

# THE DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF.

Official Journal of the State of Louisiana, Parish of Ascension and Town of Donaldsonville.

VOLUME IV.

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NUMBER 2.

## Donaldsonville Chief.

Amicus Humani Generis.

A Wide-Awake Home Newspaper,

Published Every Saturday, at

Donaldsonville, Ascension Parish, La.,

—BY—

LINDEN E. BENTLEY,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Communications should be addressed to  
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## OUR TEXAS LETTER.

Emigration Pouring in—Texas in 1880—  
Political Notes, etc., etc.

HOUSTON, TEXAS,  
September 11th, 1874.

MR. EDITOR.

That the influx of people here this winter will be tremendous, there can be no doubt. In all probability not less than a quarter of a million will, within the next eight months, be added to the population of Texas. They are coming from South Carolina to escape the ruin which broods over that State; they are coming from Georgia and Alabama to find virgin lands and new fields for enterprise; they are coming from Mississippi, because in all the fertile regions of that State, the land is already overworked, and outside of those regions is too barren to be cultivated; they are coming from Louisiana that they may leave a State burdened with a debt of more than fifteen per cent of her taxable values and which she can never pay, and will make their homes in one whose taxes need not be one-sixth of those they are escaping. Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia will send their quota, as they always have in all western movements. Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan were settled thirty or forty years ago, by the restless population of the East which sought successfully to better its condition there. The new generation has outgrown the contentment of the first settlers. The terrible five months of winter, in which there is neither snow enough for sleighing, nor five days of dry weather enough to admit of the use of wheeled vehicles; in which the temperature changes some times forty degrees in two hours; in which every fifth man you meet has a growing catarrh and every other man a cold in the head; in which all farm operations are suspended, because impossible—this winter they do not like and are going to leave it. They will also escape the intense heats of summer, where the thermometer goes up to 105 in the shade. The flow of population from these States will be even larger than from the Southern States, because with their desire to better their condition they couple enterprise and push and vim, which are too much wanting in our more easy going people of the South. They are coming to show Texans how to produce wheat on every acre of their territory. They are coming to make Texas the garden and truck farm of America. New York and New England are following the contagious example, and they are the people who know what the Selado and the San Marcos, and the Comal and San Antonio rivers were made for; who will utilize rivers, which flow in an unvarying volume, and with thousand horse power current from beneath the hills, and which descend by damming gradients for two hundred miles to the sea; and who know the value of a sheep country, where the finest wools can be grown at a cost of seven cents a pound. These people have been compelled to utilize their dimes, their half dimes and their copper cents, and to attach a value to them, and they will teach Texans that there are five times more fortunes wasted here by small heedlessness and minor extravagances, than are made, many as have been made. And overmarching the emigration from the Eastern States of America, will come the people of Germany and Great Britain, to whom Texas is indeed a land of promise and reward. How many people are in Texas now? In 1870 the census gave nearly a million, but the census was taken with great indifference. No man, for the pay allowed, could afford to do the work. No man did the work of a single county. It was largely made up of guesses or necessarily of nothing. Texas had then without doubt over a million of people. That was four years ago. She has to-day a million and a half. Should the increase this year be a quarter of a million, as all believe, and should this increase be kept up till 1880 Texas will have three millions, or one sixteenth of the whole population of the country.

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In answer to many inquiries I will say that the above enterprise is in no way connected with the Wagley and Lockart Distribution of this city.

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It is significant that, while carefully avoiding any public expression of opinion on the subject, numbers of the leaders of the League party condemn privately the commission of the Coshatta butchery.

A Mrs. Skippon attempted to cowhide a clerk in the Treasury Department, at Washington, last week. The friends of the persecuted scribe rallied to his aid, and the indignant female was compelled to skip on.

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In Caddo, Morehouse, Franklin, St. Mary, East Baton Rouge and several other parishes, the White Leaguers, flushed with the fleeting triumph of the New Orleans revolutionists, installed the Fusion candidates and McEnery appointees in the local offices. Indications would seem to point to a speedy undoing of all this work and reinstatement of the legal officers.

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THE TWO PARTIES--Which Shall We Trust?  
[From the Republic.]

The Republicans are in power and the Democrats are out. This is the sum and substance of the situation—as between the two organizations. There are differences, of course, as obvious as those between heaven and hell. And there are discontented elements in the camp of the one in power. Just here lies the strategy of the opposition. They have no chance as by themselves or on their own record. Whenever forced to do so they find themselves ignominiously defeated. Their only hope

lies in presumed discontent within the Republican camp. This they seek to foment by every possible trick. Like their Confederate allies of "lang syne," they are quite ready to strip the Union dead of their Federal uniform, and place the same on the backs of their own guerrillas, in order to enable the latter to arrange ambushes and surprises with more ease and safety.

