

Year.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS.

Twice a Week, Two Dollars a Year.

HON. T.

Argue
Line
Be

The Time
received from
of Opelousas
ment in
of St. L.
propose
legisla
The
arom
has b
stated
divid
twain
same

ack delivered a very
ture of the Court-
sday night to a
notwithstanding
weather. Instead
criticism of this im-
we give a very
of its most sa-
er that such of
no may have failed
meeting may be en-
the merits of this
valuable is well
worth an

Mac
history of
and is
as the
novel, and
did it.
With
a voice
open
it would
to make a
popular
knowledge
of medicine,
of how to
live long
and well,
and to get
the most
out of life,
if not as
entertain-
ing as a
novel, at
least as
instruc-
tive as the
best history.
The trouble
in the past
has been
that
aymen have
always
looked upon
medicine
as one of
the occult
sciences.
Doctors,
their meth-
ods, and
everything
concerning
them, cer-
tainly in
recent years
without
intention,
were kept
in the realm
of the weird,
the myster-
ious, al-
most the
supernatural,
and hence
they have
always been
easily mis-
represented
and constantly
misunder-
stood. This
has brought
so much
disaster
upon the
people
that the
time has
come for
it to
end, and
with this
in view,
I intend
to lift the
veil and
have you
see my
profession
just as it
is. In
doing this,
faults will
be frankly
revealed,
of which
you have
known
little, re-
deemed by
charities
and benefac-
tions so
great and
so univ-
ersal as
will excite
your won-
der and
challenge
your admi-
ration,
and all
with a
distinct
purpose
in view
which will
appear as
I proceed.

In order to show something of my fitness for this task, it may be proper to say that for twenty-nine years I have been a member, and for twenty-four years secretary, of the State Board of Health and Medical Examiners of Kentucky. For twenty-nine years I have represented my profession before every session of the Legislature of Kentucky, and during the same time, with delegates from other states, have often represented it before the National Congress. Once or twice almost every day for five years I have appeared before audiences in some part of this country to talk upon this subject, mymen discussing it freely at the conclusion of my remarks. Going from state to state until I have now been in nearly all of them, and in many of them from county to county, talking over these matters with both physicians and laymen in this heart-to-heart way, I have been able to make a study of doctors, of what they are doing, and of what people think of them and of this reform, in a way which has never been possible to any man before. After years of experience I spent some time in small towns and country districts of Great Britain and the continent of Europe making a comparative study of medical conditions and customs

with legislatures and courts I was constantly confronted, even with otherwise broad, fair-minded men, by an almost universal bias, distrust or prejudice as to doctors and whatever they proposed. It was soon found that this was traceable to almost universal dissensions between local physicians of every school and creed, personal and competitive, and practical always that that particular official had had his confidence in the profession destroyed by criticism of all the others in the community by his family physician. As a result, it was found that while each doctor stood high in the estimation of a few people, his patrons, the profession as a whole had a low place in public esteem. A study of medical history showed that this evil had come down to us from the centuries, cursing us as it had the clergy and all of the other segregated callings, but bringing more disaster to the people than upon those primarily involved in it. The legal was the only one of the great professions which had escaped this curse, owing mainly to the fact that lawyers live in the aggregate, and consequently in harmony, and for this reason they had always been able to direct the policy of this country.

A few years ago my profession was aroused to the enormity of this evil, and to its baneful effects upon it and the people, and we banded ourselves together to exterminate it, and probably never before in the history of the world did a reform so sweep a profession; and now, regardless of schools or pathies, ours is rapidly becoming one of the most harmonious of the vocations. This evil has existed so long, however, that it had created a public sentiment, a fixed habit of thought with the people, which did not disappear with the removal of its cause, and, today, almost as much as a generation ago, there is the widespread feeling that we are not a practical, united body of men, and consequently, cannot be safely intrusted with the administration of public affairs, and I have faced this with the highest legislative, executive and judicial officers at my own state capital and at Washington year after year, even in men of the broadest culture and experience, and of the greatest liberality in all other matters. All the heroism of the profession in all of its history, and in recent years in the final abolition of cholera and yellow fever, and even the fact that the three noble men who gave their lives to accomplish the latter, who freed a large section of the country from the annual dread of this pestilence, and made possible the building of the Panama canal, died unrewarded and now lie in unmarked graves, has made little perceptible change in this sentiment.

