

The Houma Ceres.

E. W. BLAKE & CO.

INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS—NEUTRAL IN NONE.

E. W. BLAKE, } EDITORS.
C. R. LINDSEY, }

HOUMA:

THURSDAY, September 20, 1855.

FOR REPRESENTATIVE.

We learn that the American party of this parish have nominated Col. J. B. ROBERTSON, as a candidate for Representative to the General Assembly of the State. It is thought by members of the party, who are pretty well posted in regard to the matter, that the nomination is equal to an election, and that Col. R. will go into House of Representatives, with a majority of, at least, ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE votes. Well, we don't know about that. However, we see only one impediment to his election, and that is his name has not yet appeared before the people in a constitutional form. He has not yet authorized us to announce him as a candidate, through the columns of the Ceres. And until this is done, it is worse than fallacy for him to dream of being elected.

We also learn that delegates were appointed to a convention to be held in Thibodaux, to select a candidate for Senator.

MILTONIC.

We have devoted some time and as much research as is possible, in view of the limited sources of information presented by the meagre libraries of a small village, to the examination of the question propounded in our last number by our correspondent, "Pense-y." We have been unable to find any satisfactory elucidation of the difficulties which he submits to our consideration. The lines he cites were doubtless written with reference to some system of Astronomy which was in vogue in the seventeenth century, and which, being exploded by the light of modern science, is no longer known, except to scholars who delight to explore the learned rubbish of the past. A friend suggests that the passage has no meaning at all; that Milton being blind, and having dictated his great poem to a secretary, the latter must occasionally have perpetrated a blunder, and that the passage in question is one of the number thereof. This explanation is as good as any we have yet heard, and we own that it is the most flattering to one's sense of his own perspicacity, which is thus spared the humiliation of being nonplussed. Great poets, however—aye, even small ones—are oftentimes extremely obscure in their most admired passages. We would not be at a loss to cite to our correspondent lines, so frequently quoted as to have become woven into the texture of our common parlance, and which, when carefully analysed, are found to mean either nothing or nonsense. When the poet says, "his eyes in a fine frenzy rolling," he cares not for the small clouds that dim his pathway to the gorgeous heights of the empyrean. The obscurity which surrounds him but gives a bolder relief to the splendor which they cannot stain. Like Olympian Jove, who loved to envelope his mountain seat with the black folds of the tempest, the bard delights in a grand obscurity.

—How oft amidst
Thick clouds and dark, both Heaven's all-ruling Sire
Chose to reside, his glory unobscured,
And with the majesty of darkness round,
Covers his throne, from whence deep thunders roar.

NEW FALL AND WINTER GOODS.—By reference to our advertising columns, it will be seen that DAVIS, LESTER & Co., are now receiving their Fall and Winter supply of Goods, and that they are ready and willing to show and sell them to any one who may call on them, and that, too, on terms as reasonable as they can be purchased at any other establishment in this "neck of woods." We advise our friends to give Mr. LESTER a call, and examine his large and well selected stock of Goods, and our word for it, you will not go away dissatisfied. He has everything suited to the wants of the community, from the finest articles of Ladies' Dress Goods to a Dutch Cheese. Give him a call, by all means.

We are indebted to some unknown friend for a copy of Putnam's Magazine for August. We do not know who has done us under obligation, but we are none the less grateful.

The Canvass.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Bee, writing from Houma, under date of September 1st, says:

"You have doubtless heard the boasts of the Anties that they will carry this ancient stronghold. There is no more truth in their reasoning about Terrebonne, than in their premature exultation over La-fource. In this parish there are about four hundred and fifty voters. The highest vote ever polled was at the Presidential election in 1848, when it reached 442. The American party already numbers considerably over a majority of the voters, and will receive the support of some 50 outsiders. You may be well assured that Terrebonne will be true to herself, and I would not be surprised if she gives an old-fashioned majority of 150. The order is increasing daily, and is in fine spirits."

We publish the above merely as a matter of news, and to correct an error in regard to the number voters in this parish. The writer of the above must certainly be an old fogy, and at the time of penning his article, thought nothing of the great increase of population which has taken place in the parish, during the last few years. The highest vote ever polled in the parish was 642; but, at the next election it is thought, by those who are pretty well posted in regard to the matter, that over 700 votes will be polled. If the K. N's. base their anticipations of a triumph, in November next, on the above figures, they will be sadly sucked in, and it behooveth them to be 'up and doing.'