What is to be guarded against is whether or not there is aught but treachery involved in Democratic pretenses of sympathy with those who claim that the Republican party is not sufficiently progressive to satisfy their views or the necessities of the country. As we take note of such discontent, it arises from causes far other than such as the Democracy can handle. The general drift of all the discussion on transportation, monopolies, and legislation, tariff and revenue, &c., &c.—the whole brood, in fact, of economic issues which have grown out of the new conditions consequent upon the rise and progress of a complex and scientific order of production and wealth-making—and of the remedies which are demanded to correct evils that arise from such conditions, are altogether of a different character from those which have shaped the views, traditions, and policy, or animate the present hopes of the Democratic party. It is said, sarcastically, of the American that "no people forget yesterday" so readily; but it is not possible that that half century of Democratic rule is obliterated from the average mind. The "Granger," the Farmer's Club," orators, the managers of cheap transportation associations, the would-be organizers of the working producers of the land, on issues such as we have named and indicated, do not surely expect to find support from a party which is obliged fundamentally to repudiate the idea of all national interference; which must accept the doctrine of *laissez faire*, or repudiate its own principles. Not a very difficult thing to do, we hear some sardonic reader exclaim. But epigrammatic rejoinder is not our present cue. We desire to point out the obvious fact that the Democratic polity precludes that party from any fair discussion of the issues under consideration. Its polity is shaped upon ideas born of communities living and thriving in circumstances altogether different from those which foster such a brood of legislative and administrative complexities as are involved in the politico-economic issues of our industrial and inventive civilization. The Greek cities and small States, with their simple and direct demands for and assumptions of sovereignty are the prototype. The Swiss cantons of to-day and the free cities of middle ages are the illustrati, while every middle aged Democrat in this country, who has any ideas beyond office and plunder, undoubtedly believes that the beneficial culmination of his political theory was found in the public character and primitive politics of the slaveholding and agricultural States at the zenith of their pride and place. Can the men who look for such changes in legislation as will practically assert the sovereignty of the people over the railroads, for instance, expect to find it in the rehabilitation of a party governed by such traditions? Is there any sensible man that does not believe that its triumph will be but a hindrance rather than a benefit? These questions answer themselves. Besides, the Democracy have made no pretense at discussing these matters. They have only criticised the Republicans for so doing.

Now, as to that party's position on these crowding issues. Who will assert that it is unfriendly? Most of the issues alluded to are new ones in the political arena. Many of them involve questions not heretofore brought into that domain. They can only claim admission or consideration upon the theory that progress of industrial machinery and the aggregation of power acquired through the control thereof create forces whose unrestricted exercise by individuals, personal or corporate, makes such individuals dangerous alike to citizen and State. The thoughtful man will at once say that it is the mark of wisdom to go slow in such directions. It is an almost unknown domain, which politicians and statesmen are asked to explore. The expedient thing to do in politics is to consider well the fundamental ideas and the following history of the several organizations, and support that one which has shown its readiness to accept, consider, and discuss all new questions, and to place in its platforms and actions that portion which commends itself as in the line of liberty, law, and progress. Will any candid person deny that the Republican party has not always stood ready to accept and sustain whatever so commends itself? A great party is not a school of doctrinaires, it is a practical compromise. It is not an academy to teach the philosophy of government, but an organization aiming to successfully embody in government and law the best average view of its members. That party organization is the most useful and sure to be longest lived which, within the scope of its avowed purposes, yet has the readiest ear for new demands, gives the freest opportunity for their expression, and welcomes most heartily those which commend themselves to the average political sense of the masses.

News Items.

