
Receives from his heart the homage of a sigh."  
But as the weather to day is too hot for sentiment, we must leave the reception, with all its incidents and consequences. The fact is, we find it an up-hill business to write up Commencement Week with only four hours on the campus and fully three-fourths of that space occupied in listening to Senior orations.

### COMMENCEMENT DAY

Draws the biggest crowds, and as the Trustees, Faculty and Senior Speakers entered the College Chapel, in procession, the house, on main floor and galleries, was well filled. In addition to those mentioned, there were on the rostrum, Rev. Drs. Rhodes and Gwin, Gen. S. D. Lee, President of A. and M. College, and Senator Lamar. I may add that Gen. Lee's appearance on the platform, on Tuesday morning, was greeted with hearty applause.

After music, the programme was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Rhodes, after which the Senior speakers proceeded as follows:

W. D. Hedleston, Gadsden, Ala.—"What is the dream that I have dreamed? (and Salutatory.)"

G. W. Robertson, Oxford.—"Democracy—its origin and decay."

C. N. Riggan, Hope Ark.—"Who educes woman, educates the nation."

J. F. Park, Panola county—"Progress the language of nature."

A. H. Foster, Louisville, Miss.—"Voice of the Rocks."

F. A. Ensh, Oxford.—"Individuality."

R. P. Willing, Crystal Springs—"Communism, (Valedictory.)"

These young gentlemen acquitted themselves creditably. In the neighborhood of my sitting it was remarked that some of the speeches were too long for such an occasion, and the opinion was expressed that there should be a limit beyond which none should be allowed to go. There were a few serious mispronunciations, which a more careful elocutionary training would have avoided. But "put yourself in his place" is a good rule by which to judge unpracticed speakers when they venture before large and critical audiences.

### THE DELIVERY OF DIPLOMAS

and sundry announcements by the Chancellor, occupied the balance of the time. Gen Stewart is "at home" on Commencement occasions—graceful, self-possessed, and always the right word in the right place. His talks to the graduating classes are models of pure English and common sense.

The Chancellor then announced that the Board of Trustees had conferred the degree of

### DOCTOR OF LAWS

On the Hon. J. A. P. Campbell, Chief Justice of the State of Mississippi, and on Prof. Wm. J. Vaughan, of Vanderbilt University.

### BACHELOR OF LAWS

John Lewis Dautzer, (Honor Man), Jackson county.  
James Taliaferro Montgomery, Chickasaw county.  
George Whithfield Robertson, Lafayette county.  
William P. S. Ventress, Wilkinson county.  
Wm. Dowd Witherspoon, Lafayette county.

### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Wm. Robert Bridges, Oktibbeha county.  
Augustus Hunter Foster, (Third Honor Man), Winston county.  
Wm. Dowd Hedleston, (Second Honor Man), Etowah Co., Ala.  
Chas. Nicholas Riggan, of Hempstead county, Ark.  
Robt. Patton Willing, Jr., (First Honor Man) Copiah county.  
Department Diplomas in Modern Languages and in Natural History were awarded to Mr. Hedleston.

### BACHELOR OF PHILOSOPHY

William John Daniel, Choctaw county.  
Levi Hope Kimmons, Lafayette county.  
John Young Murry, Jr., Tippah county.  
John Franklin Park, Panola county.  
Wm. Armstrong Powel, DeSoto county.  
Philip Augustus Rush, Lafayette county.  
John Myers Steen, Rankin county.  
John Robert Stowers, Lafayette county.  
John Kennedy Harrington, Holmes county.

A Certificate of Proficiency in Mathematics, and a Diploma in Modern Languages were awarded to Mr. Daniel; a Diploma in English to Mr. Kimmons; in Modern Languages to Mr. Murry; in Natural History to Mr. Powel; in History and Political Economy, to Mr. Stowers.

