

PLANTERS' BANNER.

D. DENNETT, EDITOR.

FRANKLIN, La., THURSDAY, JAN. 11, 1849.

ELECTION.—At the election in Franklin on the 15th inst., the candidates were elected members of the Council, viz: Simeon Smith, W. P. Splane, and Lucius Sulliff.

S. of T.—At the quarterly election of the Teche Division No. 45, Sons of Temperance, which took place on Wednesday evening, the 3d inst., the following officers were chosen: Thomas Pooley, W. P.; R. N. McMillan, W. A.; G. B. Shepherd, R. S.; T. L. Foster, A. R. S.; D. Bennett, F. S.; J. B. Murphy, T.; J. M. Catlett, C.; J. W. Minor, A. C.; H. R. Nerson, I. S.; O. N. Archer, O. S.

DROWNED.—On the 28th ult. Rancon Jacobs, son of William Jacobs of this parish, fell from a flat boat in bayou Deglatiz, and was immediately drowned. Several persons were near him at the time, but were unable to render him any assistance. His body had not been found on the 1st inst., though diligent search has been made for it.

SOMETHING NEW IN ATTAKAPAS.—Doctors Hacker and Meade have established a Hospital at New Iberia, for patients suffering from chronic and other diseases, including such as may require surgical operations. The utility of such an establishment, together with its central and accessible location, must render it a most important accessory to this portion of the state. Suitable arrangements have been made for the reception of both whites and slaves.

Planters or other persons having slaves afflicted with chronic diseases, or requiring surgical operations, will do well to inquire into this affair, and see if they cannot derive some benefit from it. The charges will be moderate.

Dr. Hacker is favorably known in his neighborhood for his success in chronic disease. The experience of Dr. Meade, who has visited hospitals at Paris in France, and at Philadelphia, and who is said to be expert in surgical operations together with the favorable reputation of both as physicians, will doubtless insure them a due share of the public patronage in this new and laudable enterprise.

IMPROVEMENTS IN FRANKLIN.—Capt Gates has just completed a fine steam saw mill, situated on the Teche, and at the eastern suburbs of Franklin. It is a substantial mill, well situated and is now in full operation. He is prepared to furnish lumber at short notice, of any dimensions, and upon as reasonable terms as it can be obtained anywhere in the parish. He has a corn mill attached to it, and is prepared to convert corn into meal at short notice. He will, before long have a planing machine in operation, and when completed, it will furnish flooring dressed to the same thickness, tongued and grooved in good order, in any quantities which may be required. Putting it all together it is a great improvement, and will prove a great convenience to the planters. Perhaps few will realize it, but Capt Gates has accomplished a great addition to Franklin, and he ought to be well patronized by our citizens. Should twenty such men come into our village, each making the same amount of improvement that he has, the place would be completely regenerated. Our citizens, and those in the vicinity who can do so, should call on this mill, and patronize the captain. They should find him, upon acquaintance, to be a man worthy of the patronage and highest confidence of the public. He is now substantially a citizen of Franklin, his family, his business and interests are all here, and our citizens should show him that they know how to appreciate him and his improvements.

THAT ODD FELLOWS' VISIT.—Last week we had a visit from Brother WELTON, the general agent of the proprietors of that excellent publication—The Golden Rule. "His visit" was highly satisfactory to the members of the lodge in this place. He appears to be a practical Odd Fellow, and not only labors to build up the paper for which he is obtaining subscribers, but he endeavors by sound argument and forcible reasons which he eloquently puts forth, to induce the brethren of the order to take a high and resolute stand, and to view in its true light the important influence which odd fellowship may have upon our social welfare, and upon the interest of the nation. In the remarks which he made before the lodge, he gave a splendid illustration of the aim and tendency of Odd Fellowship, and showed the elevation of thought and feeling which the study and practice of the true principles of the order are calculated to produce. He showed that it tends to call forth and develop, in a healthful manner, the best qualities in human nature, and that it harmonizes with philanthropy, sound morality and true religion. He spoke of the beauty contained in the idea that, as an odd fellow, he felt the same, whether in a lodge on the hills of N. Hampshire, the Green mountains of Vermont or the low lands of Louisiana, and inferred from this that a chain is being formed in all parts of the country which will eventually act as a sevenfold cord to bind together the States of our Union. He contended that as our peculiar organization secures benefits to the sick afflicted where the church fails to afford relief, and the argument sometimes offered that we are doing a work which should be done by the church falls to the ground, that odd fellowship naturally leads to christianity, and that, as we are doing a christian duty, christians may with propriety volunteer to assist us.