Barnum's balloon bursted.  
Spain is about to send more troops to Cuba.  
Thiers is going to Italy for a two months' visit.  
The Republican majority in Maine was about 12,000.  
Carl Schurz indorses the People's Party in Missouri.  
The fires in the New Jersey forests have been subdued.  
The Cincinnati Industrial Exhibition is a grand success.  
A successful inter-State exposition is under way at Chicago.  
Gen. Custar confirms the discovery of gold in the Black Hills.  
Trouble between blacks and whites is reported at Demopolis, Alabama.  
Charles Vandervent, Grand Master of Odd Fellows, died in New York, on Tuesday.  
A Philadelphia man named Tozier killed his wife last Tuesday, and then committed suicide.  
Senator Brownlow of Tennessee is about to re-establish his old paper, the Knoxville Whig.  
Renewed victories over the Carlists are reported in Spain. The revolution seems nearly at an end.  
A New York forger named Meudelsohn committed suicide last Saturday, while in jail awaiting sentence.  
The International Law Association, which has been in session at Geneva, closed its proceedings on the 11th.  
President McMahon is making a tour of France, and is everywhere enthusiastically received by the people.  
Armstrong's Hotel, at Uxbridge, Canada, was destroyed by fire on the 15th. Three persons were killed and five seriously injured.  
New York and Jersey masons and bricklayers are working ten hours a day in consequence of the dull times. Employers are delighted.  
Ben Butler is a candidate for reelection to Congress. He opened the campaign with a rousing speech at Gloucester, last Saturday.  
A great strike of operatives in cotton mills at Bolton, England, has taken place. 13,000 laborers have participated in the movement.  
The Cuban chief, Calixto Garcia, has been captured by the Spaniards. He was seriously wounded in the head by a shot from one of his captors.  
The child-stealing fever has spread to Canada. Two Italians were arrested at Quebec, last week, charged with attempted abduction of a boy.  
President Grant or the King of Italy will probably be called upon to arbitrate between China and Japan in relation to the Formosa difficulty.  
A Boston burglar named Harley has been sentenced to fourteen years in the penitentiary, and has thirteen years of an old sentence to serve out also.  
The well known Cuban General Ryan, killed among the Virginian captives by the Spaniards, left to kinmen in Arkansas an estate valued at \$150,000.  
The United States court at Salt Lake City being locked out of the court-room, its sessions are being held at a tavern. Polygamists are debarred from serving as jurors.  
On the 15th, President Grant issued a proclamation commanding the insurgents against the Louisiana State Government to disperse and retire peacefully to their homes within five days.  
Marshal Bazaine has written a letter to the New York Herald defending his military reputation and thanking the English and American press for its impartiality in the treatment of his case.  
A terrible railroad accident occurred on the Great Eastern Railway, near Norwich, England, on the 11th. Two passenger trains collided, killing twenty persons outright and wounding fifty more.  
In Nebraska, the Democrats have nominated A. Tuxbury for Governor and J. W. Savage for Congress. The Convention was held at Omaha on the 10th inst., and was the largest ever held in the State.  
It is in consideration at Washington whether Louisiana shall be added to Gen. Sheridan's department or Gen. Terry be sent to take command at New Orleans. Gen. Terry ranks Gen. Emory.  
Hon. John S. Kerr, a member of the Tennessee Legislature and prominent before the Democratic State Convention as a candidate for Governor, fell dead of heart disease at his home in Memphis, Tuesday.  
The Postmaster General offers a reward of \$5000 for the arrest of parties concerned in the mail robbery at Gad's Hill, Mo., on the 31st of January last, and also \$3000 for the capture of the robbers of the San Antonio mail stage, in Texas, last April.  
A great decline in the cotton prospect is noticeable. The present percentage in the cotton States is thus reported by the Agricultural Department: Virginia, 98; North Carolina, 97; South Carolina, 86; Georgia, 77; Florida, 77; Alabama, 81; Mississippi, 71; Louisiana, 82; Texas, 61; Arkansas, 17; Tennessee, 15.

