

# The Donaldsonville Chief.

Two Dollars a Year.

## YE ANCIENT PHILOSOPHER.

He Discovers the Assumption of the Ladies, and Announces the Peril of the Ladies—Small Pox, Much Wealth, Fine Crops.

NATOLSONVILLE, May 3, 1883.

### EDITOR CHIEF:

This bird is flattened out on pretty much the same spot of ground on which I first planted my number thirteen on it. I do not suppose the town limits have increased in magnitude since 1850, but "all the same," the wings had bulged out on the south-west side, and to the rear, and the then vacant spaces had been more or less occupied by habitations, the dwellers of which seem to care naught for outward show. But though Napoleon isn't much of a city and its buildings and general appearance do not loom up magnificently at a distance, or show a more brilliant aspect on closer inspection, let me tell you, Sachem, there is much more enterprise and stiff-spined energy lying around here than a short-sighted, short-haired philosopher would imagine. And then, should you ever pull the latch-string and enter some of those residences whose exterior require a thicker coat of paint than my Faber is capable of producing, you would enjoy the contrast; the "true inwardness" would remain you that a ragged shirt may often cover a warm, generous and honest heart. Also, mixed up and permeating around and through the general air of comfort and tidiness, diffusing an enhanced attraction and beauty over all within, one could not fail but notice the impress left by the presence of women.

Speaking of the ladies reminds me of a little occurrence that happened yesterday. I was on the levee, watching the unloading of ice from the barge, recently arrived, and the rapid transit of huge blocks of fragility from the boat to the storehouse, when my attention was called to the opposite side of the bayou by the entrancing melody of rippling, heartful laughter emanating from feminine lips. Ah, Sachem! a woman's smile has caused many a man to become a hero; and sentiment to—ahem, perdition; but her joyous, soul-inspiring laughter, especially when accompanied by the million-and-two other wiles that constitute the stock in trade of all the gentler (if sex, would send a man "having-been" to the asylum, or to hunt the big end of a rainbow to climb to glory. (I have known men throw their lives away writing poetry). Well, I will, perhaps, better appreciate my feelings on the occasion above referred to, when I inform you that it was not the first time I had listened to her laugh. I recognized the magical ripple at once, for no one else outside of heaven can do the trill business in better style than my Jerusalem! I couldn't tell exactly how I felt at the time—sort of an all-overlashed, as if I had swallowed one of those large chunks of ice that Henry Cook was storing away for the summer solstice—

But when I looked across the bayou and saw her waving her parasol at me, when I saw her happy face seemed to be—riding with another fellow—and as I reflected that she wore that lace around her neck that Iod. Webster charged me five dollars for, and the pretty hat that cost me an X at Israel's, last Spring, you may suppose there was considerable of a turmoil caving around under my vest. Young man, if you had ever been afflicted thonly, I pity you; if not, don't let your ambition run in that direction. I don't advise you to.

Go feel what I've felt, etc., for the charms that now surround the wig, would soon be non-existent. Things are not quite clear yet, but I have some indistinct recollection of Dupuy's saloon, the size of his glistening beer schooners, and a cooling off process in the ice depot.

Had the alleged Texas meteor fallen among the townspeople or the Mississippi cyclone swept through our little village, scarcely a greater degree of consternation and excitement could have manifested than that experienced last Friday, on discovering that a small pox patient had been surreptitiously conveyed to our town and left to the hospitalities of our good Samaritans. The sufferer was a young colored woman and when first found, was endeavoring, by dragging herself along, to reach the bayou in order to quench her thirst. Blinded by the disease, though within a few feet of the stream, she could not see it, and her agony was saddening in the extreme. The authorities, after much delay, and difficulty in procuring suitable persons to attend the case, had at last succeeded in placing her beyond the reach of contagion, and up to latest reports the case is improving. Various rumors are in circulation as to the locality from which the afflicted one was brought. I overheard a colored man, conversing with others on this topic, say that the girl's brother brought her from near Paincourtville, and left her here, with the threat that if she told who they were they would kill her. There is no law, I believe, to punish them for such a heartless act, but in case the miscreants should be uncaught, I think a slight deviation from red tape restriction might have a wholesome effect in the "sweet bye and bye."

The weather now in circulation among the Assumptionites is strictly first-class for the agricultural portion, and no serious aversion to the rather warm days and cool nights is exhibited by either the colored top rails for their more modest pale brethren. But, for me, individually, I was brought up to believe in reasonable weather. March should be doing something on the John Forecha style, don't you know? In April one is expected to take around an umbrella to protect him gently from the sun and rain. And May—oh, gentle, pleasant and rhythmic-making period—but I haven't struck it yet. It seems to me that March has been running the weather business pretty near all the way through since 1853's advent, and right now, when almost everybody is thinking it time for the old fellow to let up on belows biz, a perfect miniature hurricane is scattering my paper around the room, and raising—jig-jigs everywhere; so, between the time lost in collecting my loose manuscript and watching that pretty maiden holding on to her swish, across the way, the chances are against my finishing this epistle to-day.

Crops—cane and corn—are looking well, and the average soil-tiller is much elated at his fortunate escape from foundation. Still, there is some trepidation felt among the small planters of the brules, owing to the destruction that may ensue from the expected June rice; but such fears do not, in the least, deter them from pushing forward the necessary work to insure a bountiful

The bayou steamers are doing a thriving business at present, both in the freight and passenger lines. Last Thursday the Assumption was about eleven hours on her trip between Donaldsonville and Napoleonville, a distance of 16 miles, with freight for a majority of the plantations on both banks. The planters are making strenuous exertions for big crops; a large amount of new machinery, fertilizers and stores being left at their landings by the passing boats. To judge from the quantity of building material, machinery, implements, etc., now scattered in front of the Elm Hall plantation, one would conclude that Mr. Godechaux had a serious intention of making vast improvements on his recently acquired property, and as he is sufficiently endowed with energy and backed by the neutral force of all evil, there is no question but the old "Kittredge Place," under its new management, will thrive with some of its former

If the wind would only summer down and I didn't have to go down the bayou to investigate that Jersey matter, I would like to put out good work for the noble Assumption, but as I can't do every thing at once and talk to the girls too, you must wait awhile, if not for a fortnight, before you hear again from Y. A. P.