To Mr. John Lewis Buckley, of Clarke county, Miss., was awarded a diploma in Practical Chemistry; to Herbert Shirley Butler, of Lafayette county, certificates in Mental and Moral Science, in Latin, in French, in Geology and Mineralogy, in Chemistry; to James Garvin Chaastain, of Alcorn county, diplomas in Mental and Moral Sciences, and in English; to George William Ewell, Jr., Dallas county, Texas, certificates in Natural History, and in French.

Diplomas in Modern Languages were awarded to Miss Sallie Vick Hill, of Nouxbee county; Thomas Peters McMahon, of Lafayette county; Miss Ella McFarland, of Lafayette county. To Samuel Milledge Stewart, of Union

county, Miss., were awarded diplomas in Greek, in Latin, in Mental and Moral Science, and certificates in Natural History and in French.

The experiment of the University is the

### CO-EDUCATION OF THE SEXES

Is as great a success as the most enthusiastic advocate of this new departure could possibly wish. Ten young ladies remained through the session just closed, and two of them achieved distinction in their classes. All of them appeared before the rostrum. The Chancellor remarked that they took their places in the classes, and in all the exercises of the University, so naturally and with such womanly tact, that it was a strange thing it had not always been so. As to the effect upon the young men, he claimed there was no earthly influence so potent for good as the presence upon the young ladies themselves, it was so favorable, that he would like to see the number increased to five hundred. Four of these ladies board in the family of Dr. Geo. Little, a member of the Faculty, (with whom I had the pleasure of dining to-day) and the others are also very pleasantly located.

### A CANING AFFAIR

Just before the Benediction was pronounced, Mr. Willing, of Copiah, was invited to come to the front of the rostrum, when he was presented with a handsome gold-headed cane by the students from his county. Mr. John M. Mathews making a neat little speech, and Mr. Willing a fitting response.

### THE ANNUAL BALL

takes place to-night, and it promises to be well patronized.

Since my visit of two years ago, the buildings and grounds have been greatly improved. Handsome galleries extend around the long dormitories, and there is an air of cheer and comfort about the place and its occupants that we were very glad to note.

The next sessions opens September 27th.

### Competitive Examination for Cadetship in the U. S. Military Academy.

A competitive examination of candidates for appointment as Cadet to the United States Military Academy at West Point from the 7th Congressional District, will be conducted at Jackson, in the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, on Thursday, August 2d, 1883. The examining board will be Rev. Dr. G. S. Roubelush, James L. Harris, Esq., and Dr. Robert Kells—in conformity to the regulations which require that it shall consist of a school teacher, a lawyer and a physician. For the information of candidates, I will state that the regulations require that the age for the admission of cadets is between seventeen and twenty-two years. Candidates must be at least five feet in height; free from infectious or immoral disorders, disease or infirmity that will render them unfit for military service. They must be well versed in reading, writing, including orthography, and in arithmetic, and have a knowledge of the elements of English grammar, of descriptive geography peculiarly of our own country, and of the history of the United States.

E. BARKSDALE.

JACKSON, MISS., June 27, 1883.

### Capt Darden and the Supreme Court Judges.

Fayette Chronicle.]

There seems to be a strange and somewhat unwarrantable misconception on the part of the State press, and Judges of the Supreme Court, upon the subject of a charge in regard to railroad passes. We have read very carefully the Woodville Republican's comments upon Capt. Darden's speech, and no where in it can we find where Capt. Darden charged directly or indirectly, that a Supreme Court Judge "had applied to a high railroad official for a pass" or his family to take a jaunt up North," or anything to that effect. The Republican does say that "he (Darden) stated upon travel that all but Judges of the State railroads" upon free passes from the railroads," but the charge which is raising such a hue and cry, and for which Capt. Darden has been made the subject of some severe comments and an object for attack, said Judges to direct a public card at, demanding authority for the statement, was made by the Republican on Capt. Darden. The paper referred to made a passing allusion to a Judge who "would do such a thing, and then says "aside from Capt. Darden, we are informed that a Supreme Court Judge did this thing." We are not fighting Capt. Darden's battles, for he is perfectly able to do battle in his own defense when the proper opportunity arrives, but we are simply making this statement for the benefit of the people of this county, who have no doubt read these charges, and would like to know the facts.

