

Donaldsonville Chief.

Office in Crescent Place.

Subscription Price, Two Dollars a Year.

DONALDSONVILLE, LA.,

Saturday, March 2, 1878.

LOCAL JOTTINGS.

We had intended to give a full account of a novel excursion down Bayou Lafourche to Thibodaux, in which the editor participated this week, but circumstances compel us to defer the article until next issue.

Governor Nicholls signed the act changing the terms of our District Court, and the law has been officially promulgated. Under its provisions Judge Duffel will open court in St. Charles parish on the first Monday of April, moving to St. John on the third Monday.

Salutes were fired morning, noon and evening, on Washington's birthday anniversary, by a gun squad of the Cannoneers. In the evening the Cannoneers and St. Joseph Cadets had a brief parade, marching through town from the drill ground to the D. S. C. B. Hall. The public offices were closed during the day, but other business about town went on as usual.

The Independent Brass Band of this town is engaged to furnish music for one of the New Orleans fire companies on the occasion of the firemen's annual parade next Monday, and will enjoy the honor of heading the cavalcade which is to receive Rex at the steamboat landing and escort him into the city. The Independents have the musical capacity to do justice to any position which may be assigned them.

The tall and venerable trees skirting Louisiana Square in spots have been felled to earth and converted into prosaic firewood. In their stead a number of young sycamores have been set out at stated intervals around the square, and in a few years, with proper care, we shall have a sylvan spot in the centre of town that will be at once an ornament and a credit to Donaldsonville. The municipal authorities are to be commended for their efforts to improve and beautify the appearance of our growing little city.

The many friends of Andrew Ginyry, Esq.—better known as "Junior"—were delighted to greet him on his return to Donaldsonville this week, after an absence of something over three years. He has not changed greatly, and such alteration as has occurred is for the better. Somewhat more staid and manly in appearance, and better looking withal, he is yet the same old Junior whose hearty and jovial nature made him a universal favorite with all who knew him. We bid him welcome home, and hope he will conclude to remain here.

The bill providing a new charter for Donaldsonville has been made the special order for next Monday in the Senate. Even if this body should pass it—which is problematical—there is only one chance in a hundred of securing action on the measure in the House before the close of the session on Thursday, the 7th inst. This is the view of Mayor Duffel, who came up from New Orleans yesterday. He is hopeless of any thing being done for the relief of the town, and unless this anticipation is agreeably disappointed, he proposes to urge upon our Senators and Representatives the propriety of procuring the passage of a bill wiping out the corporation of Donaldsonville.

Mr. Ben. Gibson offers for sale at very low prices 164 town lots situated in the proposed village of Darrowville, and a dozen larger lots in the rear of the others, containing nearly seventeen acres each. The site of Darrowville is eligibly located on the left bank of the Mississippi river, opposite the upper portion of Donaldsonville. It is neatly laid off in lots of uniform size, as per plan drawn by Parish Surveyor Bloomfield, which is on file in the Recorder's office for public inspection. The direct road to New River which, it is hoped, will be constructed before many months, will form the lower boundary, and the steam ferry landing is near the centre of the river front. There can be no doubt that Darrowville is destined to become a flourishing little town—a valuable auxiliary to Donaldsonville—and an investment in its lots is quite certain to prove remunerative in the near future. A number of lots have already been disposed of, and those who desire choice bargains should purchase soon.

Resolutions adopted by the School Board at the meeting of last Saturday are published officially in another column, and persons intending to make application for teachers' positions will find matter of interest therein. The Board has adopted the suggestion of the State Superintendent relative to grading the schools and paying the teachers according to their respective grades. An examination of applicants for teachers' certificates will take place at the Court-House on Wednesday, the 13th inst., commencing at 10 o'clock A. M., and candidates must file written applications with the Secretary of the Board five days before that time.

