

THE DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF.

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

VOLUME VI.

DONALDSONVILLE, LA., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1876.

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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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AGENTS FOR THE CHIEF.

ASCENSION PARISH.
Wm. G. Wilkinson, Donaldsonville, La.
Dr. John Dominique, Donaldsonville, La.
Augustus Knight, Linwood Plantation.
John Dixon, New River.
J. B. Hebert, " "
Alex. Meyers, Manchac and Port Vincent.
ELSEWHERE.
J. Curtis Waldo, New Orleans, La.
Geo. P. Rowell & Co., New York.
Rowell & Cheaman, St. Louis, Missouri.

Baton Rouge Advocate: Dr. J. W. Dupre was thrown from his buggy and quite severely bruised.

St. James Sentinel: A large bear was killed in the rear of H. O. Colomb's plantation by Richard Johnson, Esq.

Terrebonne Republican: From all sources we receive cheering intelligence of the condition of the cane and corn crops.

Morgan City Register: The report is utterly unfounded that our city dads are to bathe their feet in the new fire wells when completed. The wells are too small.

Thibodaux Sentinel: We see by the New Orleans papers that Mr. James Pogue, who was very recently in this vicinity selling mules, was killed in that city on the 30th inst., by falling from a balcony.

St. John Meschacebe: The three parish fairs were sold for two years, bringing \$1035. Wednesday evening a man fell overboard from a lugger anchored in front of Mr. Sylvain Sulo's place, and was drowned.

Carroll Republican: Wednesday morning, Aug. 16, the boiler of Olen & Burke's saw-mill, on the lake, one mile from town, exploded, killing two white and two colored men, A. Orens, B. R. Robbins, Frank Reynolds and Louis Irvin. One white and one colored man were wounded, P. C. Burke and Jasper Hughes.

Pointe Coupee Republican: Two homicides in our usually quiet parish within the past week. Two colored men, E. Manchester and John Smith, quarreled about a horse near Waterloo, and the former shot Smith through the heart, killing him instantly. On the Island an old Frenchman named Gabriel shot and killed a young colored man "Najne," son of a woman Gabriel lives with. The men had frequently quarreled before.

West Baton Rouge Sugar Planter: That caterpillars were seen a month ago in several fields is an undeniable fact, and that predictions of damage were common is equally true, but up to the present time, they have not increased in numbers or spread from where they first appeared. The first of September is at hand and cotton picking is going on in good earnest, so that should the caterpillar appear he will not do much harm between this and the close of the season.

St. Charles Herald: A colored man named Dan Tenant, confined in the parish jail on suspicion of being concerned in the robbery of Major Morgan's store, was taken violently ill, showing signs of having been poisoned. A physician administered an emetic, which gave relief. Believing himself about to die, Dan confessed that Louis Johnson, — Warfield and himself had committed the burglary. Johnson had sent Tenant a cake on the morning of the day the latter was taken ill, and it is believed this contained the poison. The three men are in jail. The Republican parish nominating convention meets September 9. All the delegates have been elected. The rice harvest progresses satisfactorily.

"I AM HOLIER THAN THOU."

BY EMERSON BENTLEY.

The marked characteristic of the official action of the Democratic State Central Executive Committee, the present as during past campaigns, is an offensive presumption, expressed in very plain words, that all the intelligence and respectability of the State is confided to their keeping, and seems to preclude the possibility that the Republican party may assume to represent any portion thereof.

We may liken them to the pretentious Christian, who devotes himself to much praying on the seventh day, is indifferent to the Master's commands on the remaining six, and airs his affected holiness among his fellows to secure the worldly recognition of his great advancement toward the throne of grace! "I am holier than thou," finds expression in all his actions, and from his self-created platform of superiority, it is a condescension to look down upon his fellows.

From these affectations of political superiority have grown all the violence, intimidation and usurping tendencies of State politics. We may not object to the men of intelligence or wealth holding a reasonable pride of their acquirements, but when it is exercised to the total disregard of the rights and welfare of their political equals, either in fact, or made so by law, we do certainly protest.

Where on earth can we find evidence that the Democratic party is pre-eminently fitted to exercise all the positions of honor, trust and profit within the State of Louisiana, to the exclusion of all of the Republican party?

