

THE DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF.

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

VOLUME VII.

DONALDSONVILLE, LA., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1877.

NUMBER 15.

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.

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."

SQUARES.	1 mo.	2 mos.	3 mos.	6 mos.	1 year
1 square.	\$3 00	\$5 00	\$6 50	\$11 00	\$15 00
2 squares.	5 00	8 00	9 50	15 00	20 00
3 squares.	7 00	11 00	12 50	19 00	25 00
4 squares.	8 50	14 00	15 50	23 00	30 00
5 squares.	10 00	16 00	17 50	27 00	35 00
6 squares.	11 50	18 00	19 00	30 00	40 00
7 squares.	13 50	20 00	21 00	33 00	44 00
8 squares.	15 00	22 00	24 00	36 00	48 00
1 column.	30 00	50 00	55 00	95 00	120 00
1 column.	40 00	50 00	55 00	95 00	120 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; subsequently, 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.

Address: CHIEF, Donaldsonville, La.

LOUISIANA NEWS.

Tensas Journal: Monday night the store of Messrs. Strands & Nicks, on Lake St. Joseph, was burned to the ground.

Shreveport Times: Willis Alexander, a negro, was killed in Mugginsville by Mr. Charles Madison, who detected him in the act of robbing his stable.

St Bernard Eagle: James Scatter, an old colored man, had his right arm crushed between the rollers of the sugar mill on the Hermitage plantation, and died from his injuries.

Morgan City Register: A shooting affair took place on Capt. Pharr's plantation, between Robert Alpha and a colored man, which resulted in the latter being shot twice, though not seriously.

Thibodaux Sentinel: A difficulty occurred among some colored laborers on G. C. Taylor's plantation, three miles north of this town, in which cane knives were freely used. Two of the combatants were badly cut.

Richland Beacon: Wednesday night a crowd of men went to the house of Isaac Myrick, a negro living near Girard, called him to the door, shot him and then took him out and hung him. At least that is the report.

Monroe Electric Letter: Raney Debit and Wiley Moore, living on the river below Monroe, had a difficulty in which Debit was shot in the lungs and chin, wounding him seriously, if not fatally. Moore acted in self-defense.

Minden Democrat: Saturday night Mr. Willie Berry, when returning from a visit to a neighbor was fired upon from the roadside, and his horse received two bullets in the neck. Dave Lewis, a negro thought to be implicated in a recent murder, has been arrested on the suspicion of having made this attempt at assassination.

Mansfield Reporter: Mr. Ed. Foster, a young man living in the Keatch neighborhood, while engaged in ginning his cotton got his arm caught in the gin, the hand was nearly severed from the arm, and the bones of the arm were cut to splinters up to the elbow. Amputation of the limb was effected, but the patient died from loss of blood.

Natchitoches Indicator: A colored man, Henry Smith by name, was killed two weeks since, by some unknown parties on Black Lake, in this parish. Ben Grant went to Felix Laveau's house and after calling him out, demanding and receiving his money (\$11 50), shot him down on his own door step, inflicting a dangerous wound. The would-be murderer is in jail.

Franklin Sun: The night of the 5th inst., some one attempted to murder Mr. M. W. Newcomer, at Crockett's Point. One shot was fired at him with a double-barreled shotgun, at a distance of not more than six or eight feet, in the dark, without effect, and as he started off the other barrel was fired, four shots taking effect in his leg, without breaking any bones.

Clabourne Guardian: Richard Williams, a colored man of good character, was shot and killed by some party unknown, near Summerfield, Thursday night. The gin-house of Messrs. Taylor & Burnham accidentally took fire and burned, with a quantity of cotton. The residence of Mr. Isaac Brown, near Colquitt, was destroyed by fire. Mr. A. L. Atkins, the only merchant in the village of Athens, lost his residence by fire.

OLD SLEDGE.

BY VANDYKE BROWN.

You may eulogize whist as a game which re-

The stolid skill of our English sires; You may risk your luck on a draw at poker, Or patronize euche—*but not with the joker;* You may find that in cribbage there's some-thing to do.

When you lay out a sequence or fifteen two; You may build at casino, or enter a party For a quiet game of piquet or ecarte— But there isn't a game in the whole of the pack That can hold a candle to high-low jack!

