The Houma Ceres.

E. W. BLAKE & CO.

INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS—NEUTRAL IN NONE.

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

HOUMA:

THURSDAY, October 25, 1855.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—We have been requested to state that the people of the parish of Terrebonne are invited to meet at the Court House in Houma, on Saturday, the 28th inst., to listen to addresses, on the politics of the day, by Messrs. J. C. BEATTY, J. M. PRITCHARD, LOUIS BUSH, and J. J. ROMAN.

Canal and Shell Road.

We notice that the question of forming a "Canal and Shell Road Company," for the purpose of improving the Terrebonne Canal, and constructing a Shell Road between Houma and Thibodaux, is exciting considerable interest in the minds of the people. A writer in the Thibodaux Minerva, of Saturday last, goes into details as to the advantages arising from the enterprise, and shows, conclusively, we think, that it would be one of the most "used and useful" "works of the kind in all Louisiana," and "ever a profitable investment to the stockholders." This question is of momentous importance to the citizens of the Parish, and especially the planters below the railroad, as it will give them "a certain means of getting their crops to New Orleans at any time they choose to forward them," besides, it will be to the stockholders an instant source of revenue. The scheme, according to the writer in the Minerva, is to form a company with seventy-five or one hundred thousand dollars stock, for the purpose of improving the navigation of the Terrebonne, and building upon its banks a Shell-Road. It is proposed that the latter be constructed from the revenues arising from the former, and it is contended that at the same time the road is being built, the canal will pay not only the expenses of its construction, but yield a very handsome profit to the stockholders, on the money already invested. Thus you would not only be receiving a profit on your investment, but constructing, without further outlay, a work that would yield an enormous per cent., of itself, besides being "an ornament to the parish," and adding value to your property.

What say our citizens to this measure? Are they ready for the question? Or are you going to continue trudging through mud, hub deep, with half a load, when you can have a thoroughfare through which you will, at all times, be accessible to market? We believe that this thing of a Shell Road will be carried out, sometime, and we can see no plausible reason for delay. It is useless to say that the money is not at command, or that you are afraid of the investment. We know there are planters in our parish who are able to subscribe ten or fifteen thousand dollars to these improvements, without feeling any inconvenience, and we believe them to be men of too good sense not to see that it is one of the best investments they can make. We would like to hear from some of our planters in regard to this matter.

☞ Jack Frost took us by surprise, this morning. The fences pavements and house-tops were clothed in a mantle of the purest white. This is the first time we have had a visit from Jack, since early spring. To some he is a welcome visitor—other wish he had remained in the North for a little longer.

☞ The Thibodaux Minerva notices the arrival; in that place, of Hong Couchang, a distinguished Japanese, late from Jeddo, via San Francisco. Mr. Couchang's mission to the United States is to establish the order of the "Celestial Doorhybees of Jeddo."

☞ We are pleased to see one good effect arising from the change of weather. The *musketeers*, heretofore "too numerous to mention," have gone to 'that undiscovered country from whose bourn,' we hope they will not shortly return; and we, who have a deep-rooted and abiding hatred for the practice of presenting *bills*, can now rest quietly, at least for a few days."

☞ We hear of no rolling having been commenced in our parish as yet, though we learn that a goodly number of our planters would be ready, if the cane was ripe enough. Within the next two weeks we learn that several in this neighborhood will commence rolling. The present cool weather will have a tendency to hasten a commencement, and we expect that in the course of a few days many of of our planters will be under full headway.

We learn, from reliable sources, that the sugar crop in this parish is not quite so good as was expected, and that instead of more, in will not make quite an average crop. We are not alone in this respect, however, for we see accounts from almost every section of the country, stating that the cane crop will fall far short of an average one,

COOL, DECIDEDLY!—We were yesterday morning, at an early hour, aroused from our peaceful slumbers, by a messenger from the *air*-line telegraph, announcing that the people north of 36° 30' had harvested an enormously abundant crop of—cold weather, and that an abundance of the same had been shipped South, for the benefit of the planters, to be used for the purpose of ripening cane, etc. We were not fully prepared for the reception of quite so large a shipment, and we would be pleased to have some one take the supply off our hands. Our northern friends have been too precipitate—they should have given us more timely notice of their intention to ship this enormous package. We have not yet received our new stove from Thibodaux, but we hope this forerunner of what is to come, will arouse our *agents* in that place, to a sense of their duty, (and our misery,) and that they will immediately send it along. "Our sufferings *is* intolerable."

