

# THE WEEKLY COMET.

GEO. A. PIKE, EDITOR.

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GEORGE A. PIKE,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Official Journal of the Parish of East Baton Rouge. Also of the Grosses Tete and Baton Rouge, and of the Baton Rouge and Clinton Plank Road Companies.

The cause of war is at an end. The Message has been delivered—reported, printed, read and digested by at least one half the citizens of the Republic. Our city cotemporaries may as well shake hands again in fellowship, and look for something else to quarrel about—It is a matter of very small moment now, who stole it—who guessed at its contents, and made an abstract from imagination, or who, in the White House, in the kitchen, or the Cabinet, violated the breach of confidence, by peeping in the missive. It's all over now; the child's born, and its name is Anthony.

After the Message has passed through the editorial great-mill, and has been fully analyzed and synthesized, by the whole corps editorial, then if there is enough of it left to serve to make a leader of, for this paper, we shall make it the ground work, for the expression of our sentiments in reference to it.

Quite a revival is at present going on, at the new Christian (Campbellite Baptist Church,) on Fifth street. A number have joined the Church, and there will be a large emersion at an early day.

This will doubtless create a sensation with other denominations, who will—as usual—rally their forces, and endeavour to keep their flocks together. This has generally proved impossible. The ladies (the Lord bless them for it) will change for variety, as well as fashion sake; and which ever side makes the most noise, and thus carries the day, will take the ladies with it, in spite of all that can be done to prevent it.

If the weather is not very much against it, we look to see many emersions in the coming month.

**THE SOCIAL CIRCLE.**—This is the name of a society of ladies in Jackson, La., the object of which, is to obtain "life pledges" from the Gents, to abstain from the use of all intoxicating drinks. We think that as an offset to this, that the Gents should get up another society, to obtain from the ladies a pledge to indulge in none of the abominations of liquid—chalk, rouge, bow-ketchers and other similar unnatural, and intemperate fashions.

Drinking good wine temperately, is no greater sin than falling in love with beauty and intelligence. God ordained it in the nature of things, that man should inherit these weaknesses, and why attempt to bind them up in foolish pledges.

**GODEY FOR JANUARY.**—This sterling magazine for the parlor centre table, is now on our table fresh from the publishers. Godey is ever striving to out-rival Godey, and how much farther on the road to perfection he can take his book, remains to be seen. The January number is even more beautiful than any of its predecessors, and as now is the time to commence a new volume, call and see the sample number,—subscribe to it and continue to subscribe as long as it leads the van in this class of American monthlies.

**SPAIN.**—The Cortes has been opened, and Rosas elected President.

**WHO IS THE GENTLEMAN?**—The Philadelphia Ledger has asked this question, and answered it. The answer is not satisfactory. It is ill-suited to the times, having too much of the Chesterfield and Count D'Orsey about it. The Times says: "The true gentleman always respects the feelings of others, and only violates this rule when superior considerations compel him, as, for instance, when he has to expose a knave."

The very reverse of this, is the modern gentleman, he respects himself, and his own feelings first and if possessed of any surplus revenue in this way, gives it to others as a condescension. When he departs from this rule, he unmarks the knave by exposing himself. The Times says again, in answer to his own questions, "The true gentleman never 'cuts' an acquaintance." We know not what the Times means about "cuts." The True gentleman, makes it his business to ascertain the value of every man and woman in the community, and regulates his attention accordingly. He gives a condescending wave of the hand to "a thousand" accompanies the same with a pleasant smile at five thousand—bows low to ten thousand—lower to twenty, and takes his hat off to fifty.

Speaking of gentleman—some years ago—when the wharf boat Princess was new—and also, the members of the wreck bay just gone out—When the Princess was new and had comfortable beds, breakfasts, and bar fixtures, a certain Doctor of eccentric motion took lodging there-on. He boarded until the beds wore out, the breakfast things were broken, and the bar went dry. Then he left for more comfortable quarters, and as a "remembrance" he bequeathed to the proprietor of the wharf, an unrecipited bill, as long as the boat's keel. About two years after, the proprietor of the wharf met Doct—in Lafayette street—stopped him—spoke—asked him where and how he had been." To all of which the Doctor said nothing for a moment, but scanned the "stranger" with a distrustful eye; at length he was free to say "Sir I think I have seen you before—you have the advantage of me." He did not deny his old friend and creditor, when the identity was established; but taking him by the hand in the most grateful and gentlemanly manner, "took him in" for as much more as his former indebtedness.

