

THE DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF.

A WIDE-AWAKE NEWSPAPER, DEVOTED TO HOME INTERESTS.—TERMS, TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

VOLUME VI.

DONALDSONVILLE, LA., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1877.

NUMBER 51.

Donaldsonville Chief.

Amicus Humani Generis.

A Wide-Awake Home Newspaper,
Published Every Saturday, at
Donaldsonville, Ascension Parish, La.,

LINDEN E. BENTLEY,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
One copy, one year, \$2.00
One copy, six months, 1.25
Six copies, one year, 10.00
Twelve copies, one year, 18.00
Payable invariably in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES:
[One inch of space constitutes a "square."]

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13 squares	22.00	32.00	33.00	41.00
14 squares	23.50	34.00	35.00	43.00
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18 squares	29.50	42.00	43.00	51.00
19 squares	31.00	44.00	45.00	53.00
20 squares	32.50	46.00	47.00	55.00

Transient advertisements \$1 per square first insertion; each subsequent insertion, 75 cents per square.

Official advertisements \$1 per square first insertion; each subsequent publication 50 cents per square.

Editorial notices, first insertion, 20 cents per line; subsequent, 10 cents per line.

Brief communications upon subjects of public interest solicited.

No attention paid to anonymous letters.

The editor is not responsible for the views of correspondents.

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Lowell & Chesnut, New Orleans
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LOUISIANA NEWS.

Pointe Coupee Pelican: Robt. Montgomery shipped from his apary thirteen barrels of honey to New York, via New Orleans.

Calcasieu Echo: Dr. L. L. Weatherly and Mr. Garland Williams were struck senseless by lightning, during a recent storm, but are both recovering.

Clinton Patriot-Democrat: New sweet potatoes are readily selling at from \$1 to \$1.25 per bushel. Excellent fodder is daily being offered on our streets at 75 cents per 100 pounds.

Tangipahoa Independent: A premium was awarded to Mr. H. G. Vernon for the first bale of cotton delivered to the firm of L. Stern & Son. It consisted of a barrel of choice flour and five gallons of "the best."

Minden Democrat: The first bale of the new cotton crop was brought in August 22, by our friend W. Dennis Brantley. A movement is on foot for the establishment of a steam ferry between Bayou Sara and Pointe Coupee.

St. Mary Register: Sydney, the little son of Mr. Frank Smith of Berwick, was drowned at Hanson's ship yard. His body was found next day. The Morgue dredge boats are engaged in deepening the channel at the mouth of the bay.

Madison Journal: The Parish School Board has something in the neighborhood of \$3000 in its treasury. The first bale of new cotton raised in this parish, was shipped off the Araby plantation August 14. Sam Boyd was the producer.

Iberia Sugar-Bowl: Young Gourdain, who was shot in the lung by young Guardemal at Fausse Pointe ball, is recovering. Think of young men going to balls with pistols in their pockets! Our society must be as bad as that of Mexico to require that. Shame! shame!

Richland Beacon: A colored man was accidentally killed, in falling a tree on McCoy's place, near Alto. While a constable and posse were conveying Lewis and Ansley Bagby, colored men charged with horse stealing, to the Rayville jail from Delhi, the prisoners attempted to escape and were shot dead.

W. Baton Rouge Sugar Planter: The levees are beginning to cave. A break occurred last week on the front of Joe Walker's place, extending some three hundred feet in length. A crack extends in middle of the road for about the same distance. The "catch" of shrimp this season is enormous. We have seen them sell for five cents a gallon, or a blue bucket full for a quarter.

Iberville South: A man by the name of John Kock was picked up between this place and Bayou Gonia in a sick and destitute condition and taken to the plantation of Mr. J. W. Austen, where he died. After his death it was discovered that he had two pistol shot wounds on his breast, but post mortem examination disclosed the fact that he did not die of the wounds but from congestion of the brain.

THE FIRST CLIENT.

John Smith, a young attorney, just admitted to the bar, was solemn and sagacious as— as young attorneys are.

And a frown of deep abstraction held the seizure of his face— The result of contemplation of the rule in Shelley's Case.

One day in term-time Mr. Smith was sitting in the Court. When some good men and true of the body of the county did on their oath, report. That heretofore, to-wit: upon the second day of May.

