

# The Opelousas Courier.

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OPELOUSAS, PARISH OF ST. LANDRY, LA., AUGUST 28, 1886.

## Opelousas Courier.

Official Journal of the Parish of St. Landry.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAY BY LEONCE & L. A. SANDOZ.

OPELOUSAS:

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1886.

Cutting was released by the Mexican authorities last Monday, and the war cloud has grown perceptibly thinner—though the Rasures case is yet unsettled.

On Oct. 1 the extension of the special delivery system to all postoffices and to all available matter will be put in operation. The hours of such delivery are from 7 a. m. to 7 p. m., within one mile of the postoffice.

Mrs. Cecile Bailey has been appointed postmistress at Opelousas, in place of Mr. Louis Desmarais, whose term will soon expire. Mrs. Bailey has had several months' experience in the office as deputy, and is well qualified to accept ably the position. She will assume control as soon as her bond is filed and accepted.

Another open letter on the Lewis-Steel-Duson controversy appears in another column. The Auditor appears to be satisfied with Mr. Duson's administration of the tax collector's office, and Mr. Duson does not appear to be much worried over the matter, for he is still in Canada visiting relatives. He is expected back home shortly, when we may hear something more definite on the subject.

The following dispatch was received yesterday morning, too late, however, for the parties invited to go by train:

RAYNE, LA., Aug. 27.

Mr. Bloch, Opelousas. Opelousas Committee invited to attend barbeque at Rayne. Bring speakers—Dupré, DeRoy and others.

Mr. B. F. Hardesty, of Washington, is taking orders for oleograph portraits which are perfect gems—at least the samples he has shown us are. They are very cheap, besides; and we would advise those needing good and durable likenesses to give Mr. Hardesty their orders. No risk will thereby be incurred, which cannot be said of traveling agents who are irresponsible and unknown.

Work on the Court House is progressing in a very satisfactory manner. The door and window frames are on the ground, and the walls will soon be ready to receive them. Messrs. Hannan & Voss, the contractors, seem determined that for strength, elegance and architectural and mechanical skill our Court House shall amply sustain their well-earned reputation as architects and builders. Mr. Hannan gives his unremitting personal attention to the work, and carefully notes and directs the manner of its execution as it progresses from day to day. It will probably be finished by December 1st.

The Republican Campaign Committee for this parish, consisting of N. L. Ferran, President, J. Simmes, N. Ferran, A. Donato, Messrs Green and F. J. D'Avy, held a meeting here last Thursday, J. Simmes was elected temporary chairman, and subsequently permanent Vice-President, N. Ferran, Secretary, and A. Donato, Treasurer, (J. L. Chachere having tendered his resignation as Secretary.) The committee adopted a resolution inviting the campaign committee of Acadia parish to a conference with them at any time that they might select; also that copies of these proceedings be furnished the newspapers of the parish, and to the campaign committee of Acadia.

The proceedings of the Democratic Executive Committee presided over by Mr. Estilette, had at its meeting last Thursday, are published in another column. Those of the Committee presided over by Dr. Littell, had last Saturday, are not given, because we declined to publish them gratis—though we offered to publish them for half price, or less, as has been our custom for years. This Committee called a Parish Convention to be held Sept. 11th, the ward elections for delegates to be held on the 4th. Vacancies caused by the resignations of Messrs S. Haas and M. G. Wilkins were filled by electing Messrs. Eloi Campbell and Eugene H. McGee in their stead.

The argument of our esteemed contemporary, the Democrat, to show that the division of the parish will make St. Landry Republican will not hold water. The defeat of one of the Democratic nominees for the House and the election of another by the small majority of 281 in 1884 only proves that a considerable number of Democrats failed to vote for them, after having participated in the primaries and in the Convention. This is not the first time that a Democratic nominee has been defeated in St. Landry and may not be the last, even if the parish is not divided; and yet our Democratic candidates have usually mounted into the thousands. At the same election, in 1884, Gov. McEnery knows he did not get all the Democratic votes. Senator Fontenot got over 1000 more than he at that election, and we have never heard it stated that he had received any considerable number of Republican votes. No, there are lots of Democrats in St. Landry. Especially since the party has gained control of the State and National governments, the woods are full of them. All that is necessary to assure Democratic success all along the line is to weld them into a solid, compact organization; and to do that all irregular methods, all inflections of party rules, all customs and disciplines must be thrown down and discarded.

