The Opelousas Courier.

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Opelousas Courier.

Official Journal of the Parish of St. Landry.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAY BY

LEONCE & L. A. SANDOZ.

OPELOUSAS:

SATURDAY, : : : : : : MAY 5, 1888

Farm work has gone on briskly during the past week, but a good, thorough and general rain is needed by the planters now to stimulate the growth of crops and facilitate their cultivation.

Remember the grand excursion of Hope Hook & Ladder Company to Lake Charles, on Sunday, the 6th of May, and provide yourselves with tickets for the occasion.

At the close of the business proceedings of the Press Association the same officers were re-elected to serve for the ensuing year, and Mr. Gray, of West Carroll, was elected as Assistant Secretary.

We acknomledge the receipt of an invitation to the Annual Commencement of the Law Department of Tulane University, from Henry L. Garland, Jr., which takes place at the French Opera House on Tuesday, the 15th of May at 7:30 p. m.

During the session of the Louisiana Press Association in Opelousas, Mr. Geo. B. Petty took several photopraphic views of that body—including one at Woodworth's springs, copies of which may be had at this office. See advertisement in another column for details.

So much of our time was taken up in attending the sessions of the Press Convention during the past week that we are unable to give but an imperfect report of its interesting proceedings, the addresses, essays, &c., and trust that our shortcomings in this respect will be kindly overlooked.

Mr. Robert Zernott, of Washington—aptly called Bismarck for his fine administrative ability—covered himself with glory by his princely management of the banquet at Woodworth's springs, on last Thursday. He justly won his baton as the "prince of good fellows," and as a caterer of more good things than is usually seen on the best laden tables. But more of him and of the good people of Washington in next week's paper.

Judge J. M. Moore, who has so ably and faithfully served the people as Circuit Judge of the State Court of Appeals for the past eight years, is a candidate for reelection to that office in the approaching session of the legislature. Judge Moore is a lawyer of fine legal attainments, of large experience and withal a gentleman of a high order of culture and social qualities, which should strongly recommend him to be his own successor in the forthcoming election.

Among the visitors to our town who missed the royal reception tendered the Press Association by the people of Washington were Messrs. F. Sancan of the Thibodeaux Sentinel, Chas. Lasseigne of the St. John Meschacébé, H. M. Huie of the Alexandria Town Talk, Col. Geo. Moorman of the N. O. South Illustrated, J. B. Lawton of the New Iberia Enterprise, C. A. McGowan of the Jeannerette Pilot, and A. M. Escudier of the New Iberia Farmer. Most of them left on Thursday morning's train.

Prof. Mayer and our people return many thanks to the ladies of Washington for the profuse supply of beautiful flowers contributed by them in the decoration of the Courthouse during the late Press Convention, and to W. L. Durke, Esq., for his kind services in collecting and bringing them to Opelousas. Also to the Washington Corona Cornet and String Band for their kind and able assistance in the great success of the musical performance tendered the La. Press Association. Also to the ladies of Opelousas in giving their musical vocal assistance in producing Mendelsshon's "Athalia" and "Watch on the Rhine," both of which were rendered most perfectly. We hope that Prof. Mayer will try and keep this choir of ladies together for future usefulness and additional musical triumphs.

The Committee of Arrangements, who have been indefatigable in their endeavors to provide a becoming reception for the members of the Press, was composed as follows:

L. A. Sandoz, Chairman; Jos. Bloch, T. H. Lewis, A. Levy, J. W. Jackson, Willis Prescott, R. M. Littell, E. T. Lewis, Laurent Dupré and J. O. Chacheré.

The Committee on Finance consisted of A. Levy, Chairman; Jos. M. Moore, Jos. Bloch, E. J. Clements, J. J. Thompson, H. L. Garland, L. A. Sandoz, W. A. Robertson, R. M. Littell, E. P. Goodwin, A. Lacombe and Leonce Sandoz.

The Reception Committee comprised all the above named gentlemen and the following in addition: Hon. E. D. Estilette, C. N. Ealer, R. Mornhinveg, C. W. DuRoy, J. K. Sandoz, A. J. Bercier, B. F. Meginley, R. Chacheré, H. E. Estorge, Jno. N. Ogden, A. J. Bloch, J. E. Gardiner, C. Mayo, V. K. Irion, T. S. Isacks, Isaac Roos, E. Batreyte, G. L. Dupré, J. L. Morris, A. Dietlein.

Lake Charles Echo: The excursion from Opelousas to this place next Sunday will be met at the depot by a portion of the Fire Department and the Lake City Silver Cornet Band.