His address was sound and logical, its effects were salutary, and we are sure that his visit to this place was highly satisfactory to every member of our lodge. May health and success attend him in his wanderings.

"The Golden Rule"—the organ of odd fellowship in the United States, is an excellent family paper, edited and conducted in a most able manner. It is published in New York city at 30 per annum. No true odd fellow should be without it. We are sure that any one who takes it a year will not permit it to be discontinued.

ATTEND TO YOUR NEGROES.—It is astonishing what a dare-devil, care-for-nothing set of beings the African race are. They seem to think they have nothing to do but jog along in one beaten track, without care, without forethought or anything that would keep them from enjoying a sound sleep and a full meal. These they will have, if they can get them, in the face of the cholera, or in the jaws of death. If disease fastens on them with an iron grip, they don't care—they think it is their master's business to see that they get well again. They would steal a hog and eat him with the cholera at their heels, after eating a full supper. Care for the future, or caution against threatening evils they are entirely unacquainted with. A few days since we warned our negroes against permitting such complaints to remain on them unchecked as might terminate cholera. We told them of several negroes that had lately died by such neglect, and that unless it were checked in season there was great danger in it. All the facts were well understood. Not long after this one of them began to look rather sallow, and on being questioned if she was well, she said she was not, and said she had had a diarrhea since the day before.

We have noticed this inclination in negroes before, and have heard others complain of the same thing, and it is this strange trait which is frequently to be found among negroes that will cause twice as many of them to die of cholera as would die if they would report themselves promptly when they have a slight attack of the preliminary symptoms of cholera. When they have fevers they report their case promptly, for they are sure of a leisure time and some good naps; but when it is a mere diarrhea, which only needs a little laudanum without respite from work, they care but little—they trust to luck and let the world wag on.

On account of the peculiar character and recklessness of negroes it will be necessary for their owners and managers to notice, frequently, the countenances of those around them, and see if they indicate the presence of any disorders. Diarrhea, this season appear to reduce people more than they commonly have. Almost as soon as they attack one his countenance and eyes indicate the presence of some wasting disease. Humanity as well as interest, requires of all who own negroes, not only to see that they are comfortable and well provided for, but that they are attended to seasonably when suffering from disease. If left to themselves to remain around their cabins, and the state of their health is not properly watched, many of the deaths which may occur will be more chargeable to those who should see to these things than to the cholera or any other disease.

THE LECTURE ON ELECTRICITY.—Last Saturday evening we attended the Lecture of Mr. Curtice, on Electricity, delivered at the Baptist meeting-house in this place. His audience was not large, but it is probable that the recent appearance of the cholera in our village, and the objection which many have to being out evenings when epidemics are prevailing, were the sole reasons why this lecture was not better attended. Those who did attend appeared to feel a great interest in his remarks and experiments. Such lectures are extremely useful and profitable to those who attend them. They serve to implant correct ideas in the minds of great numbers, in the place of obscure views which precede them. By the aid of good apparatus, principles and facts are clearly illustrated and understood which it is impossible for most people to understand without such aid.