The storm of last week which swept over Galveston, Victoria, Indianola and San Antonio, destroyed or less than \$500,000 worth of property. Several lives were lost.

For dyspepsia and liver complaint, you have a tried and guaranteed every bottle of Shiloh's Vitalizer. It never fails to cure. At M. P. Young & Co.

That hacking cough can be so quickly cured by Shiloh's Cure. We guarantee it. Sold by M. P. Young & Co., Galveston, Tex.

Trainor & Russell's Sash Factory, Washington. Send for price list.

## Sketches of Travel.

The worthy President of our State Press Association, Gen. L. Jastrenski, who is also the Vice-President, the National Editorial Association and a pretty big man in other respects, attended the annual meeting of the latter body recently held at Monroe, and on his return published in his excellent paper, the Baton Rouge Capitolian-Advocate, an interesting account of his trip to Shreveport, Monroe and Chicago, from which we make the following extracts, which will well repay a perusal: Shreveport shows signs of rapid improvement. In the last year something like one hundred new residences have been erected, some of them at a cost of over fifteen thousand dollars. The electric light has been added to the attractions of the growing little city, which is now traversed by three railroads: the Vicksburg and Shreveport, the Houston and Shreveport, and the Texas Pacific. It has large cotton compresses, cotton seed oil mills, ice factories, lumber mills, etc., and receives over 100,000 bales of cotton, besides other products. There is no question now as to the future of Shreveport, which needs but a vein of Chicago enterprise to soon justify that cognomen with regard to North Louisiana.

Monroe has a population of over 2,500. It contains many very substantial brick stores, carrying extensive stocks of all kinds of merchandise, and does a large and growing business with the surrounding country, which is noted for its fertility. The city is beautifully laid out and its streets and yards are ornamented with innumerable shade trees. It has a great number of stylish and commodious residences. In fine, Monroe is one of the prettiest towns in the South. Besides its ice factory and extensive cotton seed oil mill, across the Ouachita, by the opening of the cotton season, it will have a large cotton compress.

It enjoys the advantages of water transportation the year round by the Ouachita, and of railroad communication with Shreveport and Vicksburg. It hopes soon to have additional railway facilities through the proposed North and South road. It has fine society and churches and, in fine, is one of the most thoroughly equipped and promising towns in the State.

Chicago, in 1883, boasts a population of 500,000 souls, among whom not one of the age of 53 years is a native of the place. It is the triumph of American venture and reckless enterprise—a monument to the energy of our great people. It has not one principal street, but fifty, thronged with crowds that remind one of Canal street in New Orleans on Mardi Gras day. Buildings from eleven to thirteen stories, costing from a quarter to a half million of dollars are going up almost constantly, and it would seem that the effort of every capitalist there is to erect structures that will eclipse anything of the kind existing elsewhere. The saloons, theatres and hot-els are monuments of lavish outlays of money. The parks, the boulevards, the mansions, are simply grand. Everything denotes that wonderful dash and push, that is attracting people from every quarter of the land to pour their quota of wealth in the lap of the booming city, whose spirit would make Louisiana the richest garden on the world in a few years. If could but take the place of the wait for the wagon policy that has too long prevailed.

The annual reunion of the Chachere family and its connections took place at Prud'homme City last Wednesday, the 25th, the day of the feast of St. Louis, their patron saint. We understand that a considerable number were present and that a very pleasant day was spent in the beautiful grove near the residence of our old friend, T. C. Chachere, Esq.

Among those who went from this occasion were Messrs. Veillard Chachere, Henry Chachere, J. O. Chachere and sons, Robert Chachere and family, W. C. and A. J. Perrault and families, B. F. Meguiniey and family, Geo. Richard and family, Gustave, Eugene, Beaupre, and Rodolphe Chachere, and Mrs. W. R. Meguiniey.

