The Houma Ceres.

E. W. BLAKE, Editor.

HOUMA:

THURSDAY, February 28, 1856.

☞ J. J. PEARCE, Esq., is our authorized Agent for the City of New Orleans.

☞ Read on our fourth page the poem entitled "Storm at Sea" from the pen of the late Dr. JOHN PRIRCE of this parish. It breathes forth the true sentiment of poetry.

☞ Our thanks are due the Hon. JOHN SLIDELL of the Senate, and the Hon GEORGE EUSTIS of the House of Representatives, for important public documents.

Spring Goods and Hardware.—See the advertisement of G. L. LESTER & Co. in another column. They are the successors of LESTER, DAUNIS & Co.—EDWIN GRINAGE, Esq., composing the Co.

Mr. LESTER has just returned from the city with a new and fresh supply of Spring Goods, Hardware, &c., suited to this market.

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Sale of Buggies, Sulkies, &c.—By reference to another column, it will be seen that A. BOURG, Sheriff, will offer for sale, at Auction, at the Court House, on Saturday morning next, a quantity of Buggies, Sulkies, Cabriolets, &c. Those desiring a bargain had better attend.

Sheriffalty of Orleans.—We learn from a telegraphic dispatch to the N. O. Picayune, that the Governor has nominated and the Senate confirmed John M. Bell, as Sheriff of the parish of Orleans, in the place of Joseph Hufty, removed.

☞ **Martinique** is informed that his communication was placed "on file" with strict injunction to our foreman to insert the same in our next issue. This was three weeks since. It seems that our compositor disregarded our orders, and in looking for his communication on our return, it was no where to be found. We presume that it shared the fate of all manuscripts when once set up in print, that is, scattered to the four winds. We have given strict orders to our foreman to be more particular hereafter.

☞ By our Plaquemine exchanges, it appears that Persimmon city came very near being burnt down. From the description of the origin of the fire, we have no doubt but that it was the diabolical deed of an incendiary.

We are pleased to see that the attempt to burn P. BROUSSARD out of a stable has proven abortive. Keep a sharp look out, POLITE; don't let them euchre you out of your present enterprise. When we Terrebonnians go up on a visit to Plaquemine, we want to have such a horse and buggy to cut a swell in, as PAULITE alone knows how to provide.

The fire broke out immediately in the rear of the Gazette office, and we have been informed that JENKINS made tracks to such fast music, that he escaped without a scorch

Our old friend Dr. Casadavant, however, was not quite so fortunate. Unable to render the relief which his goodness of heart would prompt him to do at the moment—the devouring elements soon spread their robes around his favorite steed—which was the pride of Plaquemine—and it pains us, when the reflection forces itself upon us, that in contemplating the fast nags of that place, we will have to think of the Doctor's, as one, which, though memory holds dear, &c. &c. &c.

80 MAIDEN LANE.
NEW YORK, 11th Feb., 1856.

Dear Sir: Will you be good enough to inform me as to the circulation of your weekly paper for my guide as to the best terms to submit for your approval touching the advertisement of my Pills and Ointment, as I am desirous of making a contract satisfactory to us both.

An early answer will greatly oblige
THOMAS HOLLOWDAY.

Whatever contract we may determine upon wherein the principle of "quid pro quo" is recognised, we are ready to enter into. The circulation of our paper, (minus the list of non-paying subscribers, which is by no means meagre,) is 875. We are yet in our infancy, and well pleased with our circulation just now. In addition to our regular circulation, you may easily compute that the CERES is read by at least from six to seven hundred persons. Many of our citizens who are not actual subscribers, because of difference of political opinion, and a thousand and one other reasons, which it is unnecessary to enumerate—are, nevertheless, regular readers of our paper, and as a general thing they are the most solicitous in obtaining a copy, even before subscribers themselves have an opportunity of seeing it. Do not understand us as electioneering for your advertisement, because to use the language of truth and candor, we are not over solicitous whether we obtain it or not. If you send it, however, we will state that our paper circulates in four different parishes—Iberville, heading the list; and as regards numbers, Terrebonne next, then Lafourche, Assumption, Baton Rouge, &c.

