

THE WEEKLY ECHO.

VOL. I.]

LAKE CHARLES, PARISH OF CALCASIEU, LA., SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1868.

[NO. 11.]

THE WEEKLY ECHO.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY
B. HUTCHINS.

OFFICE NEAR THE COURT-HOUSE.

TERMS:

SUBSCRIPTION—FIVE DOLLARS per annum, in advance.

ADVERTISING:

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Announcement of candidates for office \$10 00

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Buncombe.

As we are duly informed upon the title-page of a document, recently forwarded, the Hon. Chas. Sitgraves did maliciously deliver a speech in the House of Representatives, January 25, 1868, on the state of the "Union from a Christian stand point," and then and there proved that there be political Don Quixottes as well as romantic ones. Whatever possessed the Hon. Sitgraves to don the mail of Christianity, arm himself with Watts's hymn book, and ride a tilt against atheism, we are at a loss to comprehend, but that he did so gallantly, furiously and triumphantly we have the evidence before us. Don Quixote's attack upon windmills was as nothing to the Hon. Sitgraves' onslaught upon "the foul libel that there was atheism in the Constitution;" for whereas the windmill severely battered the chivalric Castilian, the Hon. Sitgraves totally demolishes anybody who ever uttered such a libel, that is, (as Lord Dundreary would say,) if there ever was such a man and he did utter it. Terrible indeed must be the phantoms that dwell in a brain that impels its owner to come forward *cap-a-pie* against so weird, unsubstantial and suppositional an enemy. Such a visionary enthusiast should have been kept at home, where he could air his dictionary in the atmosphere of some village debating society, and use his ornate rhetoric for the decoration of some harmless Fourth of July oration. Why is it that such impractical men will be sent to Congress—men who use their position only as an exercise-ring in which to trot their favorite hobbies? For all practical service to their constituents, they might better be represented by a lot of animated broomsticks. What we want now in this dark hour of danger is practical men—men who can leave their rhetoric and religious prejudices with their hats at the door and go to work with all their might and will to cope with the great issues at stake before their country, so as to ward every blow that is now falling at the root of our liberties, even at the risk of a few cuts and scratches. Instead of this we have representatives who soar up among the beatitudes in a sort of politico-religious en-

thusiasm. Bah! The Hon. Sitgrave's motives are no doubt as pure as his intellect is evidently good, but he does little justice to himself, and perpetrates a great wrong on the community by taking up time with drivelling such empty, purposeless balderdash. Beyond the expression of his political convictions, smothered up as they were in rhodomontade, Watts's hymns and Irish sentimental songs, we doubt if he had a single hearer that disagreed with him. To judge by the speech, he evidently felt this before he arrived at the end. His victory was won early, but no dead were left upon the field at its conclusion. His peroration ended in a blaze of glory formed of the only fruits of his victory—words, the material of his speech. As a piece of metaphor we think it so remarkable that we give it in full. It just out-tops anything that has ever come under our notice in the way of tall language:

"Then the voice of disunion will be heard no more in our borders; then, with the eye of undoubting faith, we can look through the cycles of coming ages and behold this great Republic standing immutable in her strength, waving her glorious flag, emblazoned with a hundred stars, over these States, over the British Provinces, over the land of the Montezumas, and the Antilles islands of the sea, the great symbol of human freedom and the sovereignty of God as the Ruler of the nation, until the last seven thunders shall utter their voices, until the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat."

No wonder he stopped there—he reached the end, not only of language but of everything else, including, doubtless, the patience of his hearers.—*N. O. Times.*

ANOTHER INDIAN RAID IN TEXAS. We copy as follows from the San Antonio Herald of the 25th ult:

We learn from a reliable source that a party of Indians depredating quite recently, within the last ten days, in the southern part of Llano county, were followed by a party of five citizens who overtook them in camp one evening and charged them at once. The Indians mounted their horses bareback, and a running fight ensued. The weather was damp, which prevented the Indians from using their bows and arrows—nevertheless, they were armed with six-shooters also, and these they used, but not rapidly nor with serious effect. One Indian was shot off his horse, and it is thought one or two others were slightly wounded. They took refuge in a canon, when the citizens returned to the Indian camp and secured all their plunder, among which were two quilts, recognized as belonging to Mr. John Friend, whose family suffered so severely from the brutal outrages of the Indians the previous moon. From this fact it is believed the Indians who committed these outrages, and those attacked, are identical. What a pity they were not captured and hung. Llano county had been under arms in mass all during the last moon, prepared for a raid, but had dispersed to their homes a few days previous, having given the Indians out. This would look like there are a set of scoun-

drels in the country, white men, who keep the red-skins posted in regard to the movements of the people. If the supposition is true, as some suspect, hanging would be too good for such people. The scene of this skirmish is about fifty miles within the recently established line of frontier defence.

The Crops in Alabama.