Best Puritan game! in the far away time, When innocent sport was condemned as a crime, The boys of New England would hie them away,

To a friendly barn with its sheltering hay, On the afternoon of the Sabbath day, To digest the sermon and blunt its edge

With thy multitudinous charms, Old Sledge! They studied and dealt with a cautious hand, For their pastboard friends were contraband.

But ever and oft, as they made their scores, They carelessly called the game "all fours." And afar on the California slope, In the days when the Argonauts, flushed with hope,

Were searching for "pockets" and staking their claims, They counted thee then the prince of all games.

By the blazing camp-fire gathered round, What solid comfort in thee they found! Those bearded men, who carried their lives Clutched in their hands, as they carried their knives.

Dealt out the cards and brimmed their cup Of earthly pleasure with seven-up.

With all thy changes of form and name, At heart, Old Sledge, thou art still the same; Thy laws are laws of life in a way, Where all must shuffle and deal and play.

Where the pack is cut by those who would live, Where some must beg and some must give; If we hold the high it is safe, we know, But we need to be cautious with only the low, For a knave will carry his point like a brick, Where a king would fail at taking a trick!"

—N. Y. Clipper.

Our New York Letter.

The Money That Men Leave—Political—The Colored Baby Show—Another Devaluation—Life Insurance Presidents—The Trouble With the Liquor Dealers. New York, Dec. 15, 1877.

Money isn't worth much after the man who made it lets it pass out of his control. Vanderbilt's estate is now a foot-ball in the courts, and where it will finally go, and to whom, is a question. It is so immense an affair that if it is divided each of the heirs will have ten times as much as any one ought to have, but by the time the lawyers and the courts get through with it, the shares will be so pared down as to make a difference in the showing. And now comes another money trouble. Moses H. Grinnell died recently, leaving a fortune of several millions, and he made a will, also. He left a half a million to each of his children, except a daughter, Fanny, to whom he bequeathed only \$10,000, the reason for the discrimination being that she had married a Boston millionaire, and was rich already. It is a question whether Fanny and her husband will concur in the propriety of this distribution, and the chances are that there will be a squabble over this estate. Why don't these men distribute their millions before they die, and save all this trouble? That is what I am going to do. I never will have my children fighting over a hundred millions and dragging my bones out of the grave for the inspection of the public. The Vanderbilt case is dragging its slow length along, and the lawyers are making a bitter fight over it. The children have succeeded in establishing the fact that the old man was a fearful old wretch, and that he never deserved the success he met with. They have shown that he was cruel, sensual and altogether wicked. And it will be proven that he was a confessed spiritualist, but it may be demonstrated that he could make a will for all that.

Senator Conkling has declared war, and has locked horns with the President. The President has determined upon the removal of the officials at New York, for the reason that he wants men in office with whom he can work in the direction of reform, and for the reason that the reforms already instituted were not, as he claims, carried out in good faith. It is true that several hundred employees of the Custom-House were removed by Collector Arthur, in accordance with the orders of the Secretary of the Treasury. But it is claimed that the men intended to be removed were the ones retained. That is, the political strikers and ward politicians were kept, and the really effective workers who were without political influence were dismissed.

The colored baby show will be opened next week, and it will be a

big thing. There will be two thousand Ethiopian babies, of all ages under ten, and their mothers. Every State east of the Mississippi will be represented, and they will be classified properly. It will draw more people than anything of the kind ever held. It is to be hoped that there will be plenty of bath-room in the building, and that due attention will be paid to ventilation.

Two collecting lawyers, both members of fashionable churches, and very prominent in them, absconded this week, with something like a quarter of a million of money belonging to their clients. It is the old story—high living and speculation in Wall street. They had the confidence of everybody, and they did the business of the best houses in the city. But they would speculate, and lost, and a flight to Europe was the way they settled it. And speaking of financial troubles, the explosion of the National Trust Co. is the last thunderbolt. This institution possessed the confidence of the business community, and no one supposed it was in difficulties. But all at once rumors began to gather about it. An investigation was ordered, it was reported "with ample assets," but when those assets came to be examined into they were found to be of the most flimsy character, and thousands upon thousands that had long figured as "good," had no existence at all.

Case, the President of the Security, has exhausted all his legal dodges, and will spend five years of his life in Sing-Sing. Dr. Lambert, his rival in infamy, is being tried, and he will get a longer sentence. If the good work goes on, there will be enough material to organize a life insurance board in the penitentiary, commencing with a president, and going all the way down to an office boy. There are sound and good companies, and they play an important part in the economy of things, but there has been an awful amount of fraud in it.