You will first be shown how this has affected us as a nation. Not to speak of the avoidable suffering and sorrow, the drain upon the material resources of the people of this country every year from preventable sickness and deaths, and from vicious living, is almost beyond the conception of the finite mind. In actual dollars and cents, it is estimated to amount to more than the taxes paid for all purposes. During last year, 1,500,000 persons died, and 4,200,000 were sick, involving the comfort and material prosperity of 5,000,000 homes and 25,000,000 people. Medical men not only believe that at least one-third of this was distinctly and practically preventable with existing knowledge, but that this might be extended to other diseases and the proportion constantly increased by such broad scientific research and collective investigation as the Federal government should be conducting every day in every year, and for which doctors have appealed in vain for a quarter of a century. As an argument for peace you are told that 210,000 men died as a result of battle in both armies during the civil war. As an argument for better health laws and policies we tell you that 750,000 people died of tuberculosis in the United States during the past four years, and that at least three-quarters of a million are constantly sick of it. Should not an effort be made to prevent this disease as

Primary Election Law Held Unconstitutional

Last Tuesday, Judge King of the Supreme Court at New Orleans rendered a decision declaring the primary election laws of Louisiana to be unconstitutional, null and void.

This decision grew out of a suit of Thos. W. Labauve of Iberville parish against Secretary of State John T. Michel. Mr. Labauve declared himself a candidate for State Senator from the Sixteenth Senatorial district, but the Secretary of State declined to accept and file the papers in the candidacy on the ground that it was not in conformity with the primary election laws. Mr. Labauve then contended that these laws were unconstitutional, and in this

contention he was upheld by the court.

Judge King in his decision declared that the primary election law was violative of Article 48 of the Constitution of 1898.

He further held that it was class legislation and a further violation of the Constitution which provided for party nominations by party conventions.

He further holds that it is class legislation in that it imposes upon the whole people of the State a piece of party machinery which the people of the State, who have no interest in it, have to help support.

The opinion covers eighteen type-written pages. An appeal will be taken to the Supreme Court.

A MALIGNANT SLANDER REPEATED

The Bookman, a literary magazine published by Dodd, Mead & Co., of New York, making a note of a movement undertaken in the South to erect a monument to Captain Henry Wirz, the Confederate Commander of the prison at Andersonville, S. C., who was put to death by the Federal authorities for alleged cruelties to Federal prisoners under his command, charges that when one-third of fifty thousand prisoners under his control died of starvation and brutal treatment he gloated over their misery, and declared: "I am killing more Yankees here than Lee is killing at the front," and denounces any undertaking to erect a monument to such a man.

There are two sides to the prisoner business in the Civil War. The official returns show the following:

Number of Federals in Confederate prisons	270,000
Number of Confederates in Federal prisons	220,000

Excess of Federal prisoners 50,000

Confederates died in Federal prisons 26,436

Federals died in Confederate prisons 22,570

Excess of Confederate deaths 3,866

Thus the death rate of Confederates in Federal prisons was over 12 per cent, while that of Federal prisoners was under 9 per cent. An act of the Confederate Congress provided that all prisoners of war should have the same rations as to quantity and quality as were issued to the Confederate soldiers in the field, while prison hospitals were put on the same footing with Confederate Army hospitals.

The most shameful slanders were perpetrated upon the Confederate conduct towards prisoners of war as a part of the propaganda of wholesale putting to death of surrendered Confederates and confiscation of property, and the only bulwark that prevented it was found in the undaunted courage and unshaken resistance of President Andrew Johnson.