Lake Charles Echo: Three new towns for Southwest Louisiana have been laid out recently: Vinton on the west, Iowa on the east and Oberlin northeast. There is another to be laid out soon on the Drew purchase; as yet the name and location have not been learned.

Gen. Wirt Adams, a leading citizen of Mississippi, and John H. Martin, editor of the "New Mississippian," published at Jackson, shot each other to death on the streets of that city on last Tuesday evening.

The State Press Association.

The 1st of May, the queen month of flowers, and scented zephyrs, dawned upon our town in all of the beauty of spring loveliness. The recent rain had laid the dust, the skies were clear and of Italian blueness, and the air was just of that temperature to produce a delightful equilibrium of the physical and intellectual conditions of nature. A more auspicious time could not have been chosen for the meeting of the Press Association, and we are glad to note the fact that a large representation of the fraternity were on hand to participate in the proceedings which were so harmonious, and full of interest to the craft as well as to the spectators. A fitting reception was given to the visiting editors on their arrival at the depot, on Monday evening and Tuesday morning, by a large delegation of our citizens headed by the Opelousas Jovial Brass Band, and escorted to their quarters in town.

The Convention met at 10 o'clock a. m. on Tuesday when J. C. Mornhinveg, Esq., Mayor of Opelousas, in a few well chosen remarks welcomed the members of the Press and extended them the freedom of the city. He then introduced Hon. E. D. Estilette, who in a felicitous and more extended manner welcomed the visitors in behalf of St. Landry, alluding to the proverbial hospitality and kindness of our people, and the pleasure it gave them to entertain so many intelligent representatives of the press. He called their attention to our rich and beautiful country, the salubrity of the climate, the health and longevity of the people, and the large area of lands yet to be settled by a good class of immigrants. He invited the co-operation of the newspapers to inform the world of these facts, which a visit to and inspection of our country would enable them to do from an unbiased observation.

Gen. Leon Jastremski, of the Baton Rouge Capitolian Advocate, and President of the Association, responded in very happy language to the cordial reception of the members of the press who, he stated, would pleasantly remember the occasion which brought them in contact with our whole-souled, warm-hearted citizens, the pleasant incidents of their sojourn here, and the opportunity afforded them to view our beautiful expanse of territory.

An appropriate prayer was offered by Rev. F. W. Lewis, of Opelousas.

Mr. J. B. Wilkinson, Jr., of the N. O. City Item, then delivered a very able and comprehensive address upon "The Relations of the Press to Immigration," in which he very graphically pointed out the influence of every paper in writing up their country and placing its advantages in such a light as to invite immigrants to their respective borders.

Mrs. Ella Bentley, of the Donaldsonville Chief, whom all members of the craft delight to honor, contributed a very humorous and pleasing essay upon "The Evolution of the Office-Towel," which caused bursts of applause from the audience as she "wrung out" so much fun from this soiled linen of the office wash-stand, which the "devil" and the tramp printer dyed by wiping their inky, oily, unwashed hands upon it until its identity was unrecognizable. Our devil says that all newspaper devils ought to go to heaven, because everything that goes wrong in the office, making "pie" or what not, is laid upon the poor, innocent (?) devil. Mr. L. E. Bentley, the lady's partner in both the editorial and matrimonial harness, read the essay in a very happy and effective manner.

The evening session opened with an exhaustive address on the history of civilization, by Col. Geo. Moorman, of the New Orleans South Illustrated, in which he traced the art of printing from its infancy up to the grand improvements which distinguish the great newspapers and books of the present day. Col. M. then called attention to the relations of the press to immigration, and pointed out the power of newspapers as factors in inducing immigration. He said that the press should be made by the Immigration Bureau the medium of inviting immigration, and that the newspapers should write up their respective parishes, setting forth the advantages of their soil, climate, prices of lands, &c., and that copies of these papers should be distributed abroad.

Mrs. Martha R. Field (Catharine Cole) of the N. O. Picayune, then delivered an essay upon the labors and trials of the country editor. It was given in that inimitable style and method and wording which always characterize "Catharine Cole's" writing, and was enhanced in interest by the audience seeing, and hearing the voice of, a correspondent whose many interesting letters and other literary contributions have made her *nom de plume* a favorite and honored name in thousands of households throughout the South. If an ovation greeted her appearance upon the rostrum, she must have felt the grand triumph awarded her by the delighted audience when she concluded her admirable presentation of the subject.

Mr. J. Y. Gilmore followed with an admirable address on the business departments of newspapers which was quite interesting to journalists.

Mrs. Julia Rule, of the Shreveport Times had for her theme the "Women of the Press" which she handled in a very interesting and effective manner. She alluded to the literary labors of the gentler sex elevating the tone and sentiment of journalism, adding new lustre to letters and clearly pointing to the ability and aptitude of women for a high order of literary work.

