Donaldsonville Chief.

Published Every Saturday.

LINDEN E. BENTLEY,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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LOUISIANA.

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Saturday, November 24, 1877

St. Landry parish has thirty-five public schools, with an enrollment of 1263 children and an average attendance of 994.

The Secretary of War has ordered the removal of the raft in Red river, above Shreveport, and directs that the river be kept open.

Hon. C. B. Darrall, Member of Congress from this District, has kindly forwarded us a number of valuable and interesting public documents.

Dumb brutes seem always to take kindly to women; it's no uncommon thing in the Government press room at Washington to see a female feeding a Bullock.—*Globe Democrat.* Or fondling a monkey wrench.—*Shreveport Herald.*

Or toying with a sheep's foot.

"Whisper You'll be Mine, Love," is the seductive title of a new song by Jno. T. Rutledge, a copy of which has been sent the CHIEF by Messrs. Ludden & Bates, Savannah music publishers. Price 40 cents.

Lists of delinquent tax payers are generally of unusual length this year. St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes present exceptions to the rule, however. In the first named parish there are only 187 delinquents; in the latter 109.

Incidental to the Morehouse *Clarion's* phenomenal bird, the Richland *Beacon* tells of a pig with a double head, four ears, one neck, two bodies and eight legs, the remains of which are in possession of one of the *Beacon* printers.

The CHIEF is scalping the Washington *Enterprise.* Bentley is right handy with the Editorial Thomas-Hawk.—*Carroll Conservative.*

Thanks, Morgan Rattler, for the compliment; but the top-knot was scarcely worth the taking.

Ex-Marshal Packard of this State is credited with declining the Central American Mission. It is said that minister Williamson does not desire reappointment, and that the President has determined to give the place to a Louisianian.

Among those to recommend the appointment of Col. Effingham Lawrence as Collector of Customs at New Orleans were Messrs. Leonard, Ellis, Elam and Roberson of the Louisiana Congressional delegation, who called upon the President and personally urged the selection of Mr. Lawrence.

The Elections Committee of the House is said to stand thus on the Colorado case: Three favor Belford, three favor Patterson, four take the view that there was no legal election, and two are non-committal. It is probable the matter will be referred back to the people.

The Donaldsonville CHIEF has a full compendium of Parish Court matters. It seems the Parish Judge tries all the petty cases in that parish and thereby saves expense. Why can't they do it here?—*Natchitoches Vindicator*

Probably because most of your petty offenders claim the right of trial by jury, which the law accords to big and little criminals alike. Our Parish Judge does not try "all the petty cases," but only those wherein accused waive jury trial.

Misled, no doubt, by the telegraphic summary of Southern members assigned to service on the House Committees by Speaker Randall, the Marksville *Bulletin* announced that Gen. Gibson was chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Col. Ellis of the Committe on Elections, Mr. Elam of the Pacific Railroad Committee and Col. Robertson of that on Mississippi Levees. This would have been awarding an unprecedented share of honors to a single State. Excepting the case of Col. Robertson, the Louisiana Representatives are merely members of the committees named.

THE CAPTURE OF KARS,

The fortunes of war still favor the Russians in their contest with the subjects of the Sublime Porte, and last week they scored a victory which will probably exercise great influence in bringing about an early termination of hostilities favorable to the Muscovite. Fifteen thousand Russians under Grand Duke Michael assaulted the fortified city of Kars, defended by about an equal number of Turks, and after a fierce fight of several hours captured the city and the entire Turkish garrison, including over 14,000 men and large quantities of munitions of war.

The early fall of Erzeroum is now looked for, and when this occurs the triumph of the Russians in Turkish Asia will be well nigh complete. No important movements have taken place in Bulgaria for some days, but vigorous preparations are being made for great events there, particularly at Plevna.

A special license of $500 has been imposed by the Police Jury of Caddo parish upon all persons who buy or sell seed or unginned cotton. We do not doubt the good motives of the Caddo jury, and it is undeniable that their action is aimed at a species of traffic which inflicts great injury upon cotton planters, but we are at a loss to know whence the authority is derived for the imposition by a Police Jury of a license tax upon a business from which no license is exacted by the State.

Judge Geo. C. Benham of Carroll parish saved all his cotton crop by employing sixty-five white men from the West in addition to his regular force of colored pickers. The Carroll *Conservative* says it is surprising with what facility these men, most of whom had never before seen a cotton field, acquire the art of gathering the staple. They began with 60 to 70 pounds per day and within a week went over 200, thus making good wages from light work.

In the District Court for the parish of West Feliciana, Judge Yoist presiding, the suit of the School Board of that parish against Mr. E. L. Weber, former Treasurer of the school fund, for alleged embezzlement of $16,000, was called up on Tuesday and dismissed on motion of counsel for defendant, it being shown that Mr. Weber has his legal domicile in the parish of Ascension. It is probable the West Feliciana School Board will now adopt Mr. Weber's proposition—indorsed by Supt. Lusher—to submit the matter in controversy to a committee of arbitrators, whose decision shall be regarded final.

Referring to our recent mention of the Centennial ice manufacturing machine established by Messrs. Braud & Esneault adjoining the Braud sawmill, near Donaldsonville, the New Orleans *Democrat* says:

This machine was tested and gave the result above mentioned to the satisfaction of all concerned in the enterprise. It was constructed by Messrs. Leeds & Co., of this city, and guaranteed for a daily capacity of 5000 pounds, but will average at least 6000 pounds of a very solid and transparent ice. It is the invention of Mr. E. Fixary, and consists in a very simple air extractor placed on the freezing box; and by which the air contained therein and in the water is extracted during the operation, thus allowing the ice to be made transparent, though congealed very rapidly.