The police surveillance of the liquor business continues. Over a thousand places have been shut up, and their licenses declared illegal. The tavern dodge did not work, for the courts hold that a tavern must be a tavern indeed, and not a mere place fitted up to evade a law, and the police have shown no discrimination. Delmonico and the hotel bars have shut up, just the same as the smaller bar-rooms, and the only way a drink can be procured, is to slip in at the side door, and only regulars are admitted at all. Whatever may be said as to the justice of this raid upon men who have paid license, there is no question as to its good effect. The arrests for drunkenness have fallen off a half, and the presence of drunken men upon the streets cars has ceased altogether, and there is a noticeable decrease in the number of brutal crimes. Altogether the effect upon the morals of the city has been splendid, and the temperance league is making use of it to encourage a continuance of the work.

The Supreme Court has decided that Judge Morris Marks, of the 4th Judicial District is not eligible to the office which he was elected to fill, on account of not having received a diploma from the State University and not being admitted to practice law by the Supreme Court. The Judge has asked for a new hearing, but will be refused. Some members of our bar are of opinion that this decision will also make Judge Fontelle ineligible as Judge of this District.—Attakapas Register.

Henry Watterson, editor of the Courier-Journal, thinks Grant will be the Republican nominee for the Presidency in 1880. He furthermore scents the idea of the "old line Whig Party" being resuscitated; it is, he says, utterly gone, and the men who composed it in the South are now the most earnest Democrats.

A body of armed and masked men took possession of the town of Osceola, Mo., entered the court-house and seized the tax books, carrying them away. The trouble grew out of an obnoxious tax levied to pay interest on railroad bonds.

We have heard it said that the effort on the part of many politicians to have a constitutional convention at an early date, was simply a move to get rid of the Nicholls government.

Wages of miners in the Wilkesbarre region have been reduced ten per cent. The men have agreed to the reduction upon condition that old wages will be restored when price of coal warrants it.

Cheyenne Indians will remain with Gen. Miles during the winter to assist in chastising hostiles should further occasion offer.

Our Washington Letter.

Rumors of War—Cool Weather—Caring for the Poor—Society Business. WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 13, 1877.

EDITOR CHIEF:

We hear much talk now-a-days that bears ominously upon the subject of war with Mexico. It is stated on good authority that both the President and Secretary of State look upon the possibility rather with favor than with reluctance and misgivings, on the ground that much good would necessarily result from such an evil. I quote from a leading journal on the subject: "To the governing class it would seem a good thing to get up an excitement that would divert attention from the numerous unwelcome issues of home politics and give employment to our thousands of discontented poor. To the political class it would appear a good expedient, now that party fealty is waning, to rally public enthusiasm around the Administration. To the speculative class, including those of the politician sort, it would be a God-send to have a return to the era of army contracts, Government loans and public extravagance. To the Texas Pacific interests it would be the opening of new prospects of success. To the pioneer adventurers it would promise the realization of their dreams of railroad enterprise, colonization schemes and mining ventures. To the military class it would be a welcome relaxation from their monotonous idleness. With the South it would be popular as an extension of its territory and the realization of its supposed destiny. While to a more general class it would be attractive as a stimulus to general trade, helping the country through the dreary depression that has so long afflicted it." Combining the influence of all these classes it is easily conceivable that the Administration may be persuaded that enough has been borne from Mexico, and that her continued bad neighborhood warrants our chastising her and annexing as much of her territory as seems good to us. But oh, if it be possible, let us not have to drink again the bitter cup of war! Let us bear yet a little longer with the troublesome people, if so they will conclude to exercise the better part of valor and behave themselves in a more seemly manner! Give us any thing to bear—only save us the dear lives of our brothers, sons, and husbands.

Frosty nights have now arrived, and, although none but Southerners would deem it really cold, there is a good deal of shivering among the lower classes, who are for the most part poorly clad and poorly housed. The various public charities are organizing—they always are forcibly reminded that the poor are ever among us. The night-lodging house has just opened for the winter and its very first night was full. Of course there is nothing to pay by those who avail themselves of this generosity of the Capital public, and the only recommendation required is the applicant's need. Lodgers are furnished with a supper and breakfast of bread and hot coffee, a bath and a clean bed. Never a night passed last winter but this place was full.