We rather expect that we shall hear no more grumbling among our planters, about warm weather, and a want of frost, for these nights are cool enough, we should think, for any purpose.

IMPORTANT TO BACHELORS.—Josiah Perham, of New York, has started a novel enterprise, entitled "Perham's Great Matrimonial and $200,000 Gift Enterprise," which will be of incalculable advantage to Bachelors and Maidens, who wish to unite themselves in wedlock for fortune's sake. A ticket, which costs but one dollar, will entitle the holder to a share in the Gift Enterprise, besides admitting four persons to Perham's Opera House. The first prize of the concern is a well known "Marriageable Gentleman," with property valued at $50,000; the second, a beautiful, young, and mariageable lady, with property in her own right, valued at $25,000. It is to be understood that if the above named gentleman is apportioned to an unmarried lady, or the lady to an unmarried gentleman, and the parties on interview are mutually agreed, they shall be united in the "silken bonds," at the Crystal Palace, New York, as soon after the apportionment as convenient to the parties concerned. Should the lady or gentleman named in the list of gifts, fall to the portion of parties already married, or to a person of their own sex, or to one for whom they would have a natural repugnance, then the gentleman shall forfeit to the person to whom he is apportioned a farm valued at $10,000—and the lady, under like circumstances, shall forfeit $5,000 in cash, in consideration of their release from the claims arising from such apportionment.

Now here is a rare chance offered for a speculation. Agents are wanted for for every town in the country, and if an enterprising man would take the agency for Houma, we have no doubt he would do a thriving business.

☞ We notice that a bridge is about to be commenced, across the Bayou, in front of our town. It is built by the "Houma Bridge Company," and will be a credit to the city. Speaking of bridges, reminds us of the miserable concern across the canal, at the upper end of town. We have heard of some one saying that, if he knew who built it, he would try to have him indicted for attempted manslaughter. We heard of a cartman, together with his cart, mule, and load of corn, slipping off the concern into the canal. This break-neck concern should be attended to.

☞ There is a man down east so cross-eyed that he cas to wear his spectacles upside down.

☞ We would advise our readers, who have a taste for the useful, the beautiful, the comical, prosaical, or the poetical, to call in at the Drug Store and examine the large and splendid selection of books on hand. Mr. Brooks, the gentlemanly manager of the concern, has just received a fresh consignment of books, stationary, etc., and you can now purchase at that establishment, almost anything in that line, from a finely bound copy of Shakspeare down to a Dutch Almanac, and at a small per cent. on publishers' prices.

As for the toy line, he has an endless variety—enough to keep all the children in the parish quiet.

☞ He has also an extensive assortment of Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Perfumery, Patent Medicines, &c., &c., &c.

☞ We are placed again under obligations to some unknown friend for the September and October numbers of Putnam's Magazine. They come to the private address of our *Senior*, and though Putnam is always a welcome visitor, come how, and from whom, it may, justice to all concerned, prompts us to say to the generous *sender* that 'EUGENE W. BLAKE, Esq.,' though one of the editors of the Ceres, is a resident of Plaquemine. We shall envelope the numbers we have received, and send them to his address.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK, for October, is on our table. 'Godey' is the Ladies' favorite, and, we think, justly so. There is no publication in the country so well adapted to the wants of the ladies, as the 'Book,' and it should be upon the centre-table of every lady in the country.

ARTHUR'S HOME MAGAZINE, for October, is also upon our table. To say this is one one of the best and cheapest magazines in the country is not saying too much. We are partial to Arthur, as a writer, and his magazine possesses for us a charm, which we fail to find in any other. The Home Magazine is what it purports—it is a suitable fire-side companion—filled with good readable matter.—Terms, $2 a year.

☞ In setting up the advertisement for the sale of Mr. Boudreau's property, we failed to notice that the 25th of November occurred on Sunday, and as Mr. B. has no notion of having the Sabbath desecrated, on his premises, by so unholy an act as a public sale, he has requested us to change the day to Saturday, the 24th. The sale will take place on the premises, one mile from the Railroad Depot, and twe miles from Thibodaux, on the 24th of November.

From the N. O Picayune.