The verdict in the case of the eight anarchists, who have for over two months been on trial in Chicago for the Haymarket massacre, on the night of the 4th of May, is that, resulting in the death of many more, by the throwing of a dynamite bomb by the accused, has at last been rendered. Of the eight men placed on trial seven are to be hanged, and one goes to the penitentiary for fifteen years. The verdict is approved of by everyone, as it should be, and may teach those wretches who come to America to do their hellish deeds a lesson—one which will not soon be forgotten.—Alexandria Democrat.

The legislature at its recent session empowered the Police Juries of the several parishes in the State to send each one State or beneficiary cadet, and the City Council of New Orleans to send seventeen cadets to the State University at Baton Rouge. The State does not, as formerly pay the expenses of these cadets, but authorizes the Police Juries and the New Orleans City Council to do so; provided the expense of a cadet does not exceed \$250 per annum.

The storm of last week which swept over Galveston, Victoria, Indianola and San Antonio, destroyed or less than \$500,000 worth of property. Several lives were lost.

For dyspepsia and liver complaint, you have a tried and guaranteed every bottle of Shiloh's Vitalizer. It never fails to cure. At M. P. Young & Co.

That hacking cough can be so quickly cured by Shiloh's Cure. We guarantee it. Sold by M. P. Young & Co., Galveston, Tex.

Trainor & Russell's Sash Factory, Washington. Send for price list.

## General Notes.

Ex-Auditor Peralta is dead, aged 64 years.

Ex-President Arthur is reported as having greatly improved in health.

70,000 Republicans are said to hold office under the present administration.

Over 30 per cent of the total appropriations voted at the last session of Congress was on account of pensions.

North Carolina Democrats believe that "while public office is a public trust, the trustees must be Democrats."

Lake Charles Commercial: The rice farmers of this parish have commenced late sowing and the yield it is said, will be a good one.

Morgan City Review: Charbon has appeared among the mules on Dr. Darvall's Avoca plantation. One mule that had it has recovered.

State Register of the Land Office Lobdell has rendered a decision in the case of Geo. K. Bradford vs. H. L. Garland and Haggerty & Hardy, in favor of the plaintiff.

The Sugar Planter reports an unusual amount of sickness in West Baton Rouge this summer, and attributes the bad health of the parish to the prevalence of rice planting along the river.

Abbeville Mercurial, 21st: We received a sugar cane last week grown on the place of Mr. E. L. Demary, having eight red joints. Pretty good, considering the season we have had.

Capitolian-Advocate: In the Washington dispatches we see it stated that five steel cruisers have lately been completed and are ready to be armed. It is also stated that in the next two years there will be sixteen or seventeen new ships afloat.

Morgan City Review: A member of the Ascension Gun Club of Donaldsonville, while practicing on clay pigeons, missed the erratic bird, but filed the boy with small shot that was engaged to spring the trap. Of course this club will volunteer to fight Mexico.

Lake Charles Commercial, Aug. 21: At the election held last Monday, for the purpose of levying a five mill tax for five years to establish a system of waterworks, in the town of Lake Charles, there were only 92 votes polled, 16 for and 76 against the tax.

St. Martinville Messenger, 21st: Miss Corise, the charming daughter of Mr. A. V. Fleming, arrived from the Convent of Opelousas last week, and will spend the vacation with her family. Miss Louise Jagou, a most charming young lady of Opelousas, is spending a few days in town and is the guest of Miss Fleming.

Lake Charles Echo: Our rice planters are having splendid weather for harvesting their crops, and from all we can learn they are making good use of this advantage. Both of our rice mills are now busy thrashing the cereal, and from what we can learn, the yield of rice in Calcasieu this year will be more than the average.

There is a law that needs repealing which prohibits Confederate soldiers from being commissioned officers in the army.—Ex.

A bill for its repeal introduced in Congress at the session just closed—or rather an amendment to the bill for the increase of the army providing for its repeal—was voted down by the Republicans in the Senate.

Lake Charles Echo: The sound of the saw and hammer can be heard on all sides in our town. The spirit of improvement abounds, and all we can hope is that the work they can do. Turn their will and you will see new buildings in course of erection or huge piles of lumber on vacant lots awaiting the carpenter. Surely our town is on the right road to become a city in a few years.