(After the above was put in type, we received the card in which Capt. Darden speaks for himself.)

### What is Right is "Expedient."

Enterprise Courier.]

If railroad supervision is right it is certainly expedient. The people of the State have no desire to injure or cripple the railroads, but they do desire to see them so hedged about that they will be unable to discriminate in rates to the detriment and oppression of those who are in their power. They want a medium to adjust the differences, to stand between the people and the corporations.

OL. XLVI.

Memphis, Vicksburg & New Orleans is pushing their line through Madison county, over which proper laws have readily given the right

J. D. LYNCH, author of the "Standard Bar of Mississippi," has a prospectus for a work entitled "The Men of Mississippi," which doubt be a production of rare

Macon (Ga.) Telegraph thinks that of Abram S. Hewitt, of New York, a candidate for the Presidency, is doubtful if the Democratic Party would be willing to elect President who "could masquerade as a Vanderbilt ball as King

W. W. STONE (the able Representative of Washington county in the legislature, and who is destined to rise higher by the people of the district) is making a thorough culture, and the public will anxiously to the result of his exertions.

REPUBLICAN papers are charging that the new Commissioner of Internal Revenue, is turning out faithful in that department, to make for partizan service in others. The way the Administration is conducting the civil service.

President, upon consultation with other Republican leaders, consent to leave the Mississippi Revenue severely alone in the enjoyment of its spoils, when the work of consolidation is performed. Is this civil reform, or what?

### Papers Cry Aloud for Him.

Sentinel.] papers in the State cry aloud for Singleton for Speaker. He is a man, a true man, a Representative people, well versed in parliamentary procedure, but of course he stands no chance of being Speaker.

### the Democratic Position on the Tariff.

Democratic Convention of Ohio, happy in its declaration of the Democratic position on the Tariff. It rings as a silver bell. Listen to it:

Revenue, limited to the revenue of government economically adjusted, and so adjusted in its application to prevent unequal burdens, encourage productive industries at home, and just compensation to labor, but not to foster monopolies."

### Col. O. B. Collins.

Subtlety Messenger: Col. O. B. Collins asks us to place his name before our people to-day as a candidate for State or from the thirtieth senatorial district. Col. Collins deserves something something high—at the hands of people. He is every inch a Democratic good citizen, a genial gentleman, a successful, energetic attorney, and voters of the district cannot fail to prize these claims to their consideration and disposition.

### Fill the Position With Honor.

When we should rejoice to see Hon. R. Singleton of Mississippi elected to speakership of the House of Representatives next December, and believe that his native ability, excellent judgment and experience, he would fill the position with honor to himself, his State, and great party in whose service he has fought many battles; but he knows as well as we that there is no possible chance to him or any other Gulf State man to be elected to the 48th Congress. Nevertheless we would be glad to see him put in nomination in the Democratic caucus next December, and complimented by the solid vote of the State, if it appears that our delegation afford to devote a ballot to paying him a compliment.

### Hams and Grammar.

WESSON, MISS., June 18, 1883.

EDITORS CLARION: The following statement is submitted to THE CLARION its opinion:

When three hams weigh 50 lbs is it correct to say "50 lbs of ham," or "50 of hams?" The Wesson Herald says "ham" in this case should not be used the plural. There is considerable difference of opinion on the subject, and our readers will be delighted to hear at THE CLARION has to say.

Very truly,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Hams, say we. Three were weighed, would it do to say of three apples weighing an aggregate weight of six pounds "six pounds of apple?" They are each separate parts of one species of fruit, but as the hams are separate parts of the species of animal. That's our opinion, although we have never claimedrevet rank in grammar.