THE CANNONEERS' BALL.—No more agreeable entertainment could be desired than the fancy dress ball which took place at the D. S. C. B. Hall the night of the 22nd of February, under the auspices of the Cannoneers of Donaldson. The arrangements were admirable, and were carried out so faithfully and well that not an incident occurred to mar the enjoyment of the guests or cause even the slightest interruption of the prearranged programme. The spacious hall was well filled with guests, representing the grace and beauty of the gentler sex, the comeliness and chivalry of the sterner. We forbear making specific mention of any of the beautiful toilettes displayed by the ladies, or expressing our taste as to the comparative beauty of the wearers, because in the midst of such a profusion of loveliness it was difficult to discriminate, and to accord prominence to some might be regarded as an invidious distinction against others. We believe the most approved policy in such matters is to confine the editorial pen to description of a general character, leaving it to each guest to determine in his or her own mind who is best entitled to be designated "the belle of the ball." The assembly at the Cannoneers' ball presented ample material for numerous differences of opinion on this point. The music furnished was first-class, and to its harmonious cadences nimble feet kept time through the swiftly flying hours of night. Supper was provided in the Hook and Ladder Company's truck-house by one of Donaldsonville's best caterers, whose efforts on this occasion met with high appreciation. The decorations in the ball-room deserve mention, as also does the handsome appearance of the Cannoneers in their attractive uniforms. These things were factors in the production of one of the most brilliant entertainments ever given here.

The ball was successful in a financial as well as a social point of view, as the receipts from the sale of tickets left a comfortable margin over the expenses, which proves a welcome addition to the funds in the treasury of the Cannoneers.

Next Tuesday night, Mardi Gras, a grand fancy dress, mask and military ball will be given by the same organization. Terms of admission similar to those of the Washington anniversary entertainment: invited gentlemen \$1; ladies free.

A STRIKE FOR LIBERTY.—An attempt of Supposed Murderers to Break Jail.—Wednesday afternoon Deputy Sheriff Louis Lefort went hunting, leaving Constable Sam St. Martin in charge of the jail. When the usual hour for cleaning the cells arrived, the Constable was about to unlock the one in which the Arriens murderers are confined, when his movements were arrested by the behavior of Octave Lauve, one of the prisoners, who placed his face against the grated door and whispered a warning not to open it. Before the officer could appreciate the import of this action, Lauve was knocked down and beaten by Wilson Childress and Fountain Banks, who might have killed him but for the interference of Pierre Butler and Albert Williams. Several of the prisoners cursed the Constable vehemently, daring him to open the cell, and threatening to kill him and escape. Of course the door remained closed upon the scoundrels for that afternoon. When the Jailor returned and was informed of the melee, he resolved to give the rebellious prisoners an opportunity to show their hands. Consequently he loaded his trusty gun with buckshot—three dozen balls in each barrel—and when the breakfast hour arrived Thursday, he placed the weapon just outside the door at the rear end of the hallway into which the cells open, and laid his revolver on a table close by, instead of holding it in his hand as is his usual custom. Zenon, the cook, opened the middle cell and then proceeded to unlock the door of that in which the obstreperous prisoners are confined. He had scarcely done so when he was seized, the keys taken away and a shower of blows rained upon him. Being a very powerful man, he broke away from his assailants, leaving the keys in their possession. The parties engaged in this

attack made no further demonstration for a few moments, probably expecting the Jailor to go in search of assistance to recover the keys. If this was their idea, they miscalculated the judgment and pluck of their custodian. Finding him indisposed to desert his post, and seeing no arms about his person, they made a sudden and concerted rush towards the open doorway where he stood. Quick as thought Louis snatched up his gun and brought it to his shoulder with both barrels at full cock, and the conspirators quailed before the ominous weapon, rushing back in frantic dismay, more eager to get out of range of the gun than they had been to escape from prison. Having thus cowed the fractious members of his flock, the Jailor remained on guard with his cocked gun until the arrival of several persons summoned by Zenon, when the cell keys were recovered and the following five prisoners placed in the stocks, where they will be kept until next session of the District Court: Wilson Childress, Fountain Banks and Aaron Carter, charged with the murder of Narcisse Arriens; Edmond Coleman, who shot and maimed Wilson Carey at Dominique's seore; and Alex. Madison, accused of burglarizing Barthelmy's gun-shop. These are believed to be the only parties concerned in the plot to break out, and their action dispels whatever doubt might have been entertained of their responsibility for the crimes with which they are charged. The other prisoners behaved well during the disturbance, and several volunteered their services to restore order. Hugh Miller and Tom Ryan asked to be allowed to procure the keys for the Jailor just after they had been wrested from Zenon, but permission was refused.

This incident was not needed to demonstrate what a dangerous task it is to keep a jail where desperate villains like those who killed old man Arriens are confined; nor was it essential to prove the admirable capacity of Jailor Lefort, from whose custody no prisoner has ever escaped. Can't our Police Jurors testify their appreciation of his valuable public services by still further entailing his fees? If he had allowed the prisoners to get away, the people would not be burdened with their support. Clearly, the Jailor is an obstacle to the prevailing policy of retrenchment and reform. Let him be punished.

Assumption Correspondence.