Did they demonstrate it prior to the war by giving away millions of railroad bonds to rotten corporations, which never built a mile?

Did they demonstrate it by the jugglery of declaring Louisiana out of the Union when a majority of her people had voted to remain in it?

Did they demonstrate it by perverting resources of a Union people to the support of the Jeff Davis Confederacy, or plunging Louisiana into a war against the Union in defiance of protest?

Did they demonstrate it at Mechanics' Institute by dispersing a constitutional convention with great loss of life, in fear lest the sceptre should depart from their grasp?

Did they demonstrate it in the Legislature of 1868-7, when a black code was enacted suppressing the negroes' rights and privileges as freemen, and several millions were added to the State debt?

Did they demonstrate it in the campaign of 1868 by killing over 1000 Republicans and sending to the electoral college a false exhibit of the choice of the people for President?

Did they demonstrate it in the Legislature of 1868-9 when the Democratic members voted and stole so corruptly with Republican accomplices, that their constituencies were compelled to repudiate and retire them?

Did they demonstrate it in 1872 by accepting all they had previously sworn to oppose—sailing on a Republican platform, under the lead of Horace Greeley—and in communion with Governor Warmoth?

Did they demonstrate it in the assumption that able supervisors had legally defrauded the Republican State ticket of an election?

Did they demonstrate it in 1874 by reversing their political position of 1872 and taking up the white line policy?

Did they demonstrate it by nominating General Nicholls, as a liberal head to a Bourbon ticket, appointing a Bourbon campaign committee, and endeavoring to impress the people that the Liberal element had triumphed?

Did they demonstrate it by rejecting the proposition of the Republican gubernatorial candidate to canvass the State by joint discussion, thus appealing to the reason and not the prejudices or passions of voters?

Republicans will contend that all these questions require negative answers. In not any particular has Democracy proven any immaculate capacity to conduct the government, any practical leaning toward reform, peace, or unity of the people, in faithful accord with the decrees of the war. The uselessness of appealing to the negro's reason, and enmity to carpet-baggers are cardinal features, and the greed of office, and a longing for a race preponderance are motive powers of Louisiana Democracy.

Insuring a Fair Election.

The National Government Will Protect Its Citizens.

Attorney General Taft's Instructions to United States Marshals.

The following circular from Attorney General Taft has been referred to Gen. Sherman for his guidance by the Secretary of War and transmitted to United States Marshals for their government. It was considered and approved by President Grant and by Secretaries Cameron, Robeson, Chandler, Attorney General Taft and Gen. Sherman at a consultation held at Washington on the 4th instant:

Sir—The laws of the United States having made it my duty to exercise general direction over marshals in the manner of discharging their duties, I have prepared for their use this circular letter of instructions as to the coming elections, intending the same also as a reply, once for all, to the numerous applications in like connection from private citizens in the various States.

In the present condition of legislation the United States occupy a position toward voters and voting which varies according as the election is for State and other local officers only, or for members of Congress and presidential electors. In elections at which members of the House of Representatives are chosen, which by law include also elections at which the electors for President and Vice President are appointed, the United States secure voters' against whatever in general hinders or prevents them from a free exercise of the elective franchise, extending that care alike to the registration lists, the act of voting, and the personal freedom and security of the voter at all times, as well against violence on account of any vote that he may intend to give, as against conspiracy because of any that he may already have given.

The peace of the United States, therefore, which you are to preserve and whose violations you are to suppress, protects among others the rights specified in the last paragraph, and any person who by force violates these rights breaks that peace and renders it your duty to arrest him and to suppress any riots incident to or that threaten the integrity of the registration or election; that the will of the people in such election may be ascertained and take effect, and that offenders may be brought before the courts for punishment.

Notorious events in several States, which recently, and in an unusual manner, have been publicly reprobated, render it a grave duty of all marshals, who have cause to apprehend a violation of the peace of the United States, connected as above with the elections to be held upon the Tuesday after the first Monday in November next, to be prepared to preserve and to restore such peace.