ELECTION RETURNS.

The following are the official returns of the election for Recorder, which came off on Monday the 25th inst.:

1st Ward—A. J. Delaporte	26		
" J. E. Dunn	10	D's. maj.	16
2d Ward—Delaporte	16		
" Dunn	5	"	11
3d Ward—Delaporte	12	"	13
4th Ward—Delaporte	32		
" Dunn	8	"	24
5th Ward—Delaporte	15		
" Dunn	4	"	11
6th Ward—Delaporte	55		
" Dunn	39	"	16
7th Ward—Delaporte	40		
" Dunn	5	"	35
8th Ward—Delaporte	23		
" Dunn	16	"	7
9th Ward—Delaporte	14		
" Dunn	21	Dunn m.	7
10th Ward—Delaporte	29		
" Dunn	7	D's. maj.	22
11th Ward—Delaporte	3		
" Dunn	18	Dunn m	15
12th Ward—Delaporte	31		
" Dunn	16	D's. maj.	15
13th Ward—Delaporte	17		
" Dunn	21	Dunn m.	4
Total vote	491		
Delaporte received	317	vo'es.	
Dunn "	174	"	
Delaporte's maj.	143		

☞ March being near at hand, and taking it for granted that our subscribers have an extra V more than they need, we have concluded to avail ourselves of the kind offer of E. O. GAGNE, Esq., collector, to present through him our bills for subscription, now that he is about making a tour through the Parish. We trust that those kindly disposed towards us, will give us a tangible demonstration of their tender feeling, by receiving Mr. G. with a kind greeting, and dismissing him with the small amount of their subscription. To our subscribers individually, this is but a trifling affair, but with us when taken in the aggregate, forms quite a considerable sum.

We have likewise constituted Mr. GAGNE our agent to solicit subscribers.

A Word to the Reader.

It is now some months since we have entered upon the publication of the *Ceres*. During that time, owing to a want of knowledge on our part of the printing business, we have had more or less difficulties to contend with. Causes have arisen, over which we could have no control, which have caused us to be somewhat irregular in our issues. In extenuation of the charge of negligence which has been urged against us, and which has been spread far and wide, we urge simply that we were entirely dependent upon our compositor, and his neglect of duty has fallen more heavily upon us, than it possibly could upon you.

Our thanks are due to our subscribers for the forbearance which they have shown us, under these trying difficulties which seemed to beset us in every direction. For the last six weeks the voice of public clamor seems however to be hushed. To make doubly sure the regular appearance of our paper in future, we have associated in interest with us a compositor whom we know well, and who in every respect is competent and well qualified, and perfectly *au fait* at his business. This gentleman is Mr. W. R. HAYNES, whom it affords us much pleasure in recommending to you. Mr. H. will henceforth be the foreman of the office and local editor of the paper.

The intimation which we threw out to our readers some weeks since, of our intention of locating in Houma, circumstances which still exist, forces us to forego. We will yet appear as the editor of this paper and continue to direct its tone and character.

The Irregularity of our Mails.

We do not pretend to account for the irregularities of our mails nor to attach blame to any one, but we would like a solution of the mystery attending the non-delivery of our mails on the days that they are due. Some may be indifferent on this score, but we assure the heads of the Post Office department, officials, mail contractors *et alii*, that this state of things is becoming entirely intolerable. If we are to have but two mails a week, then in the name of common justice, let us have them regularly, and do not for the sake of your inefficiency in business and criminal neglect of duty, submit us to such severe torture, remaining secluded from the world, without the possibility of knowing what is going on therein. If it were not that Berger's Express brings down occasionally a city paper, we would betray such gross ignorance of what is transpiring beyond the limits of our own immediate neighborhood, that the world would soon take us for a community of regular Rip Van Winkles.

We trust that public attention will be directed to the present state of affairs, in order to remedy the now existing evils, and to provide additional facilities for obtaining a daily mail, which, in view of the Railroad and the Houma Expresses, may be easily achieved.