NAPOLÉONVILLE, LA., Feb. 20, 1878.

EDITOR CHIEF:

The breeze of last Wednesday appeared to exhilarate all hands in this "neck of the woods," whatever effect it may have produced in other sections. Some of the old stagers who had inhaled rather too freely at "Peets" saloon snuffed what little they could of the passing hurricyclone, and as if elated by its transient influence, courageously endeavored to face the unseen elements, and imbue the more timorous with a portion of the valor of which the said old stagers seemed to have a superabundance. Trees, chimneys, signs, fences, shingles, etc., vied with each other in their aerial evolutions, while an occasional "tile" might have been seen traveling along at a more rapid pace than suited the convenience of its highly demoralized owner. However, as the day drew to a close and twilight verged into the first shadow of night, Zephyrus, (who had only been indulging in a little "blow-out") became more amiable and consequently the hours were passed in somnolency of a first-class grade.

The city papers, somehow, do not always "make this landing" with that regularity which should characterize the efforts of our metropolitan journalists, and in consequence of not having anything later than last Saturday's *Democrat and Pic*, I feel rather lost on the "Southern Policy," and do not even know whether or not Mad. Wells' prime minister, Anderson, has been permitted to have a new trial. My opinion is that the pardoning power vested in the executive will not be used in his behalf.

Much interest is manifested among all classes herabouts relative to internal improvements. Prominent is the scheme for removing obstructions from the Bayou Lafourche so as to admit of navigation for the regular packets throughout the entire year. The principal impediments are said to be at and in the immediate vicinity of Donaldsonville, where the deposit from the Mississippi forms a series of bars that could, with small aid from the State, be easily removed, and, by so doing, add much to the business interests and enterprises of the Lafourche Valley. Petitions having this object in view, have been extensively circulated, and met with unanimous response, and I have no doubt of its ultimate success.

A floating photographic gallery has been at our landing for a short time, and to judge by the throng in attendance I should think the artist was coining his everlasting fortune. This morning I met up with a personage from the rural districts, inquiring for the studio of the photographer. Said he, "You see an 'Maria' are engaged, and she heard tell of that picture man being here, an' said she to me 'Dolphus, les go an' have our portraits took now, so's when we celebrate our golden wedding we can look back an' see how we looked fifty years interior!'"

I know it was very wicked in me to do so, but some how I could not help directing him to a tin-boat which was lying further up the bayou telling him, at the same time, of the new process by which the art of Photography had been superseded by the *finisage* discovery, adding much to the stability and beauty of the pictures. I also intimated that it was often necessary to make use of hard language towards the artist in order to induce him to spare the time to give a proper sitting. Having given him full instructions how to proceed, I had the satisfaction a few minutes later, of seeing him escort his intended bride on board the floating tinshop; and just now, from my snug retreat in Levy's store, I see a large crowd on the levee in front of said tinshop, listening to, and seemingly encouraging the belligerents inside. As the lady emerges from the boat followed by the rural rustic, who in turn is followed by naughty ejaculations, and sundry twangs, the form of your correspondent may have been seen stealthily creeping from the rear of his retreat towards the neighborhood of the lofty express which rear their giant forms as if to throw their protection around me, and as I enter the sanctuaries thus offered, a voice is ringing in my ears—"Where in thunder is that onery cuss who sent me to a turned Yankee nutmegger maker to have my picture taken?" Yours, &c., LEO NO. 2.

A BRILLIANT OPENING.

M. Israel & Co. Commencing Business in their New Store—Public Reception in Honor of the Event.

A large number of people visited the new store of M. Israel & Co. on the occasion of its formal opening, Saturday evening last, and the beauties of the building, heightened by an artistic arrangement of the large stock of goods, won the admiration of all. It is no stretch of reportorial license to reiterate that the establishment, viewed externally or from the interior, would not suffer in comparison with the most pretentious emporiums which grace the business centres of New Orleans. As visitors entered the front doors of the brilliantly illuminated store, their eyes were greeted by the word "welcome," the letters formed of colored ribbon placed upon white face curtains. This was the handiwork of Mr. H. A. Willoz, to whose taste and that of Mr. J. Lafargue, was mainly due the attractive appearance of the entire stock. And the guests were indeed made welcome, Messrs. Pierre and Wm. Klopman, seconded by their gentlemanly assistants, Messrs. Willoz, Lafargue, the Netter brothers, Gervais Gauthreaux and two others, according every attention which could tend to make the occasion pleasant. Mrs. Pierre Klopman was also present, gracefully assisting her husband in the reception and entertainment of visitors. A valuable auxiliary to this well accomplished task was provided in the shape of a table upon which a large bowl of champagne punch and a tray of pastry stood out in bold relief. Behind this Mr. Pierre Klopman officiated with adeptness and urbanity, dealing out the good things to an appreciative throng of ladies and gentlemen who quaffed the refreshing liquid to the continued prosperity of M. Israel & Co. in their new quarters.