The Labor Exchange is also doing a good work in furnishing employment to those in need. It has now twenty or thirty women engaged in making paper bags for the Agricultural Department, besides having furnished work for hundreds of men in the last few weeks. It proposes now to establish a "penny restaurant" from which can be furnished a dish of soup, baked beans and other nourishing and other hearty meals for from one to five cents each. This will be the greatest help to all in the way of assisting the hundreds of poor working people who find it impossible to make both ends meet with the scant earnings, poor fuel and all.

Society is as quiet as it was in the heat of last midsummer, life in the White House included. I fancy good Mrs. Hayes, patriotic as she is, will tire of the publicity of her life here and long for her cosy and comfortable home in Ohio, where every room spoke out the domesticity of its mistress. Their parlor was simply and tastefully furnished but had none of that stiff, best-room look that so many parlors have. The principal ornaments of the room were excellent portraits of the family, a life size statue of Gen. Grant in terra cotta, a photograph of Lincoln and one or two seal engravings.

What would you think of a father who scolds his baby because it can not take care of itself; or of a gardener who complains in spring of finding on his trees not a single fruit, but only blossoms? Would we not most compassionately laugh at these oddities? Still, many a teacher does not act more wisely. He charges it to the boy as a crime, if the boy acts as nature dictates boys to act; he desires from him conduct which is a product of well developed reason only. But the power of reflection is still weak in youth.

Dear professor, you look for fruits in the time of spring; but by suffering from this mistake you forfeit your claim to belong to the young men from whom we wish to recruit our staff of teachers.

Education.

A Guide for Parents and Teachers. BY REV. DR. SOPHIA. IV.

Furthermore, is it not also possible that faults and bad habits may be taught by wrong treatment? For my part, I am sure of it. Suppose you punish every looseness, every rashness, every mistake of your pupil most severely, what do you teach him?—Falsehood. It is necessary to his youthful nature to be sometimes a little petulant, to act a little thoughtlessly, to commit frequent errors; now, if he knows that you resent all of this with bitterness, what will he do? He will try to conceal his blunders, he will deny everything; he will become deceitful. If you abuse the confidence your pupil placed in you; if you tell his confessions he made to you as to his friend; if you publicly reproach him with them and you make him ashamed, what do you teach him?—Reserve. Can you really expect the young man to trust you with his secrets if you do not know how to keep them? Or that he should show confident candor if you should charge it to him as a crime? Only a simpleton will do it. A boy who feels himself and who can judge the irregularity of your conduct, will withdraw from you his confidence and give it to persons with whom his secrets are better preserved.

If you do not try to ratify the pupil's impulses of activity; if you do not give him anything else but books and pens to occupy him, what do you teach him?—A great number of faults and bad habits, a detailed list of which I do not feel inclined to give. This impulse of activity exists and is a benevolent gift of a wise Creator. It is the patent steel-spring he placed in the young machine.

Books and pens are insufficient to satisfy it, because to make use of these implements, one must reflect. Reflection belongs to the work of reason, which is still in the state of development in a boy. And though books may be used with reflection, still the constant use of them is too monotonous for boys that love change. Consequently boys that are constantly fettered to their books and desks, find the time hang heavy.

Should we succeed in causing some of them to become accustomed to this cage life, their impulse of activity is choked and they become lazy and idle. If we do not prosper, as it happens in most cases, the hemmed impulse breaks the arbitrary chains and is lapsed into digressions, of which generally the secret sins seem to be the first. Who taught these faults?—The tutor, wise and infallible in his eyes. O, numerous are the ways and means by which a would-be teacher may teach faults to the precious treasure which has been committed to his especial care—to our rising generation.

Finally, the teacher becomes guilty of the faults of his pupils by imputing bad habits where they do not really exist. If one listens to the descriptions which many a tutor makes of his boys, one may be horrified at it and lose all pleasure in dedicating time and pains to the beneficent occupation of educating youth. "There is not the least impulse to do anything useful. There is disgusting idleness, thoughtlessness, incompatibility, tricks, malice. It is a mere band of rude, uncouth boys, of whom you can make nothing." A well informed pedagogue laughs at these complaints, for he perceives that most of the mentioned faults only exist in the brain of the wise tutor, who calls effects of youthful nature faults of youth.