To Sugar Planters.—The *Picayane* says that a very useful machine is offered to planters who make their own cotton for plantation use by the proprietors of the eagle cotton gin manufactory. It is a hand-gin of eighteen saws, adapted for driving by cranks on the saw cylinder shaft, and capable of being made to clean from 150 to 450 pounds of cotton a day. It is very cheap. W. L. Cushing, 57 St. Charles street, N. O., is the agent for them.

Chief Justice Taney.—The whole country, says the Union, will rejoice to learn that the venerable Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States has so far recovered from his late severe and protracted illness as to be able to resume his high official duties.

Steamboat boiler explosion.

LOSS OF LIFE!

On the 21st inst. the boilers of the steamboat Sarah, Capt. Sterling, exploded at the mouth of the Trinity river. Capt. Sterling was missing, and several of those saved were severely wounded, one having his leg broken. It is feared, too, that yet others may have lost their lives, but full particulars are not to be obtained. The boat is a complete wreck, sunk to her hurricane deck.

The Hardships of Winter.—A Nebraska cotemporary indulges in about half a column of most tearful plaint on the unprecedented severity of the winter, and the enormous price of whiskey. He quotes the thermometer at 38 degrees below zero, *and whiskey at three dollars a gallon?*

[For the Houma Ceres.

Roads and Navigation on the Bayou Terrebonne.

MR. EDITOR:—Having seen in a back number of the Houma Ceres, an article on the propriety of constructing a SHELL ROAD from Thibodaux to Houma, and also for opening the Canal between these two points as a work of vital importance, allow me through the medium of your widely circulated paper to bring this impotant subject to the door of every farmer on the Bayou Terrebonne.

During the summer of 1855, we had salt-water within 16 miles of Houma, and five miles above the termination of salt water, the tide rose six inches for about four months, bringing tide water within eleven miles of Houma.

This is frequently the case of a dry season.

Now if the Terrebonne was dug out, say fifteen miles below Houma, up to the Canal—this would bring tide-water to Houma, and we would have a navigation the year round. If tide-water comes within eleven miles of Houma—which it undoubtedly does—would not the digging of the Terrebonne, three feet deeper than it now is, accomplish the object? Thus, with a Shell Road from Thibodaux to Houma and a good navigation from Houma to the Sea-shore, we can all see the great advantage to be derived from such a work.

But I must leave the subject to abler hands.

LOWER TERREBONNE.

EXTRAORDINARY LUCK.—A friend of ours down the street, who had three whole tickets in the last Havanah lottery, had the astonishing good fortune to draw three prizes, one of $60,000, one of $400, and one of $200. We call that a streak of luck. The money was paid to him yesterday, and could not have fallen into better hands.—[*Picayune.*

According to the old *saw*, "a fool for luck."

ELECTION.—Governor Wickliffe has issued a proclamation, directing an election to fill the vacancy in representation of the parish of St. Helena, caused by a resolution passed by the House of Representatives.

REWARD OF $300.—Gov. Wickliffe has issued a proclamation offering a reward of $300 for the apprehension of Wm. Kosser, charged with the murder of Thos. Magness, in the parish of Winn, on the 26th of December last.

SALE OF NEGROES.—*High prices.*—The Lake providence Herald, of the 16th inst., says:

At the sale of Gen. L. J. Polk's negroes at auction, on yesterday, by Wm L. Knox, sheriff and auctioneer, negro men ranged from $1,450 to $1,635; women and girls from $1,350 to $1,550; children in proportion—all cash. Such a sale we venture to say has never been equalled in the Stateof Louisiana.

RUNNING IT INTO THE SNOW.—We have often heard of running things into the ground, but never, until now, of running a locomotive into the snow. On the 14th ultimo the train of cars on the Vermont Western railroad, while near the town of Bennington, ran into a huge snow bank, locomotive and all, and with such force as to cause a general mingling of passengers, frieght, and baggage. Fortunately, no lives were lost or bones broken.