This, Mr. Philadelphia Transcript is a good sample—and true of a modern Gentleman—a gentleman without any mawkish sentimentality or stale maxims of morality—a gentleman *par excellence*.

**The Gutta-Percha party.**—This is to be the title of a new branch of the Louisiana Democracy. It is to be gotten up in opposition to the "Tammany society of New Orleans." By the way what has become of "Levi North and his horse Tammany? Have they gone over on the side of the enemy to cut capers? A bill of last year's date, is on our back wall in which it is said in a flourish of red and blue paint, "That Levi North and his horse Tammany will perform," and also that the splendid charger John Slidell, and the white horse Surry will do some of their marvellous tricks." What has become of them?

**FOREIGN MINISTERS TO BE DETAINED.**—It is stated that the President has determined to delay the departure of Judge Mason for Paris, of Mr. Robert McLane for China, and Gov. Seymour, of Connecticut, for St. Petersburg, until they have been confirmed by the Senate.

Myra's story was duly received. We hardly know what to say in reference to it. In the early days of the Comet, we had thought to set aside a column for local literary productions, of poetry and prose. And we had thought to stimulate a taste for writing, by offering inducements, and stimulents, to original composition. But we soon found that this would upset us. Two or three original stories in the first days of our existence, set us back so far, that we have scarcely yet obtained our equilibrium. It was not because the stories were not good—but simply because they were of domestic origin and ill suited to the market. To fully satisfy ourself of this fact, we republished a story from the pen of Washington Irving as "original;" and this met with severer criticism than the others. We concluded then to close down on all original communications, except such as relate to the thieving of those in "place" and the wire-working of those out of place to get in. We changed our source and shifted sail, and if we are not now in the right current, it is because we do not know where to find it.

The editor of the Comet is variously charged now, with "wanting to be literary in his articles"—a desire to let people know "he's smart"—making a vain effort to display limited learning to the best advantage &c. All of this we most heartily disclaim, and ask our friends not to believe a word of it. All we desire to do, is to get hold of the most desirable items afloat, and speak of them in such a manner as to be understood. As to being understood, we are very well satisfied that it rarely happens, and know not whether to pity our readers, or ourselves for it.

Does Myra understand us? We hope so. We like her story—it is well written, and had it come from Cape Hatteras, or the Tongo Islands, instead of the heart of Red-stick, we would publish it; and not only on account of its merit, but because it was written for the Comet.

We shall hold it under advisement until Sunday, and if not published then, it will be subject to Myra's order.

**THE RAT.**—This is the title of a new paper published at Donaldson, in French and English. The Rat in its character, is to be critical and literary and we should judge from its title, that it will discard the "form book, and give us something original." "There be land rats, and water rats," as venerable Shylock sayeth; whether our Donaldsonville cotemporary will partake of the nature of both, remains to be seen. There are rats clerical and lay—domestic and commercial—rats among the Philistines, and Esculapines—rats in the parlour and the kitchen, and between the walls, undermining the very foundation of things. They are the chief ministers of venerable old father time, who turns over to the rat and the moth, and the kanker-worm, whatever his sythe will not take off at the knee joints.

We admire the character of the rat because he consistently makes war on all society alike, and without partiality. However, he expresses his decided preference for good things, and is not ashamed to be found in the richest larder. We like the name of our Donaldsonville cotemporary, and hope he may live to grow grey.

The sugar Planters, in this, and the adjoining parish, have nearly all finished taking off their crops.

## HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO! THE EMPIRE PROCLAIMED!!

The arrival of the Steamship Texas, in the Port of New Orleans, from Vera Cruz, on the 8th instant, furnishes additional items of news of a very interesting character.

The press of the Republic are silent on every subject, except the fulsome flattery of Santa Anna and the laudation of his victories. The whole corps editorial, are fawning upon the military chieftain in the vain hope that something may be received in recompense therefore, when the Empire is established, which it is confidentially asserted will take place on the 19th instant. The order of Guadalupe has been re-established, and a long list of foreign recipients named, among whom are Gen. Almonte and M. Arrangois. Don Juan, B. Ceballos and Don Marcelino Castenedo, have been broken of their commissions as Judges of the Supreme Court, and incarcerated in the Castle of Chapultepec, for refusing to receive the cross of the order of Guadalupe, as anti-republican.