As the chief executive officer of the United States in your district, you will be held responsible for all breaches of the peace of the United States which diligence on your part might have prevented, and for the arrest and securing of all persons who violate that peace in any of the points above enumerated. Diligence in these matters requires of course that you be and continue present in person or by deputy at all places of registration or election at which you have reason to suspect that the peace is threatened and that whenever an embodiment of the posse comitatus is required to enforce the law such embodiment be effected.

You will observe that the special deputies mentioned in section 2021 of the Revised Statutes have peculiar duties assigned to them—duties which otherwise do not belong to deputy marshals. Such special deputy marshals can be appointed only in cities of 20,000 inhabitants or upwards, but the duties assigned to marshals and their deputies by section 2022, or other like statutes, belong to all duly appointed deputies, whether they be general or be special, within the meaning of that and the preceding section. Deputies to discharge this latter class of duties may be appointed to any number whatever, according to the discretion of the marshal, in all States in which sheriffs have a similar power. Section 2030 has no practical bearing upon this point in States where no limit is imposed upon the appointment of deputies by sheriffs, because in such States the laws of the United States prior to the tenth of June, 1872, left marshals also unlimited as to the number of their deputies.

In discharging the duties above mentioned, you will doubtless receive the countenance and support of all the good citizens of the United States in your respective districts. It is not necessary to state that it is upon such countenance and support that the United States mainly rely in their endeavor to enforce the right to vote which they have given or have secured. The present instructions are intended only to counteract that partial malice or wrongheadedness, or inconsideration, which sometimes triumphs at critical moments over the conservative, and in general, prevailing forces of society, and to which the present and passing condition of the country gives more than ordinary

strength, and therefore requires the government particularly to observe and provide against.

In this connection I advise that you and each of your deputies, general and special, have a right to summon to your assistance in preventing and quelling disorder every person in the district above fifteen years of age, whatever may be their occupation, whether civilians or not, and including the military, and of all denominations—militia, soldiers or marines—all of whom are alike bound to obey you. The fact that they are organized as military bodies, whether of the State or of the United States, under the immediate command of their own officers, does not in any wise affect their legal character. They are still the posse comitatus. I prefer to quote the above statement of the law upon this point from an opinion by my predecessor, Attorney General Cushing, because it thus appears to have been well settled for many years. Vol. 6, Opinions, p. 466, May 27, 1854.

I need hardly add that there can be no State law or State official in this country who has jurisdiction to oppose you in discharging your official duties under the laws of the United States. If such interference shall take place—a thing not anticipated—you are to disregard it entirely.

The laws of the United States are supreme, and so, consequently, is the action of officials of the United States. In enforcing them, there is virtually, you have already been told, no officer of the State whom you may not by summons embody into your own posse, and any State posse already embodied by a sheriff will, with such sheriff, be obliged, upon your summons, to become a part of United States posse, and obey you or your deputies acting *virtute officio*.

The responsibility which devolves upon an officer clothed with such powers, and required to guard the highest right of citizens, corresponds in a degree with those powers and rights, and exacts of such officer consideration, intelligence and courage.

It is proper to advise you that in preparing this circular I have considered the recent important judgments given by the Supreme Court of the United States upon the acts of Congress which regulate this general topic. I have founded the above instructions upon those acts as affected by such judgments, and I need in this place add no more than that these judgments do not concern elections for Federal officers.

You will find appended, in full or by reference, such statutory provisions as it seems important that you and your deputies shall in this connection read and consider. In matters of doubt you are of course entitled to the advice of the United States attorney for your district.

These instructions have been submitted to the President, and have his approval. Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
ALPHONSO TAFT,
Attorney General.

Democratic Campaign in the South.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore American writes, under date of August 25:

It has leaked out that a strong and carefully prepared circular has been issued by the National Executive Democratic Committee at New York, under the direction of Governor Tilden himself, and addressed in strict confidence to the Democratic leaders in every county of the Southern States, in relation to the management of the campaign. The substance of the circular has been ascertained. It urges in direct and unqualified terms the necessity of a united, vigorous and determined action on the part of every Democrat in the Southern States. It notifies them that these States must be carried for Tilden, or success is hopeless; warns them that the government will probably station troops at different points to guard the interests of a free ballot, but insists still that the election must be carried. It does not directly urge the employment of unlawful means or contemplate resistance to the military authorities, but plainly intimates that at all hazards success must be assured. At the same time it solemnly warns the hot bloods of the party that no more negroes must be killed until after the election; that disturbance of all kinds between whites and blacks must be discontinued and prevented. It speaks of the feeling at the North on this subject, and appeals finally to Democracy to be cautious yet firm. It is a bold, dangerous, treacherous document, and the authorities in all the Southern States should be placed on their guard that the right of every citizen to vote may be secured, free from intimidations and not controlled by violence.