Two proposed amendments to the Ohio constitution were submitted to the voters of that State at the recent election, and notwithstanding the measures were acknowledged by both parties to be salutary and wise, they were defeated by a heavy majority, for the reason that not one-fifth of the people took the trouble to vote on them, and nearly all of these did so because they opposed the propositions. The New Orleans *Democrat* quotes this circumstance as an argument against the feasibility of revising the Louisiana constitution by the system of amendments.

A normal school for the training of colored teachers is to be established in New Orleans. The Board of Regents has organized and elected Hon. R. M. Lusher, State Superintendent of Education, as president. Mr. Lusher, who is agent for the distribution of the Peabody fund in this State, announces that as soon as the institution is in proper working order, with an attendance of at least twenty-five pupils, he is prepared to endow it with $1000.

Michael O'Hara and Alex. McLane quarreled about politics, at New York, and McLane was knocked to the pavement, the fall fracturing his skull.

W. M. Moore, U. S. deputy Collector for the third Georgia district, is under arrest for alleged embezzlement of $4600.

THE DISTRICT JUDGESHIP

The case of the State of Louiana *ex rel* Fred. Duffel, District Attorney *pro tem.*, *vs.* Morris Marks, involving the title of defendant to the posion of District Judge in this judicial district, was called up in the Supreme Court on Wednesday of last week, for the purpose of trying the motion to dismiss made by defendant and appellee through his counsel. The motion was argued and submitted, and on Monday last the judgment of the court was announced overruling the motion. The case came up on its merits on Wednesday, the 21st, and the argument of the case occupied almost the entire day. In addition to this exhaustive discussion, lengthy briefs have been filed on behalf of appelant and appellee. The contest has attracted much notice in and beyond the district, and a decision will be looked for with much interest. We have heard it rumored that there is a likelihood of this case being taken up to the Supreme Court of the United States for final adjudication.

The press convention called to meet in New Orleans on the 5th of November was even a greater failure than the Baton Rouge affair of October 15. At the latter two visiting editors and the local quill-driver assembled in melancholy mood, smiled liquidly and adjourned; but the former convention comprised only the solitary sorrel top of Brother Amos scribbler-in-chief to Capt. Cowden, how-you-muckamuck of the Bantaria Canal. Well as long as the independent country editor who don't have free tickets on the railroads and steamboats, nor his hat chalked at foreign boarding-houses, can stay at home and get twenty cents worth of Centennial bake-pan for six dollars in advertising space, we don't see what benefit is to be derived from a press convention anyhow.

R. H. Shannon, formerly United States Commissioner at New Orleans, who was indicted last year for implication in a conspiracy to defraud the government in the matter of a claim for cotton destroyed during the war, and who "jumped his bail," was arrested at Washington and brought back to New Orleans.

Four prisoners escaped from jail at Bellevue, Bossier parish, four weeks ago, and three burrowed from durance vile at Bastrop. One of the latter returned and gave himself up. A white prisoner who endeavored to escape with the Bellevue gang fell while lowering himself to the ground and was so badly hurt that he could not get away.

Corn is so plentiful in Franklin parish that it has no definite cash value, and is sold to the merchants at seventy-five cents per barrel, in trade. The *Sun* deprecates this sacrifice, and advises farmers to feed their surplus corn to the hogs and make more meat for the smokehouse, rather than let it go for such a pitiful price.

Messrs. Acklen and Darrall, both claiming to have been elected to Congress from this district, will at an early day submit their respective cases to a sub-committee of the Elections Committee, consisting of Messrs. Harris, Cox of Ohio and Ellis of Louisiana. Both contestants are confident of making a conclusive showing.

There seems to be no doubt that the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections will submit a majority report, signed by the six Republican members, favorable to the seating of Kellogg. The three Democrats will present a minority report in favor of Spofford.

A party of Mexicans pursued and chastised a band of cattle stealing Indians on Texas soil, killing six Indians and recovering a quantity of stolen stock.

The U. S. Consul at Samoa was expelled from his residence by a number of Englishmen. He took refuge aboard a French vessel, and after several days returned to his house.

The crew of the Norwegian schooner Ragnoald Gare, which foundered in the English Channel, were brought to New Orleans by the steamship Frankfort.

Mrs. Stephen May, an insane woman living at Mechanicsville, N. Y., threw her three children into a deep creek and then jumped in herself. The mother and two children were rescued.

Steamboat mail service on the Ouachita river has been discontinued by direction of the Postal Department.

THE CONFEDERATE SOLDIER'S RETURN, OR THE LOST CAUSE.—A magnificent picture, beautiful in design and artistic in execution. It represents a Confederate soldier after the war returning to his home, which he finds ruined by shot and shell, looking lonely and desolate. In front of the ruined cottage, telling a sad tale of the miseries of war, are two graves with rude crosses, on one of which some friendly hand has hung a garland. The graves are overhung by a weeping willow, in the shadow of which stands the returned soldier with bowed head, as if thinking of the past. To the right the calm river and rising moon indicate peace and rest. The stars seen through the trees represent the Southern Cross, draped over the graves, an emblem of the Confederate flag as well as a harbinger of brighter days to come. The flood of glorious moonlight streaming through the trees and reflecting on the peaceful river adds to the sentiment and beauty of the scene and the surroundings. No description of this gem of art will do it justice—it must be seen. It is a picture that will touch every southern heart and should find a place in every southern home. It is 14x18 inches in size, on heavy plate paper. One copy will be sent by mail, in a pasteboard roller, to any address, post-paid, on receipt of 25 cts; three copies for 60 cts., or six for $1, in currency or postage stamps. Agents wanted everywhere, to sell this and a variety of other popular cheap pictures. No money required until they are sold. No trouble to sell them. Send stamp for our catalogue and terms.

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