It is impossible to realize the hopeless condition of the crumbling Republic. On the 1st instant, Santa Anna's preparatory proclamation to the Empire was issued. It was uttered from the Palace with a great display of military in every part of the city, to quiet any outbreak that an exulting population might be expected to be betrayed into. But neither the troops nor the police could restrain some dozens of ragged men and boys with cane staffs, shirt tails, a solitary flag with devices, and a miniature bust of Santa Anna held high in the air, from parading the streets and crying "Viva el Imperio," "Adios Santa Anna," &c.

The title Santa Anna is to bear when the Empire is proclaimed is Antonio Primo.

It is confidentially asserted and generally believed in the city of Mexico, that a secret treaty has been concluded between England and Spain for the emancipation of the slaves in the Island of Cuba.

A dreadful accident happened near Barranca. A team was conveying several hundred kegs of gun powder to Vera Cruz, under a heavy escort of cavalry. One of the kegs leaking the friction of the wheels ignited it and the whole exploded with a force that baffles description. But one body of the whole escort could be found—the trees were uprooted and the earth riven as if by earthquake. For miles around the country was filled with dust and smoke, and the deligence some distance in the rear was nearly overturned by the terrific force of the explosion.

The ruling spirit of Santa Anna's government is one Bonilla, a disciple of the Jesuits, who denounces republicanism as the acme of Vandalism.

The Point Coupee Echo, is altogether a remarkable paper. It has a greater variety of short articles on the subject of the "weather," than any other dozen papers in the State. The last we see is this, "THE WEATHER.—The weather, which up to Wednesday, had for weeks previous, been wonderfully fine, suddenly changed. The oldest inhabitants does not remember to have seen such favorable weather—unfavorable to the crops, as this season."

We cut out the Echo's "weather articles," and paste them in a book for reference, and out of three hundred and sixty-three, there is not two alike. They are more varied in their form and complexion, than the "striped Hyena."

New York, Dec. 8.—The Vermont Legislature has adjourned *sine die*, without making an election of Senator.

## Laws Governing the Eagle.

"All boarders must pay weekly." This is an unexceptional rule; it can be mathematically demonstrated that if a man can't pay one week, he can't pay two—see the 47th problem of Euclid.

2. "Persons stopping without baggage must pay in advance."

This is rather hard on Pedestrians, but is deemed necessary to the healthy existence of the Eagle.

"Drunkenness positively prohibited." This will be a rule difficult of enforcement. What is meant by "drunk?" Are there not degrees, as in other things,—for instance "Temperance." Are there not first, second, and third degrees?—and are there not some people so excessively temperate, that they deem it an act of impiety to "crack a smile," or even breathe the perfumed air of midsummer? It is even so. Hence the difficulty of defining drunkenness. Law makers with all the light of New England, shining them in the face, have been, and still are unable to fix in the statute "what is drunkenness."

Staggering is no sign. A man may be drunk (as many are from day to day) and never stagger. And agreeat many stagger without being drunk at all. It would not do for the law to say that "every man who talks loosely, shall be deemed drunk," because a great many of the most respectable class, do this habitually. How then is the Eagle's rule to be enforced? unless some man is stationed in the dining room door, who has been drunk a time or two himself and knows what it is; but who, now in his official capacity as inspector of heads, takes nothing stronger than green tea? Come somebody who is acquainted with this matter, and let us know how the third rule of the Eagle is to be enforced.

There is no disagreement, as to what is sublime and beautiful. The same impression is made upon all alike, tutored and untutored. It should be the strife of every good citizen, to set up good models before the public, for the very reason that they have a powerful influence on civil liberty and the progressive movement of things. If people would pause for a moment to think thus, they would cloth the neither extremities of feminine juveniles in despite of "fashion." If there is anything in the world to make a feeling man's heart sink within itself, and keep before the mind a living, moving picture of "forked radishes," it is the juvenile misses, as they flit to and fro in the public thoroughfares with bare-legs, decorated with fancy colored hose. Sometimes we can see peeping down, modestly, all that remains to view of the modest pantilet, but it blushes to look on the attenuated spindles, whereon the present generation stands. A lady friend informs us, that the anxious parents are afraid their children will be thought Bloomers, if their pants are visible.

We call particular attention to the work now being published at the office of the True Delta, which will embrace a full complete history of the recent epidemic with a full list of all the interments in New Orleans, from the 1st of May to the 1st of November. A notice of the publication will be found in our advertising columns. The information has been compiled with great care, and expense. The work can be had in a few days by addressing letter to the True Delta office 103 St. Charles St. N. O.