On Wednesday at 11 o'clock a.m. Mr. J. Gentil, of the "Assumption Pioneer," delivered a very interesting address in french, his theme being "La Presse." Being a Nestor in the Louisiana press, and a man that wields an able pen, he was well calculated to speak in words of wisdom to his confreres and the people upon the duties and power of the Press as a factor in education, government, society and civilization. A. J. Lafargue, Esq., of the "Marksville Bulletin" spoke upon the "Relations of the Press to the State and of the State to the Press." In an eloquent manner he pointed out the inseparable prosperity of the two, that an intelligent, bold and fearles press built up and fostered good government, strengthened society, advocated salutary laws and defended the rights of the people. That the State should always maintain the freedom of the press and allow it a proportionate compensation for the labors rendered and the capital invested. He advocated a high order of journalism, dignity and forbearance in the discussion of subjects, and a general elevation in the tone and sentiment of the press.

Miss Addie McGrath, of the Baton Rouge Truth, Secretary of the Press Association, read a very interesting original poem entitled "The Editor's Inferno," written under the similitude of a dream and showing fine poetic imagery in conception and perfect measure in rhythmic construction.

The Courthouse was beautifully and artistically decorated with palm leaves, ferns, ivy, and a profusion of flowers, representing immense bouquets of tropical plants, festoons, and exquisite wreaths. Over the president's stand in letters of green were the words "Welcome to the La. Press Association." A great many ladies attended the sessions of the Convention daily and added much to the interest of the occasion by their encouraging presence. They were the recipients of many well deserved compliments from the various speakers, and they, in turn, frequently applanded the speakers and gave them many floral tributes of appreciation. The speakers were attentively listened to and frequently applanded by the audience. In the interval of speeches Prof. Mayer and his talented pupils, Miss Latour and Master Bodemuller, rendered some exquisite operatic music on the violin, organ and piano. Visitors and home people were delighted with the splendid execution of a choice and lengthy programme, and the Professor and his well trained *protégés* accomplished a triumph that will never be surpassed in Opelousas for accurate and soul-thrilling harmony. Prof. Mayer deserves and is gratefully awarded all praise by the visiting editors for his generous and artistic efforts to contribute to their pleasure while in our midst.

The Corona Brass Band of Washington participated in the rendition of the opening overture—Mendelssohn's Athalia, and fully sustained their reputations as first class musicians in its artistic execution. This piece was performed by an orchestra of Prof. Mayer's pupils, under his instruction and direction, composed of the violin, piano, organ, violincello, brass band, and a chorus of fourteen ladies of Opelousas. We believe that this opera has never before been attempted outside of the large cities and our visitors from abroad pronounced it and the entire programme given during the sessions of the Convention, the best and most exquisite music they had ever heard in a country town.

On Wednesday night the members of the Press were given a brilliant reception by the Opelousas Social Club and Citizens' Committee, under the auspices of the Club and at their Hall. If the decorations at the Courthouse were beautiful and artistic, those at the Social Club Hall were exquisitely fairy-like and enchanting. We will, however, speak more at lenght, next week, about the programme and sparkling incidents of this *recherché* event.

On Thursday morning a special train, and innumerable buggies, hacks and carriages, conveyed the members of the press and scores of our citizens to Woodworth's Springs to partake of the hospitality of the generous citizens of Washington. It was called a pic-nic, but was a banquet, a feast that seemed to multiply in good things as the tempting courses of an endless variety of meats, salads, pies, cakes and confections were dispensed to the guests by the fair hands of the ladies of Washington. We will give the details of this splendid denouement of the Convention next week, because it deserves a notice commensurate to its boundless hospitality and many pleasing and interesting events, which made everyone the recipient of so much cordial enjoyment on that day. When this glorious repast was finished, and after many happy and appropriate toasts to the occasion, Gen. Jastremski called the Association to order, when a resolution of thanks was passed to the people of Washington for the princely entertainment they had received at their hands. The Convention then adjourned until its next annual meeting, which will take place at Thibodaux, La.

The Library Magazine.