The inspection of the goods and fixtures afforded pleasant employment for a half-hour or more, and in this way the constant stream of visitors amused themselves during the hours devoted to their entertainment. The first floor was naturally the centre of attraction, as here were displayed, with a view to ornamentation, the myriads of articles which go to form the stock of a well furnished dry goods, clothing and variety emporium. The scene was beautiful from all points of observation, but appeared to greatest advantage when viewed from the landing half way up the staircase leading to the second floor. Upon the latter floor is the wholesale department, arranged after the manner of similar establishments in the large cities. In the third or attic story the carriages, huggies and kindred articles are stored. An elevator renders the hoisting or lowering of the heavies boxes, etc., an easy matter.

In a well arranged office standing at the rear end of the ground floor, Mr. Willoz, the bookkeeper, is installed in state, surrounded by all the conveniences for his occupation which ingenuity could suggest. Communication with the adjoining private office of the Messrs. Klopman is secured by means of a small window with sliding pane, and through a similar aperture business is transacted with the salesmen or others having occasion to visit the office. This entire seclusion is insured to the bookkeeper during business hours.

One feature of the establishment merits especial mention—the spacious show window at the Railroad Avenue corner, which presented a very pretty sight, evidencing the taste and ingenuity of Mr. Lafargue.

The entire building is lighted with gas manufactured by a machine of Paquette's patent, and the illuminating power of the article seems equal to that of the coal gas commonly used in cities.

Mr. Bernard Lemann kept his portion of the building open until a late hour, and most of those visiting the store of Israel & Co., embraced the opportunity to inspect Mr. Lemann's establishment and stock also. The proprietor received all with his accustomed politeness, and took pleasure in escorting them through the several departments of his magnificent store. The new building has been auspiciously inaugurated as a leading factor in the mercantile progress of the town. May prosperity and success attend those whose enterprise and public spirit have reared the edifice and made it a lasting ornament to Donaldsonville.

Address Presbrey & Green, No. 509 7th street, Washington, D. C., (enclosing stamp) for information in relation to Patents, Land Entries, Land Titles, Bounty Lands, Pensions, Trade Marks, Infringements of Patents, Indian or Mexican deprecation claims, Postmasters' and Contractors' accounts or any other business in the departments of the Government or before Congress.

Intelligence Bureau.

PLANTERS, ATTENTION! GRIFFIN'S EMPLOYERS' AND SERVANTS' INTELLIGENCE BUREAU—AND—CLAIM AGENCY, 114 CARONDELET STREET, NEW ORLEANS.

The undersigned, having had many years' experience in one of the largest Northern Cities, in the selection of servants for employers, and obtaining situations for the unemployed, and believing in the advantage to the public of a permanent bureau, where those needing help can call at any time and procure such as may be required, and whose out-of-employment can obtain good situations, inform the public that they have established a bureau as above, where, at the shortest notice, Private Families, Boarding Houses, Hotels, Restaurants, Steamboats, Stores, Plantations, Etc., Etc., can be supplied with first-class cooks, waiters, nurses, stewards, (male and female), maids, housekeepers, seamstresses, traveling servants, ladies' maids, valets, servants of all work, men or women to work by the day or month. Also, book-keepers, clerks, salesmen, overseers for plantations, bar-tenders, coachmen, waiters, grooms, hostlers, office cleaners. Boys for any occupations, and likewise laborers for plantations, white and colored.

English, French, American, German and Spanish employers wishing first-class help, and those desiring good situations in the city or country, will find it to their advantage to call at once, or communicate and have their Names Registered.

Special attention given to private families, and ladies will find it to their advantage to call in person, and make known their requirements.

Neatly Furnished Rooms for Those Desiring Situations.

Planters wishing first-class laborers from the North or any of the Southern States (white or colored), can have their orders filled on short notice, by calling in person or addressing this bureau, as we have agents in each of the Southern States as well as in Northern cities expressly for the purpose of engaging hands.

Agents wanted in the country parishes and in the States of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and Texas, to whom a liberal compensation will be paid, for the purpose of engaging and forwarding labor. For particulars, enclose postage stamp.