The two great political parties of the country have had grand demonstrations in Houma, and able and eloquent speeches have been made by their respective champions, and the people of the parish are well posted on all the great political questions of the day. This being the case, the 'sovereigns' will now turn their attention to domestic affairs. The question now is, "Where shall we purchase our winter supplies?" The answer is invariably, "where we can get the best bargains." Then comes the question, "where are the best bargains to be had?" We will answer this question. The best bargains, as a general thing, are to be had of those merchants who ADVERTISE. Well, how is that? It is because he who advertises meets with a more ready sale for his merchandise than he who does not, and is therefore able to sell at a less price, not having to add the loss he sustains by goods which are become old and unseasonable, and unfit for the market. Well, Sir, Editors, you will have to explain still further, and tell us how this result follows. Well, in the first place, if you wish to purchase an article, you have only to refer to your newspaper to know where to find it, and you will be more apt to go where you are certain to get what you want, than to hunt for it somewhere else, on uncertainty. An advertisement then is a guide to the public. The following extract, which is taken from an article in the Boston Herald, better elucidates the advantages arising from a judicious system of advertising, than we could possibly do. Read it:

"Notoriety or publicity is an indispensable element of success to the merchant, mechanic or manufacturer, who would give a speedy and wide distribution to the commodities which he seeks to exchange for money. He may have capital, skill, convenient position, punctuality, industry and honesty—every possible fitness for his business—and all is nothing, if he have not sufficient notoriety. This notoriety, let it cost more or less, he must purchase or provide for as carefully as he purchases or manufactures his stock of goods. And it must in extent bear a certain relation to the business he would do. It must be both positive and comparative. People must not only know him and his business, because otherwise they will not find him, but they must know him, because otherwise they will find trade with those who are better known. Customers, like sheep, are gregarious, and flock where they see others go. If nobody else were engaged in the business, it would be important for our dealers to advertise in the newspapers, because people are tempted to buy what they read of. It is like having a salesman several thousand voices, speaking politely of your wares to tens of thousands of people, perhaps at the same moment, never offending, never obtrusive, never tired. Such a salesman might be worth one, two, three, or five thousand dollars a year to you—according to the number of his voices; might he not?"

But if others are engaged in the same business, even if they do not advertise, it becomes the more important for our dealers to do so; and if they do advertise, it becomes doubly important. It becomes, in fact, ruin not to be known as extensively as his rivals, as it is the flood-tide of fortune to be known more extensively.

"THE DESERTED WIFE," by Mrs. EMMA D. E. N. SOUTHWORTH, author of the "Miss Eliza," "The Heiress," "Witch's Victory," "Curse of Chillon," "The Carded Daughter," etc. Philadelphia: T. B. PETERSON, No. 162 Chestnut Street.

Such is the title a new volume, by one the first, if not the first, of American female writers, Mrs. E. D. E. N. SOUTHWORTH. Those who have read the many works by this lady, need no words of recommendation from us, as none read, but to admire; but to those who have not enjoyed that inestimable pleasure, we would say, get this book, and when you have read it, if you don't rank the author among the best fiction writers of the age, either male or female, then we will forfeit our reputation as a judge of literature. The scene of this work is laid in a Southern State, and abounds with incidents interesting to the people of this section of our country. It will be ready for sale on the 22d of this month. We have received from the publisher, a sample sheet of first twenty-four pages, showing the style in which it is gotten up; it is printed on fine white paper, with clear and beautiful type, and will be an ornament to the shelf or centre-table. The book will contain six hundred pages, in one volume, neatly bound in cloth, for one dollar and twenty-five cents, or in two volumes, paper cover, for one dollar.

We have received the August number of Blackwood's Magazine, which is re-printed in this country, by L. SCOTT & Co., of New York. The number before us contains: The Baltic in 1855; Zaidee; a Romance; Notes on Canada and the North-west States of America, Part V.; The Imperial Policy of Russia, Part II.; Mr. Warren's Blackstone; The War, the Cabinet, and the Conferences; Internal Sufferings of Russia from the War. By an Eye-witness; Story of the Campaign. Written in a tent in the Crimea, Part IX.; and other articles of interest. The new volume of Blackwood commenced with the number for July, and the present is a very favorable time for new subscribers to begin. Blackwood is published monthly at \$3. The postage on Blackwood is 24 cents a year. L. S. & Co., also publish the British Reviews, namely, Edinburgh, North British, Westminster, and London Quarterly. Subscription price of any one Review, \$3. Blackwood and one Review—or any two Reviews, \$5. The four Reviews and Blackwood, \$10. Four copies to one address, \$30. Postage on the four Reviews and Blackwood, only 80 cents a year; on each Review, 14 cents, to be paid quarterly in advance. Address, L. SCOTT & CO., Publishers, 54 Gold Street; corner Fulton, New York.