We copy as follows from the Montgomery Mail of the 2d:

We receive favorable accounts of the crop prospects in this section of the State. The weather has been and is still propitious, and the farmers are working in earnest. Corn is coming up rapidly, and presents a very healthy appearance, indicating a good yield. Cotton planting has about commenced, and the staple at this time is receiving immediate attention in the matter of cultivation. The recent and steady rise in the price of cotton has stimulated many of our farmers to put in a larger crop than was at first intended, notwithstanding the fact that the rise came too late to positively benefit the planters, who have unfortunately disposed of their last year's crop. We are glad to know, however, that a majority of our farmers have first given their labor and attention to provisions, and have made cotton a secondary consideration. In this determination they have acted wisely. Let us first have enough to sustain life comfortably, and then all can afford to speculate in cotton, which is conceded to be uncertain at all times.

The negroes who are attempting to work at all are doing their duty faithfully, so far as we have been able to learn. Many are still congregated around the city, giving their whole attention and time to Radicalism, and refuse to labor in the country, though they have no visible means of support. This class of our population must either work or starve and steal. There is nothing in town for them to do. This these idle negroes well know, but they cannot leave politics to earn an honest living. Time will teach them the folly and ruin of such a course.

A PAPIER MACHE BOAT.—In Portland Maine, there has been built a race boat of paper—"papier mache," we suppose. It is thirty-one and a half feet long, twelve inches wide, and weighs but twenty-two pounds. The lightest wooden boat of similar dimensions weighs forty-one pounds. The most singular part of the matter is, that the paper boat is four times stronger than one of wood. All that portion save where the sculler sits, is gas tight, so that in the event of a race sufficient gas may be taken into it to reduce its weight to eight pounds! A man pulling in a boat weighing but eight pounds is something to think of with astonishment.

"Tommy, my son, what are you going to do with that club?"
"Send it to the editor, of course."
"But what are you going to send it to the editor for?"

"Cause he says if anybody will send him a club he will send them a paper."

The mother came pretty near fainting, but retained consciousness enough to ask:

"But Tommy dear, what do you suppose he wants with a club?"

"Well, I don't know," replied the hopeful urchin, "unless it is to knock down subscribers as don't pay for their paper."

A dandy of twenty-six having been termed an "old bachelor," appealed to an elderly gentleman to decide whether he should be called old or not, giving his age. "Twenty-six!" said the elderly gentleman. "It is owing to how you take it. Now, for a man it is young enough; but for a goose it is, rather old."

Women have a much nicer sense of the beautiful than men. They are by far the safer umpires in all matters of propriety and grace. A mere school girl will be thinking and writing about the beauty of birds and flowers, while her brother is robbing the nests and destroying the flowers.

GEORGE H. WELLS,

Attorney at Law,

Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, La.

Practices in Calcasieu, St. Landry and Lafayette.

Feb. 15, 1868.—1y.

LOUIS S. LEVEQUE,

Attorney at Law.

OFFICE, LAKE CHARLES, LA.

Will practice in all the Courts of the Eighth judicial District, composed of the Parishes of St. Landry, Lafayette, Vermillion and Calcasieu.

Feb. 15, 1868.—1y.

Lake Charles Male and Female ACADEMY.

THE present session began, Monday, 23d Sept. 1867, and will close about the last of July 1868.

Charges in specie or its equivalent in currency, payable monthly.

Board, lodging and washing, per month for children \$8 00

For young men and young ladies, 9 00

Tuition in English department . . . 2 00

Students furnish their own bedding, lights, toilet soap, table and toilet napkins.

Strict attention paid to the moral instruction of students.

J. W. BRYAN, Principal.

Feb. 15, 1868.—1y.

LOUIS FISHER,

Corner Kirby and Ryan Streets,

LAKE CHARLES, LA.,

Wholesale and Retail dealer

IN

Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods, Groceries, Crockery, Hardware, Boots and Shoes, Hats, and a general assortment of Stationery, always on hand at the lowest market prices. The public are requested to call and examine his stock before purchasing elsewhere.

March 21, 1868.—1y.

Notice.

Convention Tax.

ALL persons owning property in this Parish, are hereby notified to come forward and settle their "Convention Tax" immediately, or they will incur the penalty prescribed by law. Office open every day.

D. J. READ,

Sheriff and Collector.

Sheriff's office, Lake Charles, La., Feb. 15, 1868.

The New Orleans Crescent,
94 CAMP STREET.

J. O. NIXON, Editor and Proprietor.

This popular Southern Journal, established in 1848, suppressed by Ben. Butler, May 13th, 1863, and re-established October 12th, 1865, is now, as in the past, a faithful exponent of Conservative Southern sentiment, a reliable record of events, and the ardent advocate of all means calculated to develop the resources of the great South-West.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

Daily—per annum, . . . \$16 00

Half Yearly and Quarterly, same rate.

Weekly—per annum, . . . \$5 00

Half Yearly and Quarterly, same rate.