UNITED STATES CLAIM AGENCY.

Claims of all kinds against the States or the United States for bounty, pensions, prize money, etc., etc., collected promptly.

Land warrants of the Revolutionary, Black Hawk, Florida, Mexican Wars, and War of 1812 bought and sold.

Compensation obtained for all losses of stock, produce, or otherwise, sustained by acts of the Federal Army during the war.

G. H. GRIFFIN & CO.

164 TOWN LOTS FOR SALE, IN THE Projected Town of Darrowville, (Opposite Donaldsonville.)

At prices ranging from \$35 to \$75 each.

12 LARGER LOTS,

Containing nearly 17 acres each, for \$500 per lot.

The site of the town is opposite Donaldsonville, left bank Mississippi river, the River Ferry Landing being located near the centre of the town front, and the proposed New River Road forming the Eastern or lower boundary line.

A plan of the Town can be seen at the Recorder's office.

For further particulars, apply to Dr. E. R. CONNELL, at the residence of Mrs. B. K. Darrow, or to the undersigned at Gem Plantation.

BEN. GIBSON.

Educational.

Extracts from the Minutes of a Special Meeting of the School Board of the Parish of Ascension, held Saturday, February 23, 1878.

Resolved, That the public schools of this parish be divided into four grades, and the teachers of each grade respectively be paid as follows:

1. Primary Grades—\$20 per month on not less than ten pupils (the minimum allowed by law) with an increase of fifty cents per month for each pupil over twenty and not exceeding forty.
2. Intermediate or Mixed Primary and Grammar Grade—\$30 per month for not less than ten pupils with an increase of seventy-five cents per month for each pupil over twenty and not exceeding forty.
3. Grammar Grade—\$40 per month for not less than ten pupils with an increase of one dollar per month for each pupil over twenty and not exceeding forty.

[N. B.—The average compensation on this basis for the largest number of forty pupils would be \$1 12 per pupil per month, or \$6 72 for six months, which is as much as the annual school revenue of three or four mills will allow.]

Resolved, That the grades shall be determined by the results of the examination of candidates, assigning to the Primary those whose per centage of credits is above seventy and less than 76-100; to the Intermediate over seventy-five and less than 81-100; and the Grammar not less than 85-100; adding one per cent to each qualified candidate's maximum for each year of actual experience in teaching.

Resolved further, That the examination of candidates for teachers in the public schools in this parish shall take place in accordance with the above plan on Wednesday, March 13, 1878, at the Court-House of the parish of Ascension, commencing punctually at 10 o'clock A. M.

Resolved further, That all candidates for the position of teachers in the public schools, shall file with the Secretary of the Board, five days before the day of examination, their written application for such position.

Resolved, That these resolutions be published in the DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF.

A true extract from the minutes.

E. N. PUGH, Secretary.

Regular New Orleans and Bayou Sara Passenger Packet.

THE PINE SIDE-WHEEL STEAMER

OUACHITA BELLE,

J. C. LIBANO, Master. J. H. MOSSOP, Clerk.

Leaves New Orleans

Every Wednesday and Saturday, at 5 p. m.

For Bayou Sara and Coast Landings.

RETURNING DOWN:

Monday's Trip—

Leaves Bayou Sara.....10 A. M.

" Port Hudson.....12 M.

" Baton Rouge.....5 "

" Plaquemine.....7 "

" Donaldsonville.....10 "

Thursday Evenings—

Leaves Bayou Sara.....6 P. M.

" Port Hudson.....9 "

Friday Mornings—

Leaves Baton Rouge.....7 A. M.

" Plaquemine.....9 "

" Donaldsonville.....12 "

City Hotel,

Cor. Railroad Avenue and Iberville Street

Donaldsonville, La.

P. LEFÈVRE, Proprietor.

The bar is always supplied with the best

Wines and Liquors. je30-ly

Shingles and Staves

For Sale.

Delivered any where on the coast or Bayou

Lafourche. Also agent for the celebrated

Wool Sewing Machine.

Apply to or address, C. KLINE,

je22 Donaldsonville, La.

Notice to Tax Payers,

Town of Donaldsonville.

DONALDSONVILLE, Feb. 13, 1878.

THE Tax Payers of the Town of Donald-

sonville are hereby notified to call at

my office, No. 13 Crescent Place, and pay

their

Taxes and Licenses for 1878,

within TWENTY DAYS, in default of which

they will be prosecuted according to law.

AUGUSTE BERCEGAY,

Tax Collector, town of Donaldsonville.