It is now out of order to reopen those infamous passages in the history of the Reconstruction outrages attempted and largely consummated upon the South at the close of the Civil War, but the deliberate atrocities perpetrated on the Southern men in Northern prisons will class with any such barbarities in the world. In the South in the latter part of the war the soldiers lived on half rations and were not always able to get them. Federal prisoners could expect no better fare than that served to the soldiers in the field. Captain Wirz was a brave and honest soldier, and he did his duty to the prisoners to the best of his ability under the circumstances. — Picayune.

See advertisement of the "great crushed sale," by L. Wright, in another column.

LOUISIANA

Governor Blanchard has given out the following copy of a letter sent to the New York World:

"Replying to your request for an answer to the question propounded by you: 'What has your State done during the past twenty-five years to make America the greatest of nations?' I would say that Louisiana has, through the pluck, energy and enterprise of her people, resuscitated herself in that period of time from the wreck and ruin of war and reconstruction and placed herself abreast in industrial and commercial development, in wealth and prosperity, with the average commonwealth of the American Union.

"Louisiana produces one million bales of cotton annually, and, besides this she produced 95 per cent of all the cane sugar raised in the United States; and more rice than any other State in the Union. One county in Louisiana raises more rice than all of South Carolina.

"Louisiana leads all of the States of the Union in the acreage value of her crops raised. This is a census fact.

"Louisiana has the greatest area of long-leaf pine of any state in the Union and has more cypress timber than any other State.

"She is now the second lumber producing State in the Union, ranking next to the State of Washington.

"Louisiana is the coming seat of the oyster industry of the United States. Her tidal bottoms, the home of the oyster, embrace 4,500,000 acres—agreater area of oyster waters than have Maryland and Virginia combined.

"Louisiana has within her borders the greatest sulphur mine the world has ever seen. It is taken out of the earth 98 per cent pure.

"She has fuel oil and natural gas fields unsurpassed in the United States. Some of her oil wells have a record of 3,000,000 barrels of oil each.

"Louisiana has the greatest deposit of pure rock salt in the western hemisphere. It comes up 99 per cent pure.

"Much more might be said of the resources of the State, but I don't wish to tax your credulity. We were the second State in railway construction in 1907. We have more navigable rivers than any other State, and a greater length of navigable waterways than any. It is by exploiting and developing her resources in a way that is rapidly pushing her to the front, that Louisiana is doing more than her share in making America the greatest of nations."

J. VINCENT ANDERSON DEAD

The sad news received last Wednesday morning of the sudden death of J. Vincent Anderson, son of our old friend, A. B. Anderson, of Washington, La., which occurred in El Paso, Texas, from pneu-

monia. The young man, who was only twenty-three years of age, had been employed in the main office of the Wells-Fargo Express Co. for the last two years. The body will be brought to Washington by his brother, A. B. Anderson, Jr., where it is expected to arrive today, Saturday, where the interment will take place.

Among his schoolmates and boyhood friends, the following have been selected as pall bearers: J. M. Prescott, George Cook, Sam Going, Jas. Going, Wm. Nicholson and Frank Valtz.

To the broken-hearted father, mother, brothers and sisters, who sit in sorrow where his footsteps shall never again find echo, the Courier extends its sincerest sympathy. When they have drained the cup, may the peace that passeth all understanding come to them from One who cares for each little sparrow that falls.

FRISCO'S BID FOR BUSINESS

Houston, Texas, March 14.—

One of the trains to be discontinued by the Southern Pacific under the recent announcement is that known as the Oriole, leaving here at 9:15 a. m. and going through to Lafayette, La. The Frisco line east from here, the only competitor of the Southern Pacific in that direction, has announced that its morning train will leave at 8:45 a. m., the change being to gather up the traffic that does not care to leave here on the early train at 6:30 o'clock, and which is being abandoned by the discontinuance of the Oriole. It is the first big move of the Frisco line for business. The chances are that as soon as this Frisco line gets its road in such shape that it can maintain a first-class service it will entertain the Southern Pacific in the competition of business east of Houston.