The current issue of the Library Magazine presents the extraordinary number of 224 pages, in large type, handsomely printed (and all for ten cents, or $100 a year!), the papers being as important in character as they are remarkable in quantity, including one on the Constitution of the United States, by Hon. E. J. Phelps, United States Minister to Great Britain; a brilliant paper on the Mammoth and the Flood, from the London Quarterly Review; the Higher Education of Women, from the Westminster; Islam and Christianity in India, from the Contemporary; Mr. Ruskin and His Work, from the Edinburgh; the Struggle for Existence, by T. H. Huxley. Shakespeare or Bacon? by Sir Theodore Martin; Mystical Pessimism in Russia, by N. Tsakni; English and American Federalism, by C. R. Lowell; the Extraordinary Condition of Corsica, by Charles Summer Maine; the Balance of Naval Power in Europe, from Blackwood's; one of a series of papers on Post-Talmudic Literature, by Dr. Bernhard Pick: The Christian Element in English Poetry, by M. V. B. Knox; besides several important articles, and the editorial department of Current Thought, which embodies brief extracts from notable articles in American and foreign periodicals. John B. Alden, Publisher, 393 Pearl Street, New York; 218 Clark Street, Chicago.

Mr. E. J. Clements is entitled to much praise for the very active part he took in the decoration of the Court House last Monday. He was truly ubiquitous and indefatigable, and rendered the most valuable assistance to the ladies who achieved in such a short time so brilliant a success.

The Picayune's correspondent was imposed upon as to the composition of "the local committee which contributed so much to the pleasure of the occasion and the excellence of the arrangements."

The composition of that committee is correctly given in another column.

Melville W. Fuller, of Chicago, has been appointed by the President Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Judge Estilette's Address of Welcome to the Louisiana Press Association.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The pleasant duty has been assigned to me by the Mayor and through him by the citizens of Opelousas, of extending to the members of the Press Association of Louisiana, a hearty welcome. I feel no little embarrassment in the performance of this duty; for in nothing are our imperfections more apparent than in our efforts to convey by word our deepest sentiments. I trust our acts may be proof convincing of the earnestness of our welcome.

It is a source of gratification to us to behold such a large attendance on the part of the distinguished members composing your association, and that gratification is enhanced by the presence of so many of the lady members, whose able contributions to the press of the day have made their *noms de plume* familiar as household words throughout the length and breadth of Louisiana. Their admission to your association may be looked upon as an innovation. Be it so. It is a sign of progress. Every increase in woman's sphere of usefulness is an onward step in the march of civilization.

In selecting Opelousas as the place of your reunion this year, you have conferred upon us a distinguished honor. To the stranger it may appear singular indeed that this inland town should have attracted your attention. Not so however with those conversant with the history of Louisiana. Opelousas from the first dawn of civilization in Southwestern Louisiana, has occupied a prominent position. It was one of the important posts on the west side of the Mississippi, under the Spanish regime. These streets, one hundred years ago, resounded with the clanging of Castilian swords. It was from here that a Spanish Alcade enforced the decrees of his royal master. It was here that many of Evangeline's companions, driven from their distant homes by British tyranny, found at last a resting place, and adopting a pastoral life, on the Nezpiqué, the Mermentau, Bayou des Cannes, à la Passe aux Indiens, along the banks of the Courtableau and the far famed Teche, and in the prairies of fair Opelousas erected their modest homes, where as in Acadia:

"Neither locks had they to their doors, nor
bars to their windows;
But their dwelling were open as day and the
hearts of the owners."

They have left to their descendants a precious heritage. Simple in manners, kind in disposition, proverbially frugal and honest, faithful to every obligation as the needle to the pole, they were strangers to duplicity and hypocrisy, observant of the laws of God and man, a virtuous and happy people. Such were the first settlers of Opelousas, such were the Acadians, whose descendants comprise nine-tenths of the population of St. Landry.

Opelousas has been the seat of our parochial government ever since Louisiana became a member of the American Union. Here stood in former days the old court house wherein Martin and Porter, and Matthews, and Eustis, and Rost and other distinguished jurists delivered many of the decisions which have established the jurisprudence of Louisiana. And the walls of that old courthouse, resounded at times with the eloquence of such giants as Prentiss, and Soulé and Grimes and other eminent orators and lawyers of by-gone days. It was the county seat of a territory, at one time, extending from the Atchafalaya on the east to the Sabine on the west; from Rapides and Avoyelles on the north to the Attakapas and the Gulf of Mexico on the South. A territory more extensive than some of the kingdoms of Europe. Three other parishes have been formed of St. Landry: Calcasieu, Cameron and Acadia; and notwithstanding this reduction of its territory, owing to its population, diversity of production and wealth, it is deservedly called the empire country parish of Louisiana.

Its population has more than doubled since 1850. It numbered then, extensive as it was 22,000 souls—to-day with less territory, its population is estimated at fifty thousand. Bear in mind, this is not due so much to immigration as to the natural increase of the people. If any one doubts the salubrity of our climate, this increase should be a convincing argument.