☞ An exchange paper, in noticing the present of a silver cup to a cotemporary, says: "He needs no cup. He can drink from any vessel that contains liquor—whether the neck of a bottle, the mouth of a demijohn, the spile of a keg or the bung of a barrel."

☞ The Chicago Democrat says large numbers of men are drilling nightly in different parts of the city, generally in out-of-the-way places and unfrequented streets; and it is informed they are Irish secret military associations, destined for the invasion of Canada.

☞ A notice has been given in the New York Senate of a bill "to incorporate the Pure Milk Company of the city of New York." The impure milk men manage to get along well enough, with the aid of chalk and water, without an act of incorporation.

POPULATION OF NATCHEZ.—According to the census just taken, the population of Natchez is 6098—of which number 3707 are white persons, 302 free colored, and 2089 slaves.

"*The House Committees.*—On the 7th inst., a resolution was passed by the United States House of Representatives authorizing the Speaker to appoint the standing committees. So the hope entertained by some that the House would elect the committees by ballot, and thereby defeat the purpose of the Black Republicans of having their Speaker appoint a majority of their party on each committee, has vanished, and we may expect to see the business of the House almost exclusively under the control of that party."

☞ The Atlanta Intelligencer says that the down passenger train on the Georgia Railroad ran off two miles below Stone Mountain on the 16th inst., killing a dozen beeves and injuring—not seriously—five or six passengers.

Education.

This is a subject that deserves the attention of every one, and more especially is it associated with the interests of this community. The interest this important subject deserves, has too long slumbered beneath the all-absorbing propensity, to accumulate the almighty dollar, instead of storing the minds of their offspring, with useful knowledge, so essential to insure their future welfare and happiness. And while these propensities and feelings predominate in the breast of the parent, so long will the rising generation remain neglected in the culture of their mental and moral capacities. We contend no small responsibility rests with those parents who are rearing sons and daughters, that will soon be called upon to act their part in the great drama of life. Soon, very soon, will the destinies of our beloved country be confided to their care, and as such will eventually be the case, it requires no further proof, to convince the intelligent and thinking mind, of the necessity of education, and directing their minds in a proper channel, so as to enable them honorably to fill whatever station in life, destiny may throw them. A proper education not only fosters Domestic happiness, but smooths the rough and uneven path of life, and assists us to yield more submissively to the inimitable dispensation of a kind Providence, like the diamond when taken from its native bed; it exhibits to the eye only a rough mass and plain exterior, but when the hand of art has been brought to bear in removing this rough and rugged coat, it shines pervertly with all the sparkling lustre and brilliancy of the rainbow as it is with education. When the young mind has been fairly developed by a proper and careful education, it unfolds the noblest traits of character, and calls forth these latent powers of mind and talent, that might otherwise have slumbered in obscurity forever. If this be true, the necessity of universal education is very great, and should elict our warmest support and influence.

Morehouse Advocate.

An Extensive Line of Railway.—The Portland State of Maine says that by the end of this year there will be a continuous line of railway from the Atlantic Ocean at Portland to Iowa City, a distance of 1,436 miles, making, it says, the most magnificent line of railway on the globe.

☞ An ignorant candidate for medical honors, having thrown himself almost into fever from his incapability of answering the questions, was asked by one of the consers how he would sweat a patient for the rheumatism. "I would send him here to be examined."

Married—On Thursday, 21st February, by the Rev. Mr. CHAMBERLIN, **Henry Newell, Esqr,** to **Miss Emily Sample**—both of this parish.

We availed ourselves of the kind invitation of our friend to witness the imposing ceremony of the consummation of his nuptial vows. The bride by his side was as beautiful as she was modest. Hers was a true woman's love which she was giving in exchange for the fond devotion which the groom had always borne her. Happy indeed is he, the possessor of such a priceless gem.

Let the light imparted from a woman's eye, cheer him on to noble deeds of virtue in the accomplishment of his destiny—let her heart be to him richer than the rarest gem of earth. Her love is a holy light borrowed from on high, that burns brighter and brighter forever. Years cannot dim its noon day radiance, nor even falsehood quench its rays. Like the star of Bethelehem, which was given in olden time to "Isreal's shepherds," it marshals with steady flame the erring soul of man to Heaven.