ALEXANDRIA

To Have Largest Meeting of Knights of Columbus Ever Held in State.

Alexandria Council No. 1134 Knights of Columbus will exemplify the degree work of their order on Sunday, April 5th, 1908. The services of the Celebrated Chicago Degree Team has been secured for the occasion, and they will arrive in Alexandria in a special sleeper on Saturday night, April 4th. Other Councils throughout the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and Texas will send delegations to this meeting, and it is expected to be the largest meeting of Knights of Columbus ever held in the State outside of New Orleans. The local Council officers are making arrangements to entertain the large crowd that is expected.—Town Talk.

BETTER GAME LAWS

A number of our exchanges are demanding better game laws in this state. Our game laws could doubtless be improved; but the kind of laws needed ought to be enacted and permitted to remain unchanged long enough for the people to become familiar with their provisions. The game laws of the state have been amended and revised by nearly every session of the Legislature for twenty or more years past, and only the lawyers can keep up with the changes. Make the game laws right and then let them alone for a time.—Guardian-Journal.

TO THE PUBLIC

The Board of Directors of the Parish Fair Association will meet at the Courthouse on Monday, March 30th, at 3 p. m. At this meeting the Committee on Site will receive offers for a fair site. Site must not be less than thirty-five acres; must be level and easy to drain, and within one mile or one mile and a half of the city of Opelousas. R. M. LITTLE, Secretary.

Mrs. H. D. Larcade will have a grand display of Easter Hats and Easter Novelties on the opening day, Thursday, April 2, 1908.

LABOR ASKS FOR LIABILITY LAW

MR. HARRISON CALLS FOR INFORMATION

CHINA-JAPAN WAR SCARE SETTLED

On Motion of Mr. Tillman Wait Street Methods are to be Investigated.

Labor's bill of grievances, amounting to a demand for certain legislative enactments in the interests of labor at this session of Congress, and prepared by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in collaboration with the heads of other organizations affiliated with the federation, was submitted this week to the Vice-President of the United States and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The only tangible result of the conferences was the declaration of Mr. Cannon that the House would undoubtedly pass a bill re-enacting the employers' liability act so as to meet the constitutional objections found in the old law by the United States Supreme Court. As to the other Congressional enactments sought by labor, Speaker Cannon assured his callers that they would have consideration by the proper committees of the House.

The House of Representatives passed a resolution this week, introduced by Representative Harrison of New York, calling on the President for information regarding his authority of law for exercising the functions of government on the Canal Zone. Mr. Harrison charged the President with exceeding his authority and charged the Republicans in the House with negligence in their conduct of the government.

Senator Bacon of Georgia is doing a work which must appeal to every unprejudiced mind is his endeavors to secure an increase in the pay of employes of the executive departments. The pay of Senators and Representatives was increased fifty per cent at the last session to meet the acknowledged increase in the cost of living in Washington, but until Senator Bacon took up the cudgels in their behalf, no one considered the poor government clerks who are obliged to keep up with the procession as best they may on the salary allotment of years ago.

The Tatsu Maru incident between China and Japan has passed into history. Minister Wu on Thursday received a dispatch from Peking stating that the vessel had been delivered to the Japanese, and that the Japanese flag had been saluted; also that an agreement had been reached between the two countries to draw up a convention that would prevent the smuggling of arms in the future. It was stated at the State Department on Thursday that China has lately been endeavoring to prohibit the importation of arms and ammunition for the use of bandits and revolutionists. The zeal of the Chinese customs officers to prevent such importation was the cause of the seizure of the Tatsu Maru.

It is the belief of the House Committee on Appropriations that no obligation, equitable, legal, or moral, rests upon Congress to make appropriations for the relief of the survivors of the Slocum disaster, in New York harbor, or the heirs of those who lost their lives in the burning and grounding of the steamer General Slocum.

(Continued on page 5.)

Continued on page 4.)