The Crops.

The prospect for a good crop in this parish were never better than at present. Our planting community were never in better spirits, and our parish now presents a prosperous and flourishing condition. No fevers, no sickness, plentiful crops—these and kindred blessings are ours. A friend, writing from the interior of Illinois, says: "Crops were never better, in this section of country, than at present. Corn is selling at from 20 to 25 cents per bushel, and before two months it will be sold at 10 cents. Wheat has declined 75 cents on the bushel, and may now be purchased readily at \$1." Accounts from Tennessee are of the same character. An exchange publishes a letter from Syracuse Mills, Tenn., which says that wheat is so abundant that it is selling at 50 cents per bushel; and corn, which during the past winter and spring sold for \$1, may now be had at 20 cents. The Missouri papers say more corn will be raised in that State this year, than for any five years before. Much of the wheat land averages forty bushels per acre. Flour is selling in Cincinnati at \$5 per barrel. From every section of the country we have the most glowing accounts of the crops, and the prospects for cheap and good living are very flattering.

BEAUTIFUL.—The following is a part of the christening ceremony of a child of the Arabian Desert:—"The morn that ushered thee into life, my child, saw thee weeping, while all around thee smiled; endeavor so to live that thou mayest make thine exit smiling, while all around thee weep."

All vice infatuates and corrupts the judgment.

A lie begets a lie till they come to generations.

A vicious man's son has a good title to vice.

A Friend is never known till needed.

THE KNOW-NOTHING BARBECUE.

The American Party had quite a demonstration in this place, on Saturday last. Eloquent speeches were made by Messrs. DERRIGNY, HUNT, DUVIGNAUD, and others, which were well taken by the very large and respectable audience in attendance on the occasion. Never before, when so large a body of men were collected for the purpose of listening to the discussion of politics, did better order prevail, than on Saturday. Generally, such gatherings are productive more or less of quarrels, fights, bloody noses, black eyes, etc., etc., but, to the credit of the community be it said, there was nothing of this kind on Saturday. We lay a wager that there have not been two barbecues during the present campaign, where there were less of drunkenness and disorderly conduct, than at the two that have been had at Houma. This speaks volumes for the intelligence and love of order of the community.

The barbecue on Saturday last was a triumph for the friends of "Sam," of which they may well be proud. Bad weather was anticipated, and on the Monday previous the Committee of Arrangements met, and determined to postpone the affair, on account of the bad prospects, but afterwards reconsidered their decision, though up to Thursday evening, the most sanguine expected nothing more or less than an utter failure. On Friday, however, the clouds cleared away, and it continued fair until the affair was entirely over, and on Sunday, the windows of heaven were again opened, and the rain descended in torrents. We make the last statement at the suggestion of a Know-Nothing friend, who contends that this was a manifestation of the kindness of Providence toward the cause of the Know-Nothings. We do not think, however, that Providence would be any more likely to favor the K. N's than the Anties, and the clear weather can only be attributed to chance. On the contrary, we believe that there are not less than two hundred and fifty Know Nothing in this parish praying for dry weather, but at the present writing, rain is pouring down with a perfect losseness, and no prospect of an abatement.

The Abolitionists despair of electing an Anti-Nebraska man for the Presidency, if the election goes to the House of Representatives. The constitution provides that the vote shall be taken by States, the Representative from each State having one vote; and a majority of all the States shall be necessary for a choice. There are thirty-one States, sixteen being a majority. There are fifteen Slave States, not one of which would vote for an Anti-Nebraska man. In addition to this, California has elected two pro-slavery Democrats, and Iowa has a divided delegation. This makes it tolerably certain that, should the issue be the Nebraska question, the vote will be favorable to the South. The Boston Telegraph thus classifies the vote on that question:

NEBRASKA.	ANTI-NEBRASKA.
Arkansas,	Maine,
Missouri,	New Hampshire,
Florida,	Vermont,
California,	Massachusetts,
North Carolina,	Rhode Island,
Delaware,	Connecticut,
Maryland,	New York,
Virginia,	Pennsylvania,
Georgia,	Ohio,
Alabama,	Michigan,
Mississippi,	Wisconsin,
Texas,	Indiana,
Louisiana,	Illinois—14 States.
Tennessee,	Divided.
Kentucky—16	Iowa—1 State.