Lake Charles Echo, 21st: The saw mill business in this section continues on the boom, not a mill, to our knowledge, being idle.—Work on the new engine house is progressing finely under the supervision of Mr. W. S. Crow, the contractor, and ere many days Lake Charles can boast of having as neat and substantial an engine house as any town in the State.—Dr. W. A. Knapp, Secretary of the Artesian Well Company, informs us he received a telegram on Tuesday last stating that the machinery for the Morpany steamship line from New York to New Orleans.

New Iberia Enterprise: In recognition of the honor conferred by naming their organization after him, we have heard it stated that the former staunch Democrat, Hon. Allen Jamel, will resign his commission and uniform the Jamel's Iberia Cavalry Company, which for the present is pledged to seat Fontenel, the Radical candidate for the judgeship of this district, and that after the election he will himself lead them on to Mexico and enlist under the Mexican standard, as the organization cannot condescend to rank their pluck and valor with the men who march under the folds surmounted by the bald-headed American Eagle.

Hon. A. B. Irion, member of Congress from this District, as will be seen from an announcement in another column, will address the people of East Feliciana, to-day (Saturday) at the Court House. Judge Irion, who is himself a candidate for re-election, being aware that the role of the East Feliciana delegation to the convention, is pledged for Mr. Kernan, of course has no expectations of securing that vote, but evidently considers it proper that he should explain to this portion of his constituency, his course as their representative during the session just ended. This desire to meet the people of East Feliciana and have an opportunity of explaining to them the reasons of his course in congress, is indicative of a spirit of fairness and a sense of his responsibility to his constituency that is very commendable. We trust our fellow citizens will respond heartily to the invitation to listen to the distinguished gentleman, who, we have no doubt, has much that is instructive and interesting to say to them.—East Feliciana Patriot-Democrat, 21st.

BLACK LAKE, ST. LANDRY, LA., August 23d, 1886.

## Editors Courier:

Very hot weather has prevailed during the past two weeks, with one or two showers, hardly enough to lay the dust.

What was left of crops by the June floods is to-day in a fairly good condition. On the Black Lake Plantation, we find some very good corn. Cotton will make fully two-thirds of a crop, even that that was overflooded. Some of it will pan out nearly a bale to the acre. Those living in the Black Lake neighborhood are hopeful, and look to the future to bring renewed and better returns in crops and all farm products.

A fine ferry has been established on the Cocodrie, for the accommodation of those traveling from Bayou Boeuf to Chicot; and let me say this ferry is quite a convenience to a large section of country. Mr. Dossman has refitted his mill since the overflow, and is now turning out lumber with a rush. We note also that teams are almost daily passing hauling lumber out from the saw-mill situated some miles further back in the pine districts.

Mr. Geo. S. Singleton, the go-ahead proprietor of Black Lake Plantation, is having a brick kiln of a 100,000 put up and burned, for plantation use. This enterprising gentleman has already in the last twelve months had no less than twelve neat cottages built for the tenants and lease-holders on his large estate.

He has at considerable expense put up a neat church building for the accommodation of the colored people on the place, to be used as well for school and diving services.

Capt. Sam Haas and wife, of Bayou Chicot, departed some days past for Waukesha, Wis., where, as we learned yesterday, they arrived safely—to pass some time for health, recreation and rest.

Reports say that the caterpillars have made their appearance on several cotton farms on Bayou Boeuf, but so far as we were able to learn, these destructive pests have not done much if any damage, and it is to be hoped that they will not, for if any class of hard workers is deserving of success it is the farmer.

There is considerable sickness over the country; some few deaths reported. Chills and fever seem to be the prevailing complaints.

## Most Excellent.

J. J. Atkins, Chief of Police, Knoxville, Tenn., writes: "My family and I are beneficiaries of your most excellent medicine, Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption; having found it to be all that you claim for it, desire to testify to its virtue. My friends to whom I have recommended it, praise it at every opportunity." Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption is guaranteed to cure coughs, croup, bronchitis, asthma, croup and every affection of the throat, chest and lungs. Trial bottles free at M. P. Young & Co.'s Drug Store. Large size \$1.00.

Show me a live, intelligent and progressive people, and I will show you a people who stand by their home newspapers. Show me a seedy town full of laggards and slugs, and I will show you an editor starving to death.—Gen. Rice.