What would you think of a father who scolds his baby because it can not take care of itself; or of a gardener who complains in spring of finding on his trees not a single fruit, but only blossoms? Would we not most compassionately laugh at these oddities? Still, many a teacher does not act more wisely. He charges it to the boy as a crime, if the boy acts as nature dictates boys to act; he desires from him conduct which is a product of well developed reason only. But the power of reflection is still weak in youth. Dear professor, you look for fruits in the time of spring; but by suffering from this mistake you forfeit your claim to belong to the young men from whom we wish to recruit our staff of teachers.

Weekly News Summary.

Foreign. The Pope is much better. A great fire occurred at Santander, Spain. Czar Alexander is en route to St. Petersburg. Erzeroum is being surrounded by the Russians. Greece's Cabinet resolved to adhere to a peace policy. Emile de Girardin was elected a Deputy from Paris. Gen. Aurelle de Paladines, life Senator of France, is dead. The total Russian loss, up to December 13, was 77,658 men. The principal block of buildings in Newcastle, Canada, burned. A Christian has been elected President of the Turkish Chamber of Deputies. The Montenegrins have severed communication between Podgoritz and Scutari. Minister Hilliard, our new Brazilian representative, has been presented to the Emperor. Turks were worsted in an attack on the forces of the Grand Duke Vladimir at Metehka. Elena was burned and evacuated by the Turks; the Russians have retained their former position there. The horses attached to Lord Derby's coach ran away, killing the coachman. Lord Derby escaped with slight injuries. The Czar placed his own carriage and escort at the disposal of Osman Pasha, and returned him his sword in recognition of his bravery. Gen. Huerta, former governor of Sonora, is reported in Mexico with 2000 American filibusters, stationed near the Sonora line, preparing for invasion.

Domestic.

Presbyterian University, Chicago, burned. Taunton Savings Bank, Taunton, Mass., suspended. Oriental Savings Bank of New York has closed business. Crawley cotton mill, Philadelphia, burned, costing 100 men. Mrs. Gilman, wife of the New York forger, has recovered her reason. Republicans carried Boston by 2200 majority, a gain of 5000 on last year's vote. Charleston was carried by the Democrats in the municipal election last week. Thomas Behan shot and killed Alonzo Beatty in a saloon quarrel at Nashville. Mrs. G. M. Y. Midere tried to kill herself in a New Orleans hotel by taking laudanum. S. M. Bixby & Co., the well known New York manufacturers of shoe-black- ing, have failed. Conkling's friends are wire-working for control of the Union League club of New York city. New York city has received nearly \$500,000 from Sweeney and Woodward of the Tweed ring. British bark Merry England, with a cargo of mahogany, wrecked off Key West; crew saved. The President has pardoned Henry Schreiber, convicted at New Orleans of robbing the mail. The net earnings of the W. U. Telegraph Co. for the present quarter will exceed \$700,000. John Jones, colored, was hanged at Marion, Ark., for the murder of Joseph Colwell, also colored. Mary Stewart, a little colored girl, was fatally burned at New Orleans by falling into a furnace. President Hayes and several members of his cabinet will spend Christmas in New York city. A fund is being raised for erecting a monument to Senator Morton. President Hayes subscribed \$100. Ned Norman was killed at New Orleans by a blow from Alexander Shelton's fist. Both colored men. Ham, the Kansas City swindler, has been sentenced to ten years in the Texas penitentiary at Austin. Sam. Holmes, a noted desperado who murdered Sheriff Napier in 1869, has been arrested at Stanford, Ky. An old colored man unwittingly killed himself at New Orleans by burning charcoal in his sleeping room. A \$65,000 fire occurred at Helena, Ark. Among other buildings destroyed were the post-office and World office. The Baroness de Bussiere, daughter of Benj. Halliday, the California millionaire, died at New York of pneumonia. Boiler at Clark & Buck's machine shop, Vincennes, Ind., exploded, killing two men and hurting several others. A train of cars loaded with oil burned at Paterson, N. J. Burning oil ran through the streets and several houses caught fire.

Weekly News Summary.

Schooner Elizabeth Edwards, from New Orleans for Providence with cotton, went ashore on Long Island and is a total loss.

I use here and in the following the word "boy," for in writing this essay I chiefly considered the treatment of boys, but most of the rules laid down may with slight changes be also applied for the education of young ladies.