In a recent lecture, Rev. W. H. Dallinger, F. R. S., recalled that modern inquiry had shown that two microscopic organisms may have the same form but totally unlike functions—the one being harmless and the other deadly. This explains how it is that putrefactive germs may be everywhere present without always causing disease.

Prof. Milne, the seismologist, declares it to be his increasing conviction that there are "earthquakes" of so low period that neither observers nor ordinary instruments record them. He is urging upon the Japanese Government the importance of establishing a series of observatories for studying earthquakes and allied phenomena.

Brigadier General James H. Cogswell, formerly editor of the *Natchitoches Tivoliator* but now a horny-handed farmer, is added to the long and growing list of popular candidates for next Governor. Ah, ha! is brother James posing as a modern Cincinnati?

The most reliable, carefully prepared and best guaranteed of the present age is **BRANDRETH'S PILLS**. They are compounded of Roots, Herbs and Gems of the most healing and beneficial kind. As a Family Medicine they are unrivaled, curing Headache, Constipation, Liver Complaint, Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, clearing the blood of all impurities—acting on the Liver, Kidneys and other important organs, removing the waste tissues, and adding years to the lives of all who use them.

For fifty years they have been used by the Americans, and their constantly increasing sales show how they are appreciated.

A Perfect Remedy in 20 Diseases. **ASHERLEIGH'S PILLS**. I am verging on eighty years, and deem it my duty to suffering humanity to say that my long life is due to **ASHERLEIGH'S PILLS** which have been my good friend for half a century. I know the last forty-three years of my life were sold to their use. My PILLS saved me many times after the best medical skill in several States had given me up as hopeless. I have had many converts to purgation with **ASHERLEIGH'S PILLS**, and have seen them perform almost miracles of cure. For children, a few doses lower cured measles, scarlet fever, and whooping cough. In all female troubles and weakness I have never known them to fail. In adult males I have known them to cure the worst cases of dyspepsia, rheumatism, kidney disease, dysentery and diarrhea; even dropsy, paralysis and apoplexy have yielded to a persistent course of **ASHERLEIGH'S PILLS**. In fact, I have found them the true **LIFE PILLS**. They act as continual preventives against the effects of time, disease, and labor.

**JOHN H. MANN.**

**ADVERTISEMENTS.**

### THE NEW PATENT DUST-PROOF STEM WINDING OPEN FACE CASE.

Manufactured by the **American Watch Co., WALTHAM, MASS.**

This case is formed in our solid piece without seam or joint, opening in front only, thus avoiding the usual cap, and securing greater strength and durability.

These Watches are all open face. The bezel, into which an extra strong crystal is fitted with an especially prepared dust-proof cement, is attached to the case by screwing it thereon, and thus forms an airtight junction with the body of the case, which is proof against dust and moisture.

To and other men, travelers, miners, lumbermen and those who are almost constantly exposed and who have to make frequent reference to the watch, these qualities are of the utmost importance.

**The following letters tell their own story.**

"VALDOSTA, Ga., July 20, 1882.

I sold one of your Patent Dust-Proof Cases about ten months ago, and the other day it came back to me with the request to make it wind easier. On examination I found that the stem was rusty, and I inquired into the cause of it. The gentleman stated to me that he was starting some sawlogs that had lodged in a bush on the river, when his chain caught in a bush, and threw his watch into about twelve feet of water, and he was about two hours finding it. When he got it out it was running and he thought all right. In about three months he found that the stem was hard to turn and sent it to me. I found that the watch is all that the Company claims for it and recommend it to all railroad and mill men.

**R. W. BENTLEY.**

"CLINTON, Iowa, April 29, 1881.

I wish you would send me a spring for the my Elery Watch. \* \* \* By the way, this Elery is a watch I sold in your Sew Bezel Case to a farmer last fall. The first of January he lost the watch in the woods, and found it this week in about a foot of water. It had lain three months and over in snow and water, with but slight injury to the watch—only a hairspring.

**C. S. BAYMOND.**

The show were very severe tests, and demonstrated a doubt, that for any reasonable length of time during which a watch might be under water, it would receive no injury whatever.

We make these cases in both gold and silver, and as a Perfectly Dust-Proof, Stem Winding Watch Case, Challenge the World to Produce Its Equal.

For Sale by all First-Class Jewelers.

## CHARTER OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE PARISH OF ASCENSION.

BE IT KNOWN that on the twelfth day of the month of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, before me, Robert N. Sims, a Notary Public, duly commissioned and qualified in and for the parish of Ascension, in the State of Louisiana, and in the presence of the hereinafter named and subscribed witnesses, the following persons appeared: the persons whose names are hereinafter subscribed, all residents of the parish of Ascension, and all of them of the Catholic faith, who declare that whereas, the Congregation of the Roman Catholic Church of Ascension was incorporated by body politic, in accordance with the laws of the State of Louisiana, in such cases made and provided, by an Act of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, approved March 15, 1850, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Roman Catholic Congregation of the parish of Ascension," and by a subsequent act of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, approved February 15, 1859, entitled "An Act to amend the first section of an act entitled 'An Act to incorporate the Roman Catholic Congregation of the parish of Ascension,'" and in consequence 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