A MISTAKE.—It is currently reported in town that the junior editor of this paper has the yellow fever; but we are of opinion that it is all a mistake. We consulted one of our most eminent physicians in regard to the matter, and after a careful examination of our case, he pronounced the report without foundation in truth. On the contrary, we think our health was never better. We did have an attack of preternatural drowsiness, on the evening of the barbecue, caused, doubtless, by an excessive use of cold water, which the excitement and heat of the day caused us to imbibe. But this soon passed off, and we are now in the enjoyment of the most robust health.

An ape may choose to sit among doctors.

A mere scholar at court is an ass among asses.

Some of our citizens seem to be frightened in regard to the Yellow Fever, and other sickness. We think their fears ungrounded, as from all we can learn, there is not a case of Yellow Fever in the Parish, and other diseases are no more prevalent than usual at this season of the year. We are certainly blessed, in this respect, to a greater extent than most of our sister parishes. While all around us are scourged with epidemics, we are entirely free from every thing of the kind.

We see that our parish boarding house is being repaired and fitted up for the comfort and convenience of the those who may see proper to patronize the establishment. We would not recommend this establishment very highly, though such of our citizens who wish to enjoy unmolested privacy, at cheap rates, can be accommodated at this house, by fighting their way in. Meals served up in private rooms, without extra charge.

Some infernal Know-Nothing, or some one else has been in our sanctum and mislaid a sheet of foolscap, which was covered over with the witty sayings of one of the wittiest gentlemen in our parish. When he has read it, and showed the same to all of his friends, we wish he would return it, so that we may read it ourselves. We did intend to publish these witticisms of our friend; but they will have become stale before they are returned, or the author can furnish us another copy.

PRIVILEGED MEMBERS.—The State of Maine is responsible for the following:

A gentleman on a visit to Washington one day very coolly opened the door of the Senate chamber, and was about to pass in when the door-keeper asked—

"Are you a privileged member?"

"What do you mean by that?" asked the stranger.

The reply was—

"A Governor, an ex-Member of Congress or a Foreign Minister."

The stranger replied that he was a Minister.

"From what court or country if you please?" asked the official.

Very gravely pointing up—

"From Heaven! Sir."

To this the door-keeper waggishly remarked—

"This Government at present holds no intercourse with that foreign power!"

CROPS IN TENNESSEE.—A letter from Syracuse Mills, Tennessee, says:

"Wheat is so abundant that it is selling at 50 cents a bushel. Corn which during the past winter and spring sold for \$1, will soon be down to 20 cents; it is now past being affected by the drought. This is the place to live if you would live cheap; good board is only \$1 per week; beef sells at 2 cents per pound; pork and other things in about the same proportion, as compared with prices at the East. But it is a money-making business to raise them at the above prices—everything grows so free and fast. The luxuriance of vegetation almost surpasses belief; corn in the bottom land is at least twelve feet high and still growing."

NOT AN EXPORTING STATE.—The Albany Atlas, alluding to the report that the Boston folks talk of raising a fund of \$60,000 to send emigrants west to christianize Kansas says:

"We can well see that the expenditure of half that money might utterly bankrupt Massachusetts in Christianity, without elevating Kansas to the standard of respectable Paganism. In the matter of Christianity we do not believe that Massachusetts has yet arrived at the condition of an exporting State."

An Ohio paper, recording and accident to an individual, speaks of him as "a young man between 7 and 8 years of age." Babyhood and boyhood, we suppose are obsolete forms in that region.

W. C. Bryant, the poet, in writing from the East, says that the Mahomedans are fast becoming Europeanized. They are becoming careless of the marriage vow, get drunk, beat their wives, bribe their children, associate with infidels, and in fact are getting to be almost like the Christians.

THE UNION.—To the South the Union is a political blessing; to the North it is both a political and a pecuniary blessing; to both it should be a social blessing. Both sections should cherish it, and the North most. The story of the boy that killed the goose that laid the golden egg every day, that he might get all the eggs at once, was a fable; but the Northern man who could promote separation by any course of wrong to the South would convert that fable into history—his own history; and commit a folly, in a mere profit and loss point of view, of which there is no precedent except in fable. [BENTON'S Thirty Years View.]