A. D. 1877, about the hour of noon, in the County and State aforesaid, one Joseph Scroggs, late of said county, did then and there, feloniously take, steal, and carry away

One bay horse, of the value of fifty dollars, more or less (The same then and there being the property, goods and chattels of one Hezekiah Hesse).

Contrary to the statute in such case expressly made and provided; and against the peace and dignity of the State wherein the venue had been laid.

The prisoner, Joseph Scroggs, was then arraigned upon this charge, and pleaded not guilty, and of this he threw himself upon the county at large.

And said Joseph being poor, the Court did graciously appoint Mr. Smith to defend him—much on the same principle that obtains in every charity hospital, where a young medical student is often set to rectify a serious injury to an organ or a joint.

The witnesses seemed prejudiced against poor Mr. Scroggs; and the District Attorney made a thrilling speech in which he told the jury that if they didn't find for the State he reckoned he'd have to "walk their dogs."

Then Mr. Smith arose and made his speech for the defense. Wherein he quoted Shakespeare, Blackstone, Chitty, Archibald, Joaquin Miller, Story, Kent, Tupper, Smedes and Marshall, and many other writers, and every body said they "never heard such a bust of eloquence."

And he said: "On this hypothesis, my client must go free."

And: "Again, on this hypothesis, it's morally impossible that he could be guilty, don't you see?"

And: "Then, on this hypothesis, you really can't convict?"

And so on with forty-six more hypotheses, upon none of which, Mr. Smith arse, if duly demurred, could Scroggs be convicted.

But the jury, never stirring from the box wherein they sat, Returned a verdict of "guilty;" and His Honor straightway sentenced Scroggs to a three-year term in the Penitentiary, and a heavy fine, and the costs on top of that.

And the prisoner, in wild delight, got up and danced and sung; and when they asked him the reason of this strange behavior, he said: "It's because I got off so easy—for if there'd ha' been a few more of them blamed hypotheses, I should certainly have been hung!"

—Excerpt Russell, in Scribner's Monthly.

Brief History of Mexico.

The Galveston News gives the following summary of the revolutions, etc., in Mexico since 1821:

1821. The independence of Mexico is declared.

1825. First congress assembled.

1829. Guerrero being president, Bustamante, commanding the army, induces his soldiers to declare him president, and compels Guerrero to abdicate. Santa Anna plays the same game on Bustamante, and is himself declared president by the army. Three presidents govern with little fighting, until

1836. State governments were abolished by revolution, and Santa Anna made president. Same year Bustamante was recalled, Santa Anna's defeat at San Jacinto having deprived him of power.

1838. Mexico revolutionized; had an unpleasantness with the French, who blockaded Vera Cruz; Santa Anna drives off the French.

1840. Federalists, led by Urrea, revolution.

1841. Revolution of Santa Anna, who is made dictator and banishes Bustamante.

1842. Junta of Nobles revolution against Santa Anna and form the republic.

1843. New constitution adopted. Catholic religion and apostolic creed to exclusion of all other religion.

1844. Revolution by Peredes. Santa Anna deposed, and Herrera made president by congress.

1845. Santa Anna banished and Herrera elected president. Same year Peredes revolts, and, ordering an election, is elected president.

Our New York Letter.

A Church Scandal—Democrat's Trouble—The Great Telegraph Consolidation—The Business Outlook—Various.

NEW YORK, August 25, 1876.

EDITOR CHIEF:—The little town of Vineland, near the city, is greatly exercised over the development of a transaction that recently occurred in the Catholic Church at that place. A man named Gregory, a worthless sort of fellow who had more than half forsaken his church, was at the point of death.

His wife, a devout Catholic, begged the priest to shrive the dying man, which he refused to do on the score that he was not a good Catholic, and was not entitled to absolution. Mrs. Gregory implored, and finally after many interviews the priest did go and confess him and gave him full absolution. Priest Viver was indiscreet enough afterward to say that he now had means enough to pay off the debt on his church, as a valuable piece of land in Newark had been devised to him; and Mrs. Gregory, now that her husband was safely through purgatory, dropped hints that it had cost her more than she liked, to get it accomplished. An inquiry was set on foot and it was made known that the dying man and his wife had deeded the Newark property to the priest, besides giving him \$100 in money—in short, all they had—before he would absolve him.