Who would dispense with the luxury of ice water these hot days when our friend Lacombe is selling ice at 2 1/2 cts. per pound at retail, and 1 1/2 cts. per pound in quantities? See advertisement.

New Iberia Enterprise, 21st: The arms and equipments of the Atakapas Rangers (cavalry) have been received this week and the company will also soon receive its uniforms.

Shiloh's Vitalizer is what you need for consumption, loss of appetite, dizziness, and all symptoms of dyspepsia. Price 10 and 75 cents per bottle. Sold by M. P. Young & Co.

Every horse owner should have a copy of that admirable work, "A Treatise on the Horse and His Diseases," by Dr. Kendall. A few copies—English or German—for sale at this office at 25c. per copy.

Eight female physicians of Philadelphia have each an annual practice of \$20,000; twelve receive \$11,000 each and twenty-two average \$2,000.

The late Samuel J. Tilden in his will bequeathed something over \$3,000,000 for the purpose of founding a public library in the city of New York.

Catarth cured, health and sweet breath secured, by Shiloh's Catarth Remedy. Price 50 cts. Nasal injector free. Sold by M. P. Young & Co.

Dr. Dreifus, for suborned perjury in the Ford-Murphy case, was found guilty in New Orleans on the 18th inst.

Will you suffer with Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint? Shiloh's Vitalizer is guaranteed to cure you. Sold by M. P. Young & Co.

Shiloh's Cough and Consumption Cure is sold by us as a guarantee. It cures consumption. Sold by M. P. Young & Co.

Gregory's garden seeds, the best in the world, at J. K. Sandoz's.

For lame back, side or chest, use Shiloh's Porous Plaster. Price 25 cts. Sold by M. P. Young & Co.

Block sells the famous "Hamilton-Brown \$2.50 Shoe." Try a pair.

I MOST EARNESTLY ENTREAT Every female expecting to be confined to use "The Mother's Friend." Coupled with this I will add that during a large obstetrical practice (forty-four years), I have never known it to fail to produce a safe and quick delivery. H. J. HOLMES, M. D., Atlanta, Ga. Treatise on "Health and Happiness of Woman" mailed free. BRADFIELD REGULATOR CO., Atlanta, Ga.

## Open Letter to Auditor Steele.

Hon. O. B. STEELE, Auditor.—Sir: In your communication of the 10th inst., published in the Opelousas Courier, you charge me with misquoting the law, being unjust to Mr. Duson and misleading the people.

This is a serious accusation and compels me to appear again in print. Since you have arraigned me before the public, I shall put you some plain interrogatories which, as a public official, it will be your duty to answer. The public can then judge who is wrong and has misled the people.

In your communication you seem to think, because you have shown that the 20th of July was not the time for the final settlement of collectors' accounts, that nothing more need be said—that the people have been misled and injustice has been done to officials.

Permit me to say, as to my assertion (I did not pretend to quote) in the matter of the date of final settlements, I took it from you on the 9th of July last, when you gave me the statement. On that occasion you said to me that you had caused the law to be changed, and that Mr. Duson had until July 30 to make his final settlement for 1885. You did not say when you had the law amended, but the new revenue law was not then in force and I quite naturally supposed the change had been made at a former session of the Legislature. Not being then familiar with the revenue laws I knew nothing of their various changes, but knowing the duties of your office required you to be fully posted, I fell into the error of taking the law from you instead of the books. Be assured I shall not repeat this mistake.

But what does it amount to after all? Absolutely nothing of any consequence. The law, you say, required collectors to make their final settlements during the first ten days after the 10th day of January of each year. According to this, Mr. Duson was required to make his final settlement for the delinquent taxes of 1884 between the 10th and 20th of January, 1886. Did he do so? You know he did not.

Now, what was your duty? Here it is plainly laid down in the law: "If any tax collector fails or neglects to make a settlement for delinquent taxes, he shall forfeit the commission so allowed him, and interest at the rate of five per cent per month on the sum withheld to be computed from the time the same should have been paid until actual payment; and the Auditor of Public Accounts and Police Jury shall charge such delinquent collector, on demand, with the amount of such delinquency, and the District Attorney of the district or parish wherein such tax collector may perform his functions, to proceed against the collector by law before any court of competent jurisdiction, after three days' notice, for the recovery of the amount due the tax collector." See Revised Statutes of 1882 and 1884.