Mr. Curtice explained the Magnetic Telegraph very clearly. Its nature and mode of operation were probably well understood by every one present. To illustrate this, he first showed how any piece of soft iron may be made magnetic, by introducing it into a hollow cylinder made of coiled wire, and charging the wire with electricity. He noticed a fact quite peculiar, that the wire being insulated with thread and coated with varnish, permits none of the electricity to escape—that the electricity merely passes around the iron without coming in contact with it—that the fact of its rendering the iron magnetic is known, but why it renders it magnetic no one can comprehend. The power of the magnetism was well illustrated by presenting two pieces of iron with flat surfaces of the size of a half dollar, to each of which was attached a string. When, by a coil of wire fitted loosely around the iron, a current of electricity was made to pass around it, the two pieces adhered so firmly that two men were unable to pull them apart. In explaining the Telegraph, he stated that if wires were stretched between this place and New Orleans, with a battery at this end of the wire, and a machine at their termination in the city, the instant we charge the wire with electricity at this end, the iron or horse-shoe magnet attached to the machine at the other end becomes magnetized, and attracts towards it the end of a beam above it. This beam rests on a fulcrum at nearly a central point, the end over the magnet being somewhat lighter than the other end. When the magnetic end is attracted downwards, the opposite end to which a steel pencil is attached, presses against a long strip of paper wound round a wheel, and leaves either a dot or a dash on it. This wheel is attached to clock-work which makes it revolve with uniform motion. By charging the wire at this place with electricity for an instant, the iron attached to the machine in New Orleans remains a magnet but an instant, and the magnetic end remains down but an instant, leaving a dot on the paper at the other end. By letting the wire remain charged a brief space of time, the wheel revolving always the same, a dash is formed, and by a dash (—) and a dot (·) all the letters of the alphabet are represented. The following is the telegraphic alphabet:

— a — — — b — — — c — — — d — — — e — — — f — — — g — — — h — — — i — — — j — — — k — — — l — — — m — — — n — — — o — — — p — — — q — — — r — — — s — — — t — — — u — — — v — — — w — — — x — — — y — — — z

Mr. Curtice, by attaching his battery to machinery, drove a fly wheel with great velocity, and showed the manner in which electricity is applied to produce such results. By another curious machine attached to the battery he produced fifteen hundred or two thousand revolutions in a minute.

He illustrated many other important facts, but we are unable to give them a proper notice at this time.

It is stated that business in New Orleans has suffered intensely on account of the cholera, but is reviving as the cholera abates.

IS THERE ANY CHOLERA IN THIS PARISH?—This is a question which has called forth much street discussion in Franklin during the last week. The old liveoak post on main street has heard several spirited arguments on this subject. Indeed, after hearing an oration from a particular friend of ours upon the nature, origin and progress of the genuine Asiatic cholera, we are constrained to believe that those cases which our most eminent physicians have pronounced cholera, are merely a slight refinement on the common diarrhea of the country; our population having become too far advanced in civilization and modern refinement to admit of the existence of old-fashioned, superannuated diseases among us. The cholera is old, vulgar, obsolete. Our physicians would have passed for men of sense, eminence and honesty in '32, but they are altogether too stale for '48. Enlightened public opinion is now the test of all truth—professional men no longer understand their business as well as the public do. We therefore intend to join the crowd, and with one sweep of our immortal pen, like a wave of the ocean, consign them all to oblivion. Farewell ye antiquarian relics, we have no longer any use for you.

After this excusable wholesale slaughter of the medical faculty, we were left in an unpleasant quandary. We carefully collected all the opinions we could obtain from everybody, from don to free nigger, in relation to the cholera. Everybody had an original opinion decidedly his own; and since everybody's opinion, which should be a country editor's north star, cannot be given in detail, we have taken them all in a mass, and brayed them in a mortar, in order to give an average specimen of the whole! but the sample is so complex, and composed of such wonderful ingredients, that we cannot comprehend them, and our readers will unfortunately be deprived of the benefit which an investigation of them might secure. Each one will be obliged to rest satisfied with his own humble opinion as before.

But rather than have our readers generally in the parish entirely destitute of some decision from head quarters, we will give the opinions of five physicians, residing in this place, upon this cholera question.