New Advertisements.

Notice.

COMMENCING with this number, the undersigned have entered in a co partnership for the purpose of publishing the "Houma Ceres," under the style and firm of BLAKE & HAYNES.

feb-28 E. W. BLAKE,
W. R. HAYNES.

LOST.

ON or about the 16th inst. a POCKET BOOK, containing two hand notes and $5 50. One note dated in December, 1855, for the sum of $180, drawn by A. Woods and Crowell, in favor of Thomas Singleton—and the other note dated 14th February, 1856, for the sum of $162 21, drawn by Benj. F. Schmitt, also in favor of Thomas Singleton—both notes due in March next, 1856.

The public are hereby notified not to trade for the above notes, as the payment thereof has been stopped.

feb28 4t THOMAS SINGLETON.

Perdu.

VERS le 16 de ce mois une PORTE-FEUILLE, contenant deux billets et $5 50. Un des billets date au mois de Decembre, 1855, pour la somme de cent quatrevingt piastres, signe par A. Woods et Crowell en faveur de Thomas Singleton. L'autre billet date 14 Fevrier, 1856, pour la somme de cent soixante deux piastres et 21 cents, signe par Benj. F. Schmitt en faveur de Thomas Singleton—lesquels billets sont dues au mois de Mars prohain, 1856.

Avis est par la presente donne a toutes personnes de ne pas negocier pour les dits billets, comme le paiement a ete arrete. [feb28-4t] THOS. SINGLETON,

New Advertisements.

For Sale,

ON SATURDAY 1ST DAY OF MARCH, at the Court House in Houma—
One splendid family CABRIOLET,
Two BUGGIES;
SULKIES, &c. &c.

feb28-1t A. BOURG, Sheriff.

SPRING GOODS.

GEO. L. LESTER.....EDWIN GRINAGE.

G. L. LESTER & CO.,
Dealers in Fancy and Staple Dry Goods,
HARDWARE, &C.,

Respectfully inform the citizens of this parish that they have just received from the city of New Orleans, a fresh and complete assortment of

Fancy, Spring and Summer Goods,

Consisting of
Ready made Clothing,
Boots & Shoes;

Besides a fine supply of **Wines and Liquors** of the choicest brands; and in fact, all that can be desired in this market. ☞ They propose to sell as CHEAP, and on such accommodating terms, as cannot fail to suit purchasers.

All that is required to secure public patronage is to call and examine their stock, as it will speak for itself. feb28-tf

Lost or Mislaid,

THE ORIGINAL OF AN ACT OF SALE, dated 26th of February, 1831, registered in the Recorder's office of the parish of Terrebonne, 25th March, 1831, by which James & Stephen Bowie then of the parish of Lafourche, Louisiana, in consideration of $3900, sell and convey to Thomas Bernard, of Natchez, Mississippi, "A certain tract of land situated in the parish of Terrebonne, on Bayou Black, containing 760 acres, bounded above on the western side by lands of G G McKinney, above on the eastern side by lands of Isaac Thomas, and below on both sides by lands claimed by Beloni Blanchard; also the attestation of James Carson, Justice of the Peace for Adams County, Mississippi, that the said act was acknowledged and executed before him, and the certificate of Gerard H. Brandon, Governor of Mississippi, that the said Carson was a duly qualified officer, both of which are appended to said original act.

The finder or person in possession thereof will please deliver the same to the undersigned, of the parish of Terrebonne, present owner of said land, or to Louis Bush, his attorney, at Thibodaux, Lafourche.

feb28 4t EVARISTE PORCHE.