Congressman Adrian Muller of the first district in this city, had a vacancy in West Point to fill, and to avoid the responsibility of making a selection, advertised that a competitive examination would be held, and the boy making the best average would be appointed. Probably Mr. Muller would not have done this had he had the faintest idea of the result, for behold you, a "nigger" named Charles A. Minnie, came out ahead, and Muller was compelled to appoint him. There were a hundred applicants, but Minnie had a clear majority of points, and there was no mistake about it. There is loud swearing among the Democracy of the first, at the "dirty nigger" who had the audacity to stand first among the youth of that district. John Morrissey is astute enough to turn this little draught of gall to advantage. There is a very large negro vote in that district, and the gallant John no sooner hears of it, than he sends his cheque, for \$500 to Minnie, with which he may provide himself with a proper outfit. This is a shrewd stroke. It will be a convenient thing for John to have at his back in future political contests some hundreds of the negroes of that section, for they are looming into political importance every day, and even the enmity of the Irish can not keep them out. Minnie is a very bright boy; he has been more than two-thirds educated at home, and has done the most of it himself. In the examination the maximum was an hundred, and he stood 98. He understands fully what is before him at West Point, but he is determined to go through it like a man, and do something for his race as well as himself.

There is no more competition in telegraphing, and the public is as entirely at the mercy of a monopoly as it was before the Atlantic and Pacific was started to give us relief from the monstrous exactions of the Western Union. With a healthy competition rates had got down to a point that enabled the people to use the telegraph freely. A message from New York to Chicago only cost 25 cents, and rates for shorter distances were even lower. This did not satisfy the grasping managers, and so this week they got together and consolidated the two companies, and up go the rates just as far as the patience of an abused public will permit. It will result in the Government taking the telegraphic system of the country under its wing—at least, it ought to. The people are idiots if they permit a company of grasping speculators to hold in its hand the power to oppress them. The rate from New York to Chicago will go up to a dollar again, and so on in proportion. Of course that little Mephistopheles, Jay Gould, is at the bottom of this, as he is of half the deviltry that is being done.

If every man, woman and child in the United States doesn't petition Congress to take the telegraph lines and operate them as it does the mail system service, they will deserve all the swindles that can be imposed upon them. And, by the way, while they are about it, they ought to take a dig at the express business. There is no reason under Heaven why small parcels should not be carried through the mails, at a very low rate of postage. The express business is as miserable a monopoly as the telegraph, and needs reforming as much. To get a dress from Boston to Omaha costs almost as much as the dress, and to some points a great deal more. There is no reason why the mails should not be used for the transportation of certain matter; if the people are wise they will pay some attention to these things this winter.

There is no longer any question—there is an improvement in business. The enormous crops of this year are burdening the lines of transportation both by water and land, money is being sent out of the city by the million to move the crop, and that money, distributed at once, is putting life into trade, and very vigorous life. It is a fact that the wheat crop of the year will average more than twenty-five bushels to the acre, taking the country together, which is something never known before, and the corn crop will be equally large; and this enormous yield comes when the country is bare of grain, and when a great war in Europe takes away all the competition we have always had in supplying breadstuffs, keeping the price up to a good round figure. Add to this the fact of an absolute settlement of our internal troubles by the wise policy of President Hayes, the fact that we have got back almost to a gold basis, and that the depreciation has gone on until we have struck bottom, and he must be a croaker indeed who can not see better times very closely ahead. The effect is now perceptible in this city. The merchants from the interior are here in force, with pleasant faces, and those who came to buy \$5000 worth are, under advice from home since they left, buying ten thousand. One publishing firm in Boston has sold 50,000 copies of a new book in the first three weeks of its publication, something unheard of since 1873, and other intimations of returning prosperity are not wanting. And this is going to be permanent. Our exports are now largely in excess of our imports, the flood of gold instead of going abroad is setting this way, and Europe is contributing to us instead of our contributing to Europe. We are exporting goods to Europe, and so good a reputation have our goods that in China, Japan and South America the English are labeling their fabrics "American," in order to sell them. It is true that Jay Gould made four millions of dollars by his shrewd manipulation of Western Union, and the subsequent consolidation. The weather is very hot, and the death rate among children is fearful. The coaching folly is about played out. The young bloods have got tired of playing English coachmen, and now that the novelty is worn off, the young ladies have discovered that the family carriage is ever so much more comfortable. And besides, it affords an equally good chance to show their clothes, which is the main object of a New York girl's life. The people are coming back from the summer resorts and the city is looking a trifle more gay. The avenues and park drives are filling up again with the family instead of the coachman and cook.