Have you complied with these plain, mandatory provisions of the law? Do your books show that you have charged upon the forfeiture of commissions and 5 per cent per month on the \$9363 balance therein charged against Mr. Duson for the year 1884? And have you required the District Attorney to proceed against the collector? The law says you must do so immediately. But the same section goes further and declares:

"It shall be the duty of the Auditor, in case any tax collector shall withhold his settlement more than twenty days after the time fixed by law, to send a certified statement of his account to the Justice of the Peace to be required to give it in special charge to the Grand Jury."

Have you complied with this further requirement of the law? You know that you have not obeyed any of these provisions—that the account for 1884 remains unsettled to this day—and yet you rush into print to make weak apologies for the collector.

You again ring the changes on "defective descriptions" and assessments, and evidently expect the people to be satisfied with such chaff.

Since the adoption of the Constitution of 1879 we have had in force the same system of taxation and practically the same system of revenue laws. You say your books show that the tax collector of St. Landry "promptly accounted for collections" prior to your induction into office and that his settlements show credits or deductions as follows: for 1880, \$1175; for 1881, \$1835; for 1882, \$3129; and for 1883, \$3540—in effect that he made his intermediate and final settlements, for such of those years, at the time and in the manner required by law. You ought to know that the collector had better facilities and legal appliances to correct errors of description and assessment and to enforce the collection of taxes in 1884 than he had in 1880-81-82 and 1883.

Indeed, the law imposes upon the collector, not the Auditor, the duty of correcting erroneous assessments. Here it is, the same law you refer to, but failed to quote—see 65 revenue act 1882:

"If any error in the description of any property or owner's name be discovered by the tax collector or sheriff, (not you) it shall be his duty to note the correct description and name on the tax rolls, and to advertise and sell said property by his correct description."

This law has been in force since the year 1882 and is in force now. Under its operation the collector managed to correct the erroneous assessments and descriptions of 1883 without the aid of your instructions, to make forced collections without your aid, and to finally settle for the taxes of that year; and yet you would have us believe he needed your instructions to comply with this law in 1884 and 1885.

You seem to forget that the law deals directly with the collector and not sternly imposes penalties, which you are required to enforce.

The law gave the collector his instructions in 1882; he had them in 1883-84-85, and has them now; and yet the accounts of 1884 and 1885 remain unclosed to this day.

Defective assessments do not account for this, and it is simply trifling with the good sense of the people to put up such a plea. It is chaff, veritable chaff—and you must know it, Mr. Auditor.

But the law further provides that all taxes for 1884 on real estate became delinquent on the 31st day of December, on the 2d day of January, 1885, it was

the duty of the collector to notify delinquents of that fact. Twenty days thereafter, that is January 20d, or as soon thereafter as practicable, it was his duty to advertise for sale their property, and on or before the 1st day of May, 1885, or as soon thereafter as possible to complete these sales. See New R. S., secs. 2233, 2236 and 2243.

It is manifest that the lawmaker intended these sales to be closed on or before May 1st, for any other construction would render the provisions of section 2236 utterly nugatory and make the law declare in one place that the collector shall advertise on the 2d of January and in another that he shall do so on the 1st of May. Hence it was the plain duty of the collector to complete sales at that time, but he failed to comply with these provisions and did not as a matter of fact advertise until Oct. 10th, 1885, and did not sell until Nov. 21st, 1885.

From all I can learn these sales did not aggregate \$1500, and conceding it all to be for State taxes alone, it would fall far short of settling a balance of \$9363.

Have you any return of these sales in your office? You certainly do not pretend that the collector had not time enough to make that return before the burning of the Court House?

Let me remind you of another fact. It has never been the practice in St. Landry to copy in the assessment rolls the descriptions of real estate, and whether it be in compliance with the law or not, it is nevertheless a fact. This accounts fully for your statement that "not one property in twenty on the assessment rolls is correctly described." But that fact has never prevented the sale of real estate as collector always has the assessments in his office, where he can get a description of all property assessed; and the fact that the assessment rolls do not contain descriptions of property has never formed any impediment to tax sales. It did not in 1881-82-83, and why should it in 1884?