The Felon Father and his Child.

On the appeal docket of the Supreme Court of this State may be found the case a soldier named Wilson, who is at present under sentence of death for killing a fellow soldier. The offence was committed at Baton Rouge, where Wilson is now in prison, and his wife and two children have, since "the trial," occupied a rude tenement near the jail in which he has been confined. To this fond wife and to these trusting children the condemned felon has shown true touches of nature, while to all else he has been a stern, stubborn and unfeeling man.

What cared he for the world? The stain of blood was on his hands, and no washing could make them white to the world's censorious eye. Even to his own eye, perchance, there was a "damned spot" which would not "out;" but to the trustful eyes of his wife and children, his fetters were no disgrace, and his hand were not unclean. For these fond ones he had a place in his heart, a small, warm spot, over which the festering sores of sin had not entirely encroached. They could still love him, and he love them—all else in the world was a dark, dreary void.

During the long summer months, when the angel of death was a broad over this Southern land, the damp cell of the prisoner was rendered brightes for a few moments each day by the presence of his wife; and often and often at nightfall, his little daughter—a fond young thing of but four summer—would beg to be left with her father in the dark, and would sing to him a tiny song of hope as she lay beside him on his rude prison bed.

And there the farther and the child—the one so sinful and the other so sinless—talked to each other during night's dull watches, and those little songs which were sang by the innocent one grew dearer and dearer to the felon father. The child became the teacher of the man, and warmer grew the uncorrupted spot in the stubborn student's heart as the little teacher spoke to him in words of childish wisdom and sang her childish songs.

But the dark, damp cell was no fitting place for one so tender in years as was the felon's daughter, and at length a shadow fell upon her from the death-angel's wing and she could no longer visit her father in his damp, grated dungeon.

She sickened, and she died!

Oh, how anxiously from day to day the mother watched over the sick couch of her little one, and how anxiously, when morning came would the condemned felon-father inquire concerning the fate of his dear, fond, trusting child!

That hope which—

"——— to the sick shows rosy health
And riches to the poor,"

led him to believe that his child would recover, and again would visit him in his cell, and fill his ear with an instructive melody as from a better land.

His hope, however, proved deceptive, and at last the sad news came that his little innocent was no more. What his reflections then were we will leave to the imagination of our readers. Shut out from the world, and all but dead to every civil right, he had been deprived of the privilege of smoothing the pillow on which his daughter rested her dying head, and of cataching a last, fond glance from her trustful eye ere it closed forever on the things of time and sense. In the father the felon was forgotten, and the ties of nature were asserted by a dkep, convulsive agony of grief.

All now that the prisoner seemed to wish was an opportunity of seeing the body of his child before it was conveyed away forever to its narrow dwelling. But this, the stern jailor could not permit unless the corpse were itself brought to prison, that it might there be seen.

As he could see it no other way, the prisoner begged that it might thus be brought, and so it was—the dead on a visit to the living!

To the jailor's room the mother and a few kind friends accompanied the little innocent, on whom the seal of the skeleton archer had been affixed, and there awaited the entrance of the condemned felon—the husband and the father.

It was a solemn, fearful meeting—that mseting of the living and the dead.

The strong, stout man entered, with a load of gyves upon his limbs, and a double load of guilt and grief upon his heart; and the sound of his morning, and the sharp clank of his manacles, as his convulsed frame shook mingled in strange dissonance of sound.

There, too, stood the mother, like Rachell refusing to be comforted. But her grief was divided between her child that "was not," and her husband that *was*. And there were some of the little playmates of her who had ceased to be; and the kind friends above referred to, and the stern jailor. None were unmoved. Nature asserted hereself by the trickling pearls of sympathy. But on the face of the corpse a smile still rested. There was no grief there. Sorrow and sighing from it had passed away; and the glories of the spirit land had opened to its angel eyes in uncreated light.

The father stooped down and appeared to listen for the music of that voice which so late seemed sweeter to his ear than the song of birds, and he arose, as if a still small echo had stirred among the tendrils of his heart. Who shall say that there was not a silent, yet persuasive eloquence in those pale, cold lips, which warned a parent to lay hold of the anchor of eternal hepri'

After a time, the coffin lid was closed, and all but the father and the jailor started on their tearful mission to consign the little sleeper to its earthy rest—"ashes to ashes and dust to dust."