No where do the sun's rays fall on richer soil than that of St. Landry. The alluvial lands of the Atchafalaya and its tributaries will never cease to make rich return to the husbandman. Though cultivated unceasingly for more than fifty years, its prairie lands still continue to produce abundant harvests—and without the aid of fertilizers. A stranger from the blizzard stricken west, in search of a new home, settled within four miles of Opelousas. Ere many months had passed, he wrote to his Nebraska friends "pull up stakes, come down to St. Landry—I have found God's garden spot."

It would require an imagination more vivid than that possessed by the writer of Monte Christo to paint in its true colors the great possibilities of this parish. When we consider its agricultural resources, its extensive virgin pine forests, untouched by the woodman's ax; the variety of its timber; and think how all these could be developed and utilized by the construction of railways, and the erection of manufactories, we are lost in amazement in contemplating the inevitable great wealth and prosperity which St. Landry is destined to attain at no distant day. As much may be said of other portions of Louisiana.

In the grand development of her resources, the Press, than which no more powerful engine for good exists, has an important part to perform. Upon it devolves the duty of communicating to the world those advantages. Of extending an invitation to all seeking homes to come to Louisiana, particularly to St. Landry, of which so little is known to the outside world and of which with more truth than of Italy can it be said:

"Whatever fruits in different climes are found,
That proudly rise, or humbly court the ground;
Whatever blooms in wild tracts appear,
Whose bright succession decks the varied
year;
Whatever sweets salute the northern sky
With vernal lives, that blossom but to die;
These here disporting own the kindred soil,
Nor ask luxuriance from the planter's toil;
While sea-born gales their gelid wings expand,
To winnow fragrance round the smiling
land."

I have said nothing of our ladies, for here as elsewhere they speak for themselves.

Ladies and gentlemen, we sincerely hope your visit may bring you much pleasure and when you go from us you may carry with you sweet recollections of Opelousas. We shall ever retain in grateful remembrance the honor conferred upon us.

Opelousas and the Press Convention.

N. O. Picayune, May 3.

The assembling of the members of the Louisiana Press in convention at Opelousas has proved an auspicious event for that hospitable city, as well as a most agreeable one to the guests themselves. There is no more interesting region on the continent than is the country around Opelousas. Beautiful in itself, its verdant prairies, clear streams and primeval forests have been embalmed in immortal poetry. Its shaded glades and breezy plains, the placid Teche mirroring the enormous oaks with their festooning garlands of flowering vines and long, shaggy beards of hoary moss, teem with romantic associations; while the fertile fields, the plantations waving with the verdure of growing crops, the pillared and verandahed mansions gleaming white among the masses of green foliage are there to delight the eyes of those of a more prosaic and practical turn.

To bring some twoscore and more of newspaper writers into the midst of these charming scenes is to set them sounding the praises of this lovely region and its most hospitable people, and its attractions will be brought prominently, not merely before the readers of poetry, but what is of more importance, to the attention of people who are seeking in the South refuge from the Arctic blasts of the Northwest. The good people and parish of St. Landry will be famously advertised by a hundred pens and a score of printing presses, which will do the work for no fee nor reward, but freely for love and friendship.

We are glad to hear from such disinterested observers that the parish and its people are in a fair and growing state of prosperity, with all the prospects of a magnificent and not distant development which will demonstrate this region to be the garden of Louisiana.

We acknowledge pleasant calls on Tuesday and Wednesday from a number of our confrères of the press, among whom were Messrs. John McGrath of Baton Rouge, W. B. Bailey of Lafayette, John McCormick of Lake Charles, J. B. Lawton and V. L. Gilmore of New Iberia, J. Gentil of St. James, W. P. Mangham of Rayville, J. R. Jolley of Morgan City, O. A. Alpha of Franklin, Carlos Greig and Albert Bienvenu of St. Martinsville, A. J. Lafargue and Wm. Hall of Marksville, L. B. Claiborne of Pointe Coupée, C. A. Burkdoll and H. Bodemuller of Crowley, L. P. Caillouet of Thibodaux, J. W. Jackson of Opelousas; E. P. Goodwin of Washington; Frank J. Hardey and Lyman Bryan of Lake Charles, and R. N. Snow of Minden.