Laughing Gas.  
The ready money system—Dun, or be done.  
Self-made men are very apt to worship their maker.  
The hardest things to deal with—An old pack of cards.  
Nothing comes home to a man so much as an unsettled bill.  
If you see a policeman aim at a dog, try to get near the dog.  
No unfortunate trader looks so down in the mouth as a dentist.  
The highest compliment to a barber—He dyed and made no sign.  
Gravity is no more evidence of wisdom than a paper collar is of a shirt.  
Those who have tried it say that kissing is like a sewing machine, because it seems good.  
"Fred, how is your sweetheart?" "Pretty well, I guess; she says I needn't call any more."  
Bayard Taylor intimates that he found a deal to interest him in the Faroe Islands.  
They now say that Bozaris didn't "cheer his band" at all, but hid in a cornfield at the beginning of the fight.  
They have a minister in Mound City, Kansas, who attracts people to his prayer meetings by the music of a brass band.  
A man in San Francisco recently wrote a letter to another, asking him for his wife, without so much as enclosing a postage stamp.  
A young man in Frisco embezzled a diamond to pay his tailor bill. Tailors are at liberty to cut this out and send it to their customers.  
A Pennsylvania baby is said to have inherited the eyes and nose of his father, but the cheek of his uncle, who is an insurance agent.  
Teacher—"Peter, you are such a bad boy that you are not fit to sit in the company of good boys on the bench. Come up here and sit by me, sir."  
An Alabama editor winds up an editorial on the corn crop with the remark, "We have an exhibition in our sanctum a pair of magnificent ears."  
The reason why Sylvanus Cobb, Jr., confines himself to writing for the periodicals is because the legitimate function of a Cobb is to produce a cereal.  
Barnum has written to Chicago for a newspaper man reported to have lost \$4000. He would like to have him in a museum.  
A person was boasting that he was from a high family. "Yes," said a bystander, "I have seen some of the family so high that their feet could not touch the ground."  
A Western Postmaster writes to the Postmaster General that "hell will be full of country Postmasters before long if they do not get more pay than is allowed this office."  
A Kansas farmer solemnly declares that a grasshopper sat on the gate post and threateningly asked, "William Bryant, where is thunder in the balance of that cold meat?"  
There's a \$10,000 South Jersey heir-ess who has so many lovers sitting on the fence, waiting for her to come out nights, that she has given her entire fortune to endow a lunatic asylum.  
"I've got 'em," shouted a Mississippi boatman recently, when first the comet broke upon his vision. "I've had snakes before, and now the stars have got tails on 'em. I'm a dead man."  
Progression is the watchword of the hour, but in Missouri mothers hunt their disobedient children over the knee and strike on the same old spot that the Romans did three thousand years ago.  
Small, ragged, barefoot boy to galvus colored gent with a valise—"Say boss, shall I carry your satchel for you?" Colored gent to small boy—"No, go way dare! I see gittin' two bits for carryin' dis load myself."  
A Kentucky church has sent two lady missionaries to the Feejee Islands. This is very considerate. No doubt the cannibals will prefer this sort to the tough old gentlemen who are usually thrust upon that market.  
Women dress "to please the men," do they? Why, if the whole male genus were extinct, it wouldn't make a feather or furrow difference in the get-up of the dear creatures so long as there was a living chance of spitting some other woman.  
Deacon Gaudam flourishes in Lock Haven, N. Y. When the minister desires a collection taken up for the little heathen on India's corn strand, and says, "Deacon Gaudam, you pass the hat," he has to be careful how he places his comas.  
Here is a description of a mean church that has a moral in it: "After the old pastor died the deacons went about for a two-hundred-and-fifty-dollar minister, and you can get as much minister for that price as you can get palm trees out of a file.  
A Milwaukee writer is sovereign: Notes of the storm still come in. A visitor from Louisville was struck by the wind, and as he flew up Wisconsin street with his ears unburled, a gentleman remarked, "I know that the wind would fetch the circus tent."

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The Republicans are in power and the Democrats are out. This is the sum and substance of the situation—as between the two organizations. There are differences, of course, as obvious as those between heaven and hell. And there are discontented elements in the camp of the one in power. Just here lies the strategy of the opposition. They have no chance as by themselves or on their own record. Whenever forced to do so they find themselves ignominiously defeated. Their only hope

lies in presumed discontent within the Republican camp. This they seek to foment by every possible trick. Like their Confederate allies of "lang syne," they are quite ready to strip the Union dead of their Federal uniform, and place the same on the backs of their own guerrillas, in order to enable the latter to arrange ambushes and surprises with more ease and safety.

What is to be guarded against is whether or not there is aught but treachery involved in Democratic pretenses of sympathy with those who claim that the Republican party is not sufficiently progressive to satisfy their views or the necessities of the country. As we take note of such discontent, it arises from causes far other than such as the Democracy can handle. The general drift of all the discussion on transportation, monopolies, and legislation, tariff and revenue, &c., &c.—the whole brood, in fact, of economic issues which have grown out of the new conditions consequent upon the rise and progress of a complex and scientific order of production and wealth-making—and of the remedies which are demanded to correct evils that arise from such conditions, are altogether of a different character from those which have shaped the views, traditions, and policy, or animate the present hopes of the Democratic party. It is said, sarcastically, of the American that "no people forget yesterday" so readily; but it is not possible that that half century of Democratic rule is obliterated from the average mind. The "Granger," the Farmer's Club," orators, the managers of cheap transportation associations, the would-be organizers of the working producers of the land, on issues such as we have named and indicated, do not surely expect to find support from a party which is obliged fundamentally to repudiate the idea of all national interference; which must accept the doctrine of *laissez faire*, or repudiate its own principles. Not a very difficult thing to do, we hear some sardonic reader exclaim. But epigrammatic rejoinder is not our present cue. We desire to point out the obvious fact that the Democratic polity precludes that party from any fair discussion of the issues under consideration. Its polity is shaped upon ideas born of communities living and thriving in circumstances altogether different from those which foster such a brood of legislative and administrative complexities as are involved in the politico-economic issues of our industrial and inventive civilization. The Greek cities and small States, with their simple and direct demands for and assumptions of sovereignty are the prototype. The Swiss cantons of to-day and the free cities of middle ages are the illustrati, while every middle aged Democrat in this country, who has any ideas beyond office and plunder, undoubtedly believes that the beneficial culmination of his political theory was found in the public character and primitive politics of the slaveholding and agricultural States at the zenith of their pride and place. Can the men who look for such changes in legislation as will practically assert the sovereignty of the people over the railroads, for instance, expect to find it in the rehabilitation of a party governed by such traditions? Is there any sensible man that does not believe that its triumph will be but a hindrance rather than a benefit? These questions answer themselves. Besides, the Democracy have made no pretense at discussing these matters. They have only criticised the Republicans for so doing.