You accepted the roll of 1884, a copy of which was filed in the collector's office, and upon that roll the collector proceeded to collect the taxes. If it was not made in compliance with the law, you should have rejected it, but you did not; and it is too late to talk now about its defective descriptions, especially as the collector had the assessment lists from which it was made, and which contained all the descriptions needed for tax sales.

You say that you have given instructions to the collector to prepare a list with correct descriptions, by boundaries, of all property on which taxes for 1884 and 1885 are due and unpaid, and that if that is done "the State will collect the taxes or acquire the property." As the data from which alone such a list could be made were destroyed by fire, please to inform us how you expect the collector to construct such a list?

You also say your books show that since your induction into office (it was in 1884), the tax collector of St. Landry has promptly "accounted for collections" made by him as tax collector, and yet your books show a balance due by him of \$8363 for 1884 and \$9364 for 1885 for the first two years of your office. You have given ideas of promptitude.

Why did you not say all collections? That would have covered the case and closed the door to much comment. It is the precise information needed, and I trust you will give it.

Until it is shown, all you can say about deduction or delinquent lists and erroneous assessments will amount to nothing, and I shall decline to discuss the matter further.

In conclusion, I ask you the direct question: Has the tax collector of St. Landry accounted for and paid into the treasury all the taxes or moneys received by him for taxes, for the years 1884 and 1885?

If you say yes, please state how you know it. If you say no, or that you do not know, then I think you had better drop the discussion.

Respectfully yours, E. T. LEWIS.

Croup, whooping cough and bronchitis immediately relieved by Shiloh's Cure. Sold by M. P. Young & Co.

Rooms Democratic Executive Committee of the Parish of St. Landry. Opelousas, August 24th, 1886. Pursuant to the call of the Chairman, the Committee met and after filling vacancies occasioned by resignations, the following members met on Wednesday, the 8th September proximo.

E. D. ESTILETTE, President. M. ANDRUS, Secretary.

DIED.—At the residence of Mrs. C. L. Dupré, in Plaisance, Aug. 24, 1886, at 8:20 p. m., Miss CAROLINE POIRET, aged fifty-six years.

PERSONAL. THE heirs of STEPHEN A. STILES, who are supposed to have resided in St. Landry some years ago, also to have died in New Orleans, will learn something to their interest by addressing J. D. HAGERTY, Washington, La.

THE NEXT SESSION OF THE OPELOUSAS FEMALE INSTITUTE WILL begin September 9th, 1886. Having secured a corps of able teachers we propose to do good work. In addition to the regular English course, we will have Latin and French taught daily. Our teacher of Music is one of the most desirable varieties of Talented Trees, Seedlings and larger trees, at very Low Prices.

EVERGREEN HEDGES! Millions of Arbor Vitae, the best evergreen hedge plant known. One thousand plants by mail, post paid, 3 to 4 inches, \$1.00; 4 to 8 inches, \$2.50; 8 to 15 inches, \$5.00. Twenty-five other varieties of Evergreens, all sizes, at the most desirable varieties of Talented Trees, Seedlings and larger trees, at very Low Prices.

GEORGE RICHARD, BAKER. HAS opened a Shop on Bellairs Street, between Main and Court, next to C. F. Ferkner's, and respectfully solicits a share of public patronage. Fresh bread and cakes in variety always on hand. Give me a trial. I think I can please you. Feb. 20, 1886.

## JUDICIAL NOTICES.

PUBLIC SALE. Probate Court, Parish of St. Landry, No. 4685.

ESTATE OF CYRIL CRESAIRE. By virtue of an order of the Hon. the District Court in and for the Parish of St. Landry there will be sold at public auction, to the last and highest bidder, by the undersigned natural tutor, or any duly qualified auctioneer, at the Court House in Opelousas, in the parish aforesaid, on WEDNESDAY, the 23d day of September, 1886, the following described property, belonging to the estate of CYRIL CRESAIRE, deceased, to-wit:

1.