We have not been able to procure a complete list of the representatives of the press who attended the sessions of the Press Association held here this week, but besides those mentioned above the following were present:

Mrs. M. R. Field of New Orleans;
Mrs. Julia Rule of Shreveport;
Misses Addie and Mattie McGrath of Baton Rouge;
Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Nicholson of New Orleans;
Mrs. Thurmond of Rayville;
Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Bentley of Donaldsonville;
Mrs. Burkdoll, Mrs. Bodemuller and Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Duson of Crowley;
Mrs. A. J. Lafargue, Mrs. Wm. Hall and Miss Irion of Marksville;
Gen. L. Jastremski of Baton Rouge;
Col. Geo. Moorman of New Orleans;
J. E. Hewitt of Mansfield;
J. B. Wilkinson, Jr., of New Orleans;
Maj. S. T. Grisamore and F. Sancan, of Thibodaux;
W. J. Gray of West Carroll;
C. K. Jones of Winnfield;
J. B. Smart of Vernon;
J. W. Bryan of Lake Charles;
B. B. Langford of Gibsland;
J. Y. Gilmore and M. L. O'Donel of New Orleans;
G. E. Head of Boyce;
L. H. Pugh of Napoleonville;
Judge J. H. Rills of Iberville;
Chas. Lasseigne of St. John the Baptist;
W. C. Chevis of Rayne;
S. D. Pearce of Ruston;
E. A. O'Sullivan of Thibodaux;
H. M. Huie of Alexandria;
A. M. Escudier of New Iberia;
Dr. C. A. McGowan of Jeannerette;
J. H. Cosgrove of Natchitoches;
W. P. Roautree of Vidalia;
L. J. Bell and F. F. Flanner of ——.

In behalf of the members of the Louisiana Press Association and of the citizens of Opelousas, we desire to return thanks to Prof. R. Mayer and two of his best pupils—Miss Alice Latour (organist and pianist) and Master Octave Bodemuller (pianist)—for the exquisite music that was disinterestedly furnished by them, during the entire session of the Convention. While they entranced everybody with thrilling, harmonious numbers, they achieved a musical success that all of them can cherish with pleasure, and stimulate them to still greater victories.

An editor works 362 days a year to get out fifty-two issues of a paper; that is labor; once in a while somebody pays him a year's subscription, that's capital; and once in a while some son-of-a-gun of a dead-beat takes the paper for a year or two and vanishes without paying for it, that's anarchy; but later on justice will overtake that last named creature, for there is a place where he will get his just deserts, that's hell.—Exchange.

A writer in the Scientific American recommends baking soda as a sure cure for ivy poison. Says it has never been known to fail. Mix four ounces of soda to three quarts of water and bathe the parts affected.

LOUISIANA PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Photographic views of the above distinguished body, taken at Opelousas and Woodworth Springs, may be had in two styles, viz: 8x10 framed, at $1 each; same size mounted without frame, 75 cents each; 5x8, 50 cents each. Orders left at the COURIER office, Opelousas, and at the Argus office, Washington, or at Advertiser office, Lafayette, or with the undersigned at Lafayette, La., will be promptly filled, at above rates.

GEO. B. PETTY,
Lafayette, La.

May 5.1f

SPECIAL NOTICE

IS hereby given that a bill will be introduced at the ensuing session of the Legislature to create a new parish to be composed of the southern portion of Avoyelles and the northern portion of St. Landry parishes.

May 5, 1888. 1m

POLITICAL NOTICE.

THE members of the Democratic Parish Executive Committee are requested to meet at Opelousas at 11 a. m., Tuesday, May 8th, for the transaction of important business.

THOS. H. LEWIS, President.
G. L. DUPRE, Secretary.

Proceedings of the Police Jury.

OPELOUSAS, LA., 23d April, 1888.

The Police Jury met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Albert Guidry, president, A. Perrodin, W. C. Gordon, E. Dubuisson, S. Haas and L. Young.

The reading of the minutes of last meeting was dispensed with.

Upon motion the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, our colleague, Dr. R. H. Littell, has been suddenly cut off by the hand of death in the midst of a life full of usefulness to this community and the general public; therefore,

Be it Resolved, that in his death the parish has lost the services of a faithful public servant, while we in this body deplore the loss of a valued friend and co-laborer.

Resolved further, that we tender to the family of our deceased friend our sincere sympathy and condolence at the irreparable loss they have suffered.

Resolved further, that the Clerk furnish them with a copy of these resolutions.

The petition of Bélizaine Mancantel was read, asking that he be allowed to change the public road which cuts his place in two, so as to run on the north line of his place.

On motion, the petition was granted, provided the change is made in accordance with sec. 9 road ordinance and accepted by the road overseer.

On motion, the right of way is granted to the "Arcadia Telephone Company" to establish a telephone line on the public road between Opelousas and Washington—provided that no obstruction be placed on said road and in the ditches by them.

Messrs. John O'Quinn, David Bass and L. Finn were appointed a committee to ascertain the cost to repair the bridge over Elm Bayou.

ROAD OVERSEERS.