Now, as to that party's position on these crowding issues. Who will assert that it is unfriendly? Most of the issues alluded to are new ones in the political arena. Many of them involve questions not heretofore brought into that domain. They can only claim admission or consideration upon the theory that progress of industrial machinery and the aggregation of power acquired through the control thereof create forces whose unrestricted exercise by individuals, personal or corporate, makes such individuals dangerous alike to citizen and State. The thoughtful man will at once say that it is the mark of wisdom to go slow in such directions. It is an almost unknown domain, which politicians and statesmen are asked to explore. The expedient thing to do in politics is to consider well the fundamental ideas and the following history of the several organizations, and support that one which has shown its readiness to accept, consider, and discuss all new questions, and to place in its platforms and actions that portion which commends itself as in the line of liberty, law, and progress. Will any candid person deny that the Republican party has not always stood ready to accept and sustain whatever so commends itself? A great party is not a school of doctrinaires, it is a practical compromise. It is not an academy to teach the philosophy of government, but an organization aiming to successfully embody in government and law the best average view of its members. That party organization is the most useful and sure to be longest lived which, within the scope of its avowed purposes, yet has the readiest ear for new demands, gives the freest opportunity for their expression, and welcomes most heartily those which commend themselves to the average political sense of the masses.

News Items.

Barnum's balloon bursted.  
Spain is about to send more troops to Cuba.  
Thiers is going to Italy for a two months' visit.  
The Republican majority in Maine was about 12,000.  
Carl Schurz indorses the People's Party in Missouri.  
The fires in the New Jersey forests have been subdued.  
The Cincinnati Industrial Exhibition is a grand success.  
A successful inter-State exposition is under way at Chicago.  
Gen. Custar confirms the discovery of gold in the Black Hills.  
Trouble between blacks and whites is reported at Demopolis, Alabama.  
Charles Vandervent, Grand Master of Odd Fellows, died in New York, on Tuesday.  
A Philadelphia man named Tozier killed his wife last Tuesday, and then committed suicide.  
Senator Brownlow of Tennessee is about to re-establish his old paper, the Knoxville Whig.  
Renewed victories over the Carlists are reported in Spain. The revolution seems nearly at an end.  
A New York forger named Meudelsohn committed suicide last Saturday, while in jail awaiting sentence.  
The International Law Association, which has been in session at Geneva, closed its proceedings on the 11th.  
President McMahon is making a tour of France, and is everywhere enthusiastically received by the people.  
Armstrong's Hotel, at Uxbridge, Canada, was destroyed by fire on the 15th. Three persons were killed and five seriously injured.  
New York and Jersey masons and bricklayers are working ten hours a day in consequence of the dull times. Employers are delighted.  
Ben Butler is a candidate for reelection to Congress. He opened the campaign with a rousing speech at Gloucester, last Saturday.  
A great strike of operatives in cotton mills at Bolton, England, has taken place. 13,000 laborers have participated in the movement.  
The Cuban chief, Calixto Garcia, has been captured by the Spaniards. He was seriously wounded in the head by a shot from one of his captors.  
The child-stealing fever has spread to Canada. Two Italians were arrested at Quebec, last week, charged with attempted abduction of a boy.  
President Grant or the King of Italy will probably be called upon to arbitrate between China and Japan in relation to the Formosa difficulty.  
A Boston burglar named Harley has been sentenced to fourteen years in the penitentiary, and has thirteen years of an old sentence to serve out also.  
The well known Cuban General Ryan, killed among the Virginian captives by the Spaniards, left to kinmen in Arkansas an estate valued at \$150,000.  
The United States court at Salt Lake City being locked out of the court-room, its sessions are being held at a tavern. Polygamists are debarred from serving as jurors.  
On the 15th, President Grant issued a proclamation commanding the insurgents against the Louisiana State Government to disperse and retire peacefully to their homes within five days