PIETRO.

The Mobile Register takes a roseate view of the future of New Orleans and Texas:

In three years, Texas will have a population of two millions, and will be entitled to twenty representatives in Congress. With the Pacific road completed across her territory, it is impossible to estimate how great will be her growth in population and commerce. That commerce must flow mainly to New Orleans, and there must be the grandest city of the continent.

Fuller returns from the West Virginia election on the location of the capitol show that neither of three places voted for has obtained a majority. A new election will be held, when Clarksburg and Charleston will only be voted for.

Weekly News Summary.

Foreign.

Cardinal Joseph Bozzari is dead. Minister Noyes has arrived at Paris. Gen. Grant and party returned to London, Saturday.

Russian General Doroschinsky was killed at Sphipka Pass. Justin McCarthy, English political writer and novelist, is dead.

Spanish planters in Cuba are charged with cruelty to Chinese laborers. Rumored disagreements between Russia and Roumania are denied.

Steamer City of Havana an agronon on Tuxpan reefs. No lives were lost. The organization of the new Turkish gendarmes, by Col. Valentine Baker, is completed.

Turks under Mehemet Ali defeated the Russians in a hard fought battle at Eski Djuna.

Russian societies are receiving heavy contributions for the relief of the sick and wounded. The French transport Corcezi, with 130 cases of cholera on board, is quarantined 100 miles below Suez.

Another earthquake recently occurred in Chili. No particulars of damage have yet been received.

M. Rampon, vice president of the French Senate, has been dismissed from the post of Mayor of Gihail.

The Russian forces near Pleвна have resumed the positions occupied previous to the late disastrous battle. A heavy fire occurred at Montreal, destroying a large grain elevator, a flouring mill, a nail factory and other buildings.

Steam collier Yanaga foundered in New Castle harbor, New South Wales, going down with all on board, about twenty souls.

The Russians are strongly fortifying Kustendji with heavy artillery. Numerous Russian reinforcements are arriving in the Dobruzscha.

Germany has protested formally against Turkish cruelties practiced in the war, and is joined by Austria, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Sweden and Portugal.

Adelina Patti has brought suit for the nullity of marriage against the Marquis of Caux, alleging that the priest who performed the ceremony had no license from his archbishop.

As President McMahon was leaving Cherbourg a Republican demonstration occurred. He was greeted with shouts of "Vive la Republique!" "Vive l'Union!" and singing of the Marseillaise!

Moukhtar Pasha defeated the Russians in a heavy battle at Kiziltepe, in Armenia, inflicting a loss of 4000 killed and wounded upon them. The General commanding the Russian cavalry was killed.

It is now announced that the Serbian ministry have decided to participate with Roumania and Russia in the war against Turkey. A special session of the Skoupstchina will be called to consider the matter.

A bull regulating the procedure to be observed by the conclave of Cardinals on the death of the Pope, has been completed at the Vatican. It empowers Cardinal Comerlengi to either convene the conclave immediately or await the arrival of foreign Cardinals.

Domestic.

City Hall at Oakland, Cal., burned. Marietta paper mills, Atlanta, were damaged by fire.

Georgia's constitutional convention adjourned Saturday. The hotel at Yellow Sulphur Springs, Va., was destroyed by fire.

August Geiger, aged 48, died from apoplexy in a New Orleans street car. George Wade beat James Cunningham in a swimming match at Long Branch.

A heavy storm blew down 500 feet of the big bridge across the Missouri river at Omaha.

Wholesale vaccination has been ordered in Chicago on account of New Orleans small pox.

Dr. W. T. Cooper, living near Charleston, W. Va., was arrested for poisoning his third wife.

Texas State troops are prohibited by the Governor from crossing into Mexico after marauders.

Wm. Parker, a diver on the wrecking boat Eckert, was drowned at the wreck of the Golden Rule.

Stack Foster, a colored murderer, was shot and killed while endeavoring to escape arrest at Memphis.

The Massachusetts Greenbackers will hold a convention at Boston Sept. 15, to nominate a State ticket.