Be too manly to deceive either friend or opponent as to your exact political opinions. If you are Republicans say so; if you are or desire to be Democrats let it be known. Each man has a right to freedom of conviction, and none can lawfully molest or make him afraid. The enforcement act operates equally upon all classes of intimidation, and is not a partisan law. Harmony and confidence will only follow a just toleration and frank avowal of political sentiments. This counsel applies to Republicans and Democrats alike.—*Attakapas Register*.

NEWS ITEMS.

Don Pedro is expected at Madrid. San Francisco had a \$780,000 fire. Debt decrease for August \$3,250,000.

The revolution in Columbia continues.

Groat's hosiery mills, Amsterdam, N. Y., burned.

The Irish rifle team arrived at New York on the 3rd.

Coal miners in St. Clair county, Mo., are on a strike.

A plaining mill and several frame buildings burned at Selma.

The Dayton Short Line railroad depot at Cincinnati burned.

The naval review at Port Royal will commence early in October.

Dr. J. S. Williams of Louisville is in prison on a charge of abortion.

At Mansfield, Pa., fifteen houses burned, including a hotel and a bank.

Yellow fever at Savannah; 7 deaths on the 3rd inst., 10 on the 4th.

White, Langstaff & Co., wholesale hardware dealers of Memphis failed.

The Chinese commissioners leave Chicago for San Francisco September 18.

Sam'l Weeks has been appointed melter and refiner at the New Orleans mint.

Lord Robblesdale, stepson to Earl Russell, committed suicide in Switzerland.

Sixty-five female clerks have been dismissed from the Treasury Department.

It is said Spain will send 25,000 more troops to Cuba before November 1.

Hillery Page, colored, known as "the fire fiend," was hanged at Richmond.

A. W. Tomgoc snees the Raleigh News for libel in calling him an ex-covict.

The Sherwood School Furniture factory at Morris, Ill., burned; loss \$30,000.

Foreign ambassadors at Constantinople submitted peace proposals to the Porte.

Geo. McQuade, 12 years old, was run over and killed by a street car at New Orleans.

Four miners were suffocated by foul air in a mining shaft near Central City, Col.

At Dorby Line, Vt., E. C. Hayden shot his wife and brother-in-law, the former fatally.

Three men were drowned near Halifax by the capsizing of a yacht returning from a race.

A Spaniard fell from a staging at the head of St. Ann street, New Orleans, and was killed.

At Port Jervis, N. Y., Frank Taylor was shot by policeman Rumsey, while resisting arrest.

The formal opening of the live stock display at the Centennial exhibition took place Wednesday.

The President of Costa Rica has been overthrown and a provisional government established.

Gen. Sherman and Secretary Cameron will make an inspecting tour extending to San Francisco.

The International Medical College and Convention of Fire engineers met in Philadelphia this week.

A posse of colored men killed a white man named Porter, at Windsor, S. C., and were all arrested.

There is great excitement among Eastern coal dealers on account of the marked decline of prices.

Rear Admiral Frenchard relieved Rear Admiral Leroy of the command of the North Atlantic Station.

Fifteen Chicago whisky prisoners who gave evidence against their partners in crime were discharged.

A London letter sorter has been arrested for stealing letters with bills of exchange on the United States.

At Buckley, Ill., George Sleeper, the groom at a wedding was called to the door and shot dead by a rival.

The owners of liberated slaves in Porto Rico will receive indemnity bonds from the Spanish government.

Miss E. A. Martin shot Charles Ricker at Lowell, and took poison. Both will recover. Cause—jealousy.

The death sentence of Jesse Pomeroy, the Boston boy murderer, has been commuted to life imprisonment.

Four masked men backed and gagged the station keeper at Hudson river station, N. Y., and robbed the office.

A newspaper correspondent and a cavalry officer fought a duel with sabres at Belgrade, and both were wounded.