Frank Hebert, from Turkey Creek bridge near Edmond Nugent to Wade road near F. Hebert's place;

Lucius Richard, from J. O. Chacheré and L. Labé in Bellevue, to the Opelousas and old Bellevue road

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

For taxes collected during March and licenses during Feb. and March, viz:

Parish taxes		$1,098 65
" criminal taxes		65 70
" Licenses for '88		4,855 00
Less taxes refunded	$ 33 20	
" 5 o/o commission	299 30	332 50
Net		$5,686 80

Messrs. Haas, Gordon, and Young having been appointed a committee to examine the vouchers in the hands of the Treasurer, reported through their chairman Mr. Haas, that they examined and counted the vouchers presented by the treasurer amounting to $7,405.36 (seventy-four hundred and five 36/100 dollars), as per his statement of funds of '87, and vouchers to the amount of $1,632.32 (sixteen hundred thirty-two 32/100 dollars) funds of '88.

STATEMENT OF THE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE PARISH.

Unpaid bal. prior to 1st Apr. '82	$ 404 89
" " " of '82	122 42
" " " '83	126 17
" " " '84	3,830 33
" " " '85	5,084 30
" " " '86	2,423 06
" " " '87	4,114 53
	$16,105 70
Outstanding wit. certificates '84	738 40
" " " '85	3,782 50
" " " '86	1,699 00
" " " '87	1,035 70
Total indebtedness to 31 Mch. '88	$230,3613

Abstract Statement of Parish Monies Received and Expended by W. A. Robertson as Treasurer Parish of St. Landry from the 7th May, 1877, to the 25th of February, 1888 Inclusive.

RECEIPTS.

1877	Net receipts from 1877	$40,111 71
1878	" " " 1878	38,703 40
1879	" " " 1879	27,475 43
1880	" " " 1880	27,889 82
1881	" " " 1881	32,919 95
1882	" " " 1882	31,602 88
1883	" " " 1883	34,322 08
1884	" " " 1884	40,065 29
1885	" " " 1885	34,006 14
1886	" " " 1886	36,894 32
1887	" " to 25th Feb. 1888	38,397 00
		$372,388 03

EXPENDITURES.

Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1877 which were cancelled by the Police Jury	$ 39,946 64	
Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1878, which were cancelled by the Police Jury	28,883 84	
Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1879, which were cancelled by the Police Jury	27,693 39	
Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1880, which were cancelled by the Police Jury	28,568 25	
Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1881, which were cancelled by the Police Jury	32,621 36	
Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1882, which were cancelled by the Police Jury	33,405 89	
Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1883, which were cancelled by the Police Jury	34,312 40	
Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1884, which were cancelled by the Police Jury	44,065 55	
Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1885, which were cancelled by the Police Jury	34,016 10	
Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1886, which were cancelled by the Police Jury	38,893 81	
Amount of vouchers paid against funds of 1887, which were cancelled by the Police Jury	40,384 14	
Total	$ 364,371 37	
Balance on hand 25th Feb., 1888, paid over to J. O. Chacheré, Tr. successor, as per his receipt recognized and accepted by the Police Jury	8,016 66	
	$ 372,388 03	

I solemnly swear that I have paid the full amount expressed on the face of the above claims against the parish, and that I have not acquired any of them, either directly or indirectly, in any speculation. I further swear that I have not used any of the public monies in any speculation whatever.

WM. A. ROBERTSON.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 29th day of March, A. D. 1888.

B. F. MEGINLEY, Dy. Clerk,
13th Jud. District Court of La., in and for the Parish of St. Landry.

OPELOUSAS, LA., 25th Feb, 1888.

In accordance with the resolution passed by the Police Jury on the 13th inst., accepting the resignation of W. A. Robertson, Treasurer of the Parish of St. Landry, and appointing as his successor J. O. Chacheré—:

Be it known, that having furnished my bond and qualified according to law, I have this day received from W. A. Robertson ex Treasurer, the sum of ($8,016.66) eight thousand and sixteen 66/100 dollars, being the full amount due by him to the parish of St. Landry.

JAMES O. CHACHERE,
Parish Treasurer.

Abstract Statement of School Funds Received and Expended by W. A. Robertson as Treasurer of the School Board, Parish of St. Landry, from August, 1877, to 24th Feb., 1888, Inclusive.

RECEIPTS.

1877	Amount received 1877	$ 6,356 81
1878	" " 1878	14,608 57
1879	" " 1879	10,645 20
1880	" " 1880	6,629 91
1881	" " 1881	17,181 09
1882	" " 1882	9,898 13
1883	" " 1883	12,177 93
1884	" " 1884	9,952 91
1885	" " 1885	16,660 24
1886	" " 1886	11,756 48
1887	" " 1887	11,555 84
1888	" " 1888	809 50
	Total	$128,232 61

EXPENDITURES.