Merchants Exchange Bank of San Francisco goes into liquidation. The concern is solvent and will pay all its debts.

David McLean, a colored man accused of murdering Belle Williams at Summit, Miss., was captured in New Orleans.

Senator Conkling addressed the Veterans' Association at Oswego, N. Y. He predicted prosperous times close at hand.

Two colored boys have been arrested for stealing books valued at \$1000 from the Academy of Sciences at New Orleans.

Large fire at Anoka, Minn.; two warehouses, twenty small buildings, 5,000,000 feet of lumber, and other property were destroyed.

The Republican campaign in Ohio opened with a meeting at Athens, last Monday, at which Gen. West and Senator Stanley Matthews spoke.

The steamer Rose Standish, when starting down Boston harbor collided with the towboat Charles River, sinking the latter. The crew were saved.

In the libel suit of Congressman Page against the San Francisco Chronicle the jury were unable to agree after being out all night. They stood six to six.

An accident occurred to a passenger train near Mehan Station, Conn., caused by a washed-out culvert. Six train men and one passenger were injured.

The Providence Tool Company has resumed its contract with the Turkish Government for the manufacture of arms, and has put at work again the full force of 1300 men.

A party of twenty whites had a fight with nearly 500 Indians 150 miles from Deadwood. One of the party was killed, and all their horses were taken by the Indians.

Striking miners are forming secret societies and drilling nightly in the Wilkesbarre district. Men who are willing to work have been intimidated by threats of violence.

John Wesley Harden, a Texan who is said to have committed twenty-seven murders, was captured at Pensacola by a Sheriff's posse. Harden's companion drew a pistol and was shot dead.

Joseph's Indians captured Hole-in-the-Rock stage station, Idaho, and held it a day or two, destroying all the property there. Howard's cavalry pursued the hostiles and had a fight with them, in which a hogler was killed, one officer and six privates wounded.

S. E. Hardman, manufacturer of Kenyon's fire escape, gave exhibition of his apparatus at the Astor House, New York. He fastened the instrument to his breast and lowered himself out of a third story window, when the brass band parted. Hardman fell headlong to the ground and was instantly killed.

Written answers of various Indiana persons on being examined as to their qualifications for teaching school: "Pitel is a raising or lowering of the voice. Emphasis is to place more stress on some words." "The food is first masticated, and then passes through the pharynx." "Respiration is the sweating of the human body."

"The chest is formed of two bones, the sternum and spiral chord." "The animal part can be shown by pooding a bone in acid." "The Ohio river flows northwest and forms the northern boundary of Ohio." "The Red sea and Yellow sea are in Europe. Brazil is in Asia." "The beautiful scenery and fertile soil led to the discovery of America." "Virginia obtained its name from the Virgin Mary." "The Puritans was of poor character." "General Washington was commander-in-chief in the war of 1812, and afterwards President."

SEED CANE.—Since the stubble or ratoon crop has not met the expectations of planters, and the few stalks which grew presented such a sickly appearance in the early part of the season, we deem it important that planters should avoid, as much as possible, the keeping of their stubble cane for seed. The ratoon canes can not have the necessary vitality to insure the growth from them of a thrifty crop. Seed cane should always be the best, full of nutrition, and when tainted with disease or weakened by the decay of mother stalk, it can not be as good seed as that grown from sound seed. This subject should receive the most serious consideration from planters, as the season is fast approaching when they will select their seed for the next crop.

—Sugar-Bowl.

A standing advertisement in a newspaper, set boldly out, attracts a good deal of the attention of every reader. It may not be noticed at once, but after a while the lines grow familiar to the eye and become stamped upon the mind. The advantage is made apparent in this way: The subscriber in the course of time wants something in the line of goods kept by the man whose advertisement he is familiar with. He naturally visits the advertiser's store and buys what he wants; for although he may never have been inside the place before, he feels thoroughly acquainted with every thing about it, and this removes that embarrassment which so one likes to show while on a shopping tour. A good advertisement kept constantly in a paper is like a finger board at a cross road.—Exchange.

Philadelphia Ledger: Mrs. Margaret Hargery, the generous woman whom all New Orleans knows as "Margaret," has presented General Angur with a \$400 sword in appreciation of his laudable behavior while in command in that city last spring.