The ex-Empress Eugenie has purchased for her winter residence the villa of the Grand Duchess Maria of Russia, at Rome.

The explosion of the boiler attached to a threshing machine near Dover, Minn., killed three persons and mortally wounded one.

Express and freight trains collided at Fitchburg, Mass., killing Miss Crowell, wounding her father, her sister and Mrs. Baker.

Speaker Kerr left his property to his wife, in trust for their son, on condition that Mrs. Kerr's mother and his own should be cared for.

The eight to represent the United States in the approaching rifle match are: Dakin, Farwell, Weber, Fulton, Yal, Bruce, Rathbone and Allen.

Preston Palmer, city marshal of Lewisburg, Ohio, was shot and killed by N. A. Wiceman, with whose wife Palmer was criminally intimate.

A Chinese riot occurred at Fraxillo, Central America. An overseer was murdered by the Asiatics, some of whom the indignant people shot.

In the Inter-Collegiate boat race at Philadelphia Yale won, Columbia second. Cambridge was distanced on account of sickness of one of the crew.

Nebon Chaney, Jr., 10 years old, shot and killed his cousin, also aged 10 years, near Annapolis, Md. His parents claimed the killing was accidental.

Pierce forest fires in the vicinity of Honesdale, Pa., destroyed large quantities of timber. There has been no heavy rain in the neighborhood since the 4th of July.

The firemen on the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad struck. Several attempts to throw trains off the track were made and a few of the strikers arrested.

Gen. W. H. Richardson, Adjutant General of Virginia, died last week at the age of 81. He had been in the public service since the war of 1812, in which he served.

Indians combed the miners at North Deadwood and killed fifteen. The bodies of four more were found in Buffalo gap. Others were murdered in the same vicinity.

Hardy Solomon, late president of the South Carolina Bank of Columbia, has been arrested, charged with fraudulent management. Ex-Governor Scott is the complainant.

A water spout burst in Osborne county, Mo., flooding Kill Creek valley for fifteen minutes, sweeping away horses, cattle, crops, etc. Two ladies and two children were drowned.

The revolution in St. Domingo continues. The port of Ozama has pronounced for Baez and is blockaded by the government. Puerto Plata and Santiago continue to be besieged by the insurgents.

The French Court of Appeals has quashed the sentences of fine and imprisonment passed by the correctional tribunal on the editor of the *Les Droites De l'Homme* for libeling the Chamber of Deputies.

Six hundred houses burned at St. Hyacinthe, Canada. Hundreds of families are homeless and destitute. Three children were drowned during the fire. The value of property destroyed is estimated at \$2,000,000.

James Hammett, a German resident of Cincinnati, made a murderous attack upon his wife with a butcher knife, wounding her fearfully. He then severed an artery in his arm, and will die from loss of blood. The woman may recover.

A train of coal hoppers wrecked at Weavertown, on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, and two other trains ran into the wreck, one a coal and the other a passenger train. The engineer of the latter was killed, and several persons wounded.

The Rev. W. G. England, Methodist minister, his wife, stepdaughter and four stepsons, were murdered at their home near Montague, Texas, by a party of disguised men. Robbery is supposed to have been the object of the fiends, as the family was wealthy.

The prosecution of C. B. Wilkinson, ex-Revenue Collector at St. Joseph, Mo., has been discontinued, upon plea of guilty being entered by accused, who agrees to pay costs and \$8000, the amount of deficit in his accounts, and undergo six months' imprisonment.

HINTS TO RICE FARMERS.—Mr. Hodges of Kennerlyville, La., makes the following suggestion to rice planters through the New Orleans papers: Will you please be so kind as to present my compliments to the rice planters of Louisiana, and to say that, in my opinion, many of them fresh their rice too green; that the rice should be ripe when cut; that it should then be put in small "wind cocks" and allowed several days in the sun and air; so as to be thoroughly cured; it should then be stacked or put in a barn, and allowed time to "sweat" in the sack; and if not there, after being milled it will sweat in the barrel and spoil.

Louisiana rice is, as I think superior to any other; and if our planters will take as much care in harvesting it as they do their corn, which is a crop of much less value, the individual planter and the State at large will be benefited thereby.