1878	
Apl. 6, Kouch's cancell. by Sc 1, B'd	$ 9,449 65
1879	
Feb. 10 " " " "	5,991 74
Aug. 27 " " " "	10,041 94
1880	
Jan. 13 " " " "	3,990 54
July 19 " " " "	5,384 68
1881	
Jan. 27 " " " "	2,085 64
Apl. 2 " " " "	2,604 35
July 11 " " " "	5,452 25
1882	
Jan. 14 " " " "	4,948 68
Apl. 15 " " " "	4,377 70
July 18 " " " "	3,710 57
1883	
Jan. 17 " " " "	3,897 31
July " " " "	4,818 73
1884	
Jan. " " " "	3,479 34
July " " " "	6,486 93
1885	
Jan. " " " "	5,138 09
July 6 " " " "	8,954 48
1886	
Jan. 18 " " " "	3,761 09
July 6 " " " "	7,085 11
1887	
Jan. 29 " " " "	4,059 04
Aug. 6 " " " "	8,386 45
1888	
Feb. 24 " " " "	4,775 42
Total	$118,879 28
Balance on hand paid over to Mr. J. O. Chacheré successor of W. A. Robertson as per his receipt accepted by the School Board	9,353 33
	$128,232 61

I solemnly swear that I have paid the full amount expressed on the face of the above claims against the parish, and that I have not acquired any of them either directly or indirectly in any speculation.

I further swear that I have not used any of the public monies in any speculation whatever.

W. A. ROBERTSON.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of March, A. D. 1888.

B. F. MEGINLEY, D'y Clerk 13th Jud. Dis. Court in and for the Par. St. Lan. La.

OPELOUSAS, LA., 24th Feb., 1888

Statement of balances of School funds, parish of St. Landry, as per balance sheet of the 24th February, 1888, viz:

Bal. to credit of Teacher's funds	$1,696 27	
" " interest "	5,951 28	
" " Police Jury "	1,705 78	
	$9,353 33	

Balance on hand 24th Feb., 1888, as per Cash Book audited by the School Board this day; and I, James O. Chacheré, Treasurer of the School Board do hereby acknowledge to have received this day 25th Feb., 1888, from W. A. Robertson ex-Treasurer, the above balance of $9,353.33, in full settlement made this day with him, in accordance with resolution passed by the School Board on the 24th inst.

JAMES O CHACHERE,
Parish Treasurer.

Approved as per resolution of the School Board of the Parish of St. Landry, passed Feb. 24th, 1888

LAURENT DUPRE, Pres. School Board.
LEONCE E. LITTELL, Sec. School Board.

The Police Jury through their committee appointed to examine the books of W. A. Robertson ex-Treasurer, presented their reports, together with the receipts of J. O. Chacheré the present Treasurer, showing that the entire amount of monies in his hands on the 25th of Feb. last, being $8,016.66 (eight thousand and sixteen dollars 66/100 dollars) of parish funds, and $9,353.33 (nine thousand three hundred and fifty-three and 33/100 dollars) of school funds, had been paid over to J. O. Chacheré the present Treasurer, as per annexed reports and receipts hereunto attached, when on motion of Mr. Dubuisson, the reports were accepted, and W. A. Robertson ex-Treasurer and his securities are discharged on all bonds given to the parish by said W. A. Robertson, for the faithful performance of his official duties as parish Treasurer, and that the Clerk of the District Court is hereby authorized to cancel the above described bonds on record in his office.

Yearly Statement of the Treasurer, Parish of St. Landry from the 1st April, '87, to the 31st March, '88.

1887 RECEIPTS.

Apr. 1 to bal. on hand as last report		$ 3 80
To amt. par. tax. '87	$25,314 76	
" " " back tax	3,289 37	
" " " crim "	2,597 66	
" " " licen '87	4,911 50	
" " spec C. H. tax	5,569 60	
" " from fines	809 50	
" " sale unbr'd st'k	36 25	
" " " town lot	25 00	$42,553 64
Total		$42,557 44

I certify that the above statement is a true copy from the books of the parish.

JAMES O. CHACHERE,
Parish Treasurer.

EXPENDITURES.

By par. warrants paid, which were counted and cancelled by the Police Jury as per resolution of Oct. 11, '87	$ 7,349 73
By par. warrants paid, which were counted and cancelled by the Police Jury as per resolution of Dec 5th, '87	8,926 78
By par. warrants paid, which were counted and cancelled by the Police Jury as per resolution of Jan. 10th '88	2,040 06
By par. warrants paid, which were counted and cancelled by the Police Jury as per resolution of Feb. 13th '88	12,067 57
By par. warrants paid, which were counted and cancelled by the Police Jury as per resolution of Mch. 12th '88	4,766 36
By par. war