Perdu ou Egare,

L'ORIGINAL D'UN ACTE DE VENTE, daté le 20 Fevrier, 1831, et enrégistré au bureau des alienations de la paroisse Terrebonne le 25 Mars, 1831, par lequel James et Stephen Bowie, de la paroisse, Lafourche, Louisiane, en considération de $3900, vendent et livrent à Thomas Bernard, de Natchez, Mississippi, un certain morceau de terre situé en la paroisse Terrebonne sur le bayou Black, contenant 760 acres, borné en haut sur le coté Ouest par des terres de G G McKinney, en haut sur le coté Est par des terres d'Isaac Thomas, et en bas sur les deux cotés par des terres réclamées par Beloni Blanchard; aussi l'attestation de James Carson, Juge de Paix du comté d'Adams, Mississippi, que le dit acte avait été executé et octroyé par devant lui, et le certificat de Gerard B Brandon, Gouverneur du Mississippi, à l'effet que le dit Carson était un officier dument qualifié, lesquels certificat et attestation sont annexés au dit acte.

Les personnes entre le mains desquelles ces pieces se trouvent sont priées de les remettre au soussigné, à Terrebonne, propriétaire actuel de la dite terre, ou à Louis Bush, son avocat à Thibodaux, Lafourche.

feb28-4t EVARISTE PORCHE,

E. W. Blake,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
PLAQUEMINE, LA.,

WILL practice in the courts of the 6th Judicial district, comprising the parishes of Iberville, East and West Baton Rouge—and in the Supreme and Federal Courts in New Orleans. feb28

STATE OF LOUISIANA, FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT—Parish of Terrebonne.

Hugh Daspit,
vs. } No. 1497.
Felix Daspit.

By virtue of a writ of fi. fa. emanating from the above mentioned Court, sitting in and for the said Parish, directed to the undersigned, Sheriff, in the above entitled and numbered suit, there will be offered for sale at public auction, on *Saturday the 5th day of April*, 1856, between 11 o'clock A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M., the following described property, to-wit:

The undivided third of a certain Tract of land situated on the left bank of Bayou Little Caillou, in said Parish of Terrebonne, bounded above by land of F. Michel and below by that of J. B. Duplantier, which tract is composed of a part of No. 13 and 14; and the undivided third of another tract of land also situated in this Parish on the left Bank of Bayou Little Caillou, measuring two arpents front with the depth called for by the titles and surveys, bounded above by land of Eugène Guédry, and below by land of Jules Lagarde, together with all the Improvements thereon.

Said sale will be made to satisfy the principal, interest and cost of suit, in the above entitled and numbered cause.

Terms—CASH.

A. BOURG, Sheriff.

Parish of Terrebonne, Feb. 28, 1856.

ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE—COUR DU CINQUIEME DISTRICT JUDICIAIRE—Paroisse Terrebonne.

Hugh Daspit,
vs. } No. 1497.
Felix Daspit.

En vertu d'un writ de fi. fa. emané de la Cour sous-dite, siegeant dans et pour la Paroisse Terrebonne, adressé au Shérif soussigné dans la cause ci-dessus intitulée et numérotée, il sera offert en vente publique, à la maison de cour à Houma, *Samedi le 5ème jour d'Avril*, 1856, entre 11 heures A. M. et 4 heures P. M. la propriété ci-après décrite, savoir:

Le tiers indivis d'un certain morceau de terre situé sur la rive gauche du Bayou Petit Callou, dans la Paroisse Terrebonne, borné en haut par la terre de F. Michel, et en bas par celle de J. B. Duplantier, le dit morceau de terre étant composé d'une partie des Nos. 13 et 14.

Et le tiers indivis d'un autre certain morceau de terre, aussi situé dans cette paroisse, sur la rive gauche de Bayou Petit Caillou, mesurant deux arpents de face, par la profondeur que porte les titres et les arpentages, borné en haut par la terre de Eugène Guédry, et en bas par la terre de Jules Lagarde, ensemble avec toutes les ameliorations qui s'y trouvent.

La dite vente sera faite pour satisfaire à la somme principale, l'intérêt et les frais de procès dans l'affaire ci-dessus intitulée et numerotée. *Termes*—COMPTANT.

A. BOURG, Shérif.

Paroisse Terrebonne ce 28 Fev., 1856.

DR. T. E. VICK,

OFFERS HIS PROFESSIONAL services to the citizens of the Parish of Terrebonne. Office in Houma. [s2-1y.