The felon father returned in sorrow to his cell; and the mother, to her lowly domicil, where, by the hearth, there was a vacant place. Both, in their dreams, are visited at times by a celestial presence which they call *their child!*

TWO LAWS FOR LADIES.—1. Before you bow to a lady in the street, permit her to decide whether you may do so or not, by at least a lock of recognition.

2 When your companion bows to a lady you should do the same. When a gentleman bows to a lady in your company, always to him in return.

Nothing is so ill understood in Amecica as these conventional laws of society so well understood and practised in Europe. Ladies complain that gentlymen pass them by in the streets unnoticed, when in fact the fault arises from their own breach of politeness. It is their duty to do the amiable first for it is a privilege which ladies enjoy of chosing their own associates or acquaintances. No gentleman likes to risk being cut in the street by a lady through a premature salute. Too many ladies, it would seem "don't know their trade of politeness." Meeting ladies in the street whom one has casually met in company, they seldom bow first; and when a gentleman ever departs from a rule of good breeding except occasionally by way of experiment his acquaintances do not multiply, but he probably stands charged with rudeness. The rule is plain. A lady must be civil to a gentleman in whose company she's casually brought; but a gentleman is not upon this to presume upon acquaintainship the first time he afterwards meets her in the street. If it be her will she gives some token of recognition, when the gentleman may bow; otherwise he must pass on and consider himself a stranger. No lady need hesitate to bow to a gentleman for he will promptly and politely answer, even if he has forgotten his fair saluter. None but a brute can do otherwise; should he pass on rudely his character is declared, and there is a cheap riddance. Politeness, or good breeding is like law "the reason of things."

CANDIDATES.

Election, Monday, Nov. 5th, 1855.

FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

☞ We are authorized to announce Col. L. E. DUMAS as a candidate for the office of DISTRICT ATTORNEY for the Fifth District Court of the State of Louisiana, at the ensuing November Election.

FOR SENATOR.

☞ We are authorized to announce Col. H. M. THIBODAUX, as a candidate for SENATOR, for the district composed of the parishes of Assumption, Lafourche and Terrebonne. Election in November.

FOR REPRESENTATIVE.

☞ We are authorized to announce C. C. J. B. ROBINSON, as a candidate for REPRESENTATIVE in the State Legislature, from the Parish of Terrebonne. Election First Monday in November.

FOR CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT.

MR. EDITOR: Please to announce in your paper that HENRY NEWELL, is a candidate for the office of Clerk of the Fifth District Court of Terrebonne, at the ensuing November election, and that he will be supported by his jy14-tc MANY FRIENDS.

☞ We are authorized to announce the name of EUGENE ENGERRAN as a candidate for the office of CLERK of the District Court of the Parish of Terrebonne, at the ensuing election.

FOR SHERIFF.

☞ We are authorized to announce the name of Mr. N. D. FUCHA, as a candidate for the office of SHERIFF, at the ensuing Novemhember election.

☞ We are authorized to announce the name of Mr AURIN BOURG as a candidate for the office of SHERIFF at the ensuing November election. jy16-tsep

ASSESSOR.

MR. EDITOR: Please announce Mr. LEO HYMEL as candidate for ASSESSOR for the Parish of Terrebonne, at the election to take place in November next, and thereby oblige jy16-tc MANY VOTERS.

MR. BLAKE: Please announce the name of L. S. CHAUVIN as a candidate for ASSESSOR at the ensuing election. VOX POPULI.

MR. EDITOR—Please announce the name of FELIX THIBODAUX, as a candidate for the office of Assessor at the ensuing November Election. MANY FRIENDS.

TO THE PUBLIC.

My position at this time, owing to my private business, constrains me to withdraw my name as a candidate for Assessor. Hoping this will be ample excuse to my numerous friends, and thanking them kindly for their consideration,

I am, with respect,
Their Ob't Servant,
W. S. CAMPBELL.

October 24, 1855.

FOR CONSTABLE.

☞ I FRANK GRINAGE will become a candidate for CONSTABLE of the Sixth Ward of the Parish of Terrebonne, he will receive the support of numerous friends. Election First Monday (5th day) of November. sept 20tde. THIRTEEN.

VENTE PAR LE SHERIF.

ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE—Paroisse Terrebonne.—Cour du 5ième District.

Succession de Louisiana B. Hart, décédé, V've Tobias Gibson.

Au nom et par l'autorité de Cour du 5ième District Judiciaire, séésant en et pour la Paroisse Terrebonne, il sera offert en vente publique, par Joseph A. Gagné, Sheriff dûement commissionné et qualifié en et pour la susdite paroisse, à la maison de Cour, à Houma,

Lundi, le 26 Novembre, 1855,

a 11 heures A. M., La propriété ci après decrite, savoir:

Une certain morceau de terre situé dans cette paroisse, à environ un mille au dessus de la ville de Houma, connu sous le nom de Hollywood, entre les Bayous Black et Terrebonne, borné sur Bayou Black, en haut par la terre de Wm. J. Minor, en et bas par ce lui de monsieur, et sur le Bayou Terrebonne rive droit, borné en haut par la terre de Rémi Bourgeois et d'Alexandre Liette, et en bas par celle de J. B. Dunn, et sur la rive gauche, borné en haut par la terre de J. B. Bergeron et en bas par celle du Dr. N. C. Wade, contenant environ quarante arpents ensemble avec toutes les bâtisses et améliorations y appartenant.

La dite propriété sera vendue aux termes et conditions suivant, savoir:

Le paiement se fera en quatres termes égaux, viz: Un quart payable le 10 Avril, 1857, 1858, 1859, et 1860. Les arrangements hypothécaires avec hypothèque spécial sur la propriété vendue, pour les fonds de Tobias Gibson. La première sera payable le 1er Janvier 1856, et les billets porteront intérêt à raison de huit pour cent l'an depuis cette date jusqu'à parfait payement.

E. O. GAGNE, Dep't Sheriff.

Houma, le 23 Octobre, 1855.—4t.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

STATE OF LOUISIANA—Parish of Terrebonne.—Fifth District Court.

Estate of Louisiana B. Hart, deceased, Wife of Tobias Gibson.

In the name and by the authority of the Fifth District Court, sitting in and for the parish of Terrebonne, there will be offered for sale at public auction, by J. A. Gagné, Sheriff, duly commissioned and qualified, in and for said Parish, on

Monday, the 26th day of November, 1855,

at the Court House door in Houma, at 11 o'clock, A. M., the following described property, to-wit:

A certain tract of land, or sugar plantation in the parish of Terrebonne, about one mile above Houma, known as the Hollywood Plantation, between the Bayous Black and Terrebonne and on the East bank of the Bayou Terrebonne, bounded on the Bayou Black above by land of Wm. J. Minor, and below by land of Wm J Minor, and on the Bayou Terrebonne, bounded on the right bank, above by land of Rémi Bourgeois and Alexandre Liaette, and below by land of J. B. Dunn, and on the East bank, above by land of J. B. Bergeron, and below by land of Dr. N. C. Wade—with all the buildings and improvements thereon or thereunto belonging.

☞ TERMS.—The price payable by fourths, one fourth on the 10th of April, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860. Purchasers to give their notes to the order of Tobias Gibson, secured by a special mortgage on the property sold. The property to be delivered on the 1st day of January, 1856, and the notes to bear eight per cent per annum interest from that time until paid.

E. O. GAGNE, Deputy sheriff.

Houma, October 25, 1855.tds.

BAYOU BLACK PACKET!

THE New Steamer, T. S. ARCHER, will commence her regular trips about the 25th inst., and will continue to run from Tigerville to the Upper Waters of Bayou Black, throughout the entire season. Freights taken to and from the Opelousas Railroad, on the most satisfactory terms

For further particulars apply on board or to GEORGE L. LESTER, Houma. J. J. SHAFFER & CO.

October 18, 1855—13-tf

BI-SULPHATE OF LIME.

THE UNDERSIGNED having established a BI-STLPHATE OF LIME MANUFACTORY in the City of New Orleans, take pleasure in stating to the Planters generally, that they are prepared through the assistance of an experienced Chemist, to furnish a superior article. SMITH, McLEOD & CO.

☞ OFFICE—No. 45, Common Street, N. Orleans.

Thomas J. Hopper,

SURGEON DENTIST.

THIBODAUX, LA.

Practices his Profession in the Parishes of Terrebonne, Lafourche, and Assumption'ch jy18-y