They all agree that the genuine Asiatic cholera is in St. Mary's Parish, and that there have been several deaths from this same Asiatic cholera. One who is as well qualified to judge as any man in the parish, says that one negro died last week of the cholera on Mr. Haye's plantation, near Centreville, another negro on the plantation of Messrs Lyman and Todd, two miles above Centreville,—that two or three cases occurred on the steamboat Little Rock, at Mr. Euphrasie Carlin's plantation. Another physician informs us that a negro woman, belonging to Mr. Webb, died in Franklin last week—that she had the cholera, but was cured of it, and died of a most violent disease of the lungs, no symptoms of the cholera being noticed for some time previous to her death. The same physician states that two other negroes, belonging to the same man, had the cholera last week, but recovered. We understood that a negro man belonging to Mr. Sennette, near Centreville, died last Monday, but cannot vouch for the truth of it. We have good authority for believing that four negroes on Fay's plantation, fifteen miles above Franklin, have had the cholera; one died, the others are recovering. It is stated that Capt. Fields had a few cases on his plantation, but none fatal. We learn from Mr. Armstrong, who is well acquainted with the facts in the case, that four deaths have occurred within two weeks, on the steamboat Little Rock, which lies, with part of her hull under water, at the plantation of Mr. Euphrasie Carlin. The following are the names of those who died: Mrs. Prudence Houston, an Irish girl about 24 years of age, Fanny Blair, a girl 10 or 12 years old, adopted by Mrs. Houston, and the mate of the schooner Mary Ellen by the name of Remby. His was a plain case of cholera. Two out of the other three, it is thought, died of cholera, but their cases were not so violent as that of the mate. Mr. Charles Simmons, according to the statement of his physician, had the cholera, but is recovering. There are some other cases reported above and below Franklin on the Teche, but we can vouch for the truth of none of them. We are sure there has been no death in Franklin from Cholera up to this time. Those deaths which we have referred to are all that we can hear of in the parish after the most diligent inquiry. It is evident that this disease is easily managed if taken in season.

NEW WORKS.—We have received from J. C. Morgan, New Orleans, a fine package of new and interesting works, for which he has our sincere thanks. The following is a list of them accompanied by a notice necessarily brief.

Encarnation Prisoners: comprising an account of the march of the Kentucky cavalry from Louisville to the Rio Grande, together with an authentic history of the captivity of the American prisoners, including incidents and sketches of men and things on the route and in Mexico. By a Prisoner. Price 25c.

Three Sisters and Three Fortunes; or, Rose, Blanche and Violet. By G. H. Lewis, Esq., author of "Ranthrope," "A Biographical History of Philosophy," etc. Price, 25c.

Romance of Yachting: in two volumes.—By Joseph C. Hart, author of "Miriam Coffin" Price, 37c.

Mary Barton: A Tale of Manchester Life. Price 25 cents.

The Discipline of Life. A work, the moral of which is of an excellent character. It is highly profitable for general reading. Price 25 cents.

Castles in the Air. By Mrs. Gore, Author of the "Banker's Wife" "Cecil A Peer" "Temperance and Atonement," "Next of Kin" &c. Price, 25 cents.

THE FREE LABOR BLUSTER.—Who is not familiar with the arguments which the advocates of free soil are furnishing in favor of free labor? Who is not aware of the fact that abolitionists are attempting to prove that it is the interest of the South to free their slaves and hire them to work on their plantations? Thousands who never saw a slave, except white ones, whose menaces they themselves have helped forge, have satisfied themselves that southern slavery is almost the only evil now in existence, and that when that is cured the glorious millennium will commence. They gravely tell us that all that the negro needs to make him equal to his master in intellect, dignity and respectability is education. Though such ideas may appear to be mere nonsense to those who have become familiar with the negro character, still they are put forth by northern fanatics as well established, self-evident facts.

Let us examine this matter and see what conclusions we can draw from facts. Where has there ever been an eminent Guinea negro that we have any account of? Nowhere. Where has or tribe, or settlement, or nation of negroes ever shown signs of thrift or prosperity? The instance is not to be found. Whether in Africa or on some foreign soil, whether enslaved or free, in cold or in warm climates, their character for indolence, improvidence, heedlessness, their want of mechanical or other than mercantile ingenuity has always been proverbial. It is seldom that a negro of unmixed African descent can be found that is anything but a mere botch at any business, however long he may have followed it. On a plantation they can neither hoe, ditch, chop wood, nor perform any kind of labor with a white man's skill. They break and destroy more farming utensils, ruin more carts, break more gates, spoil more cattle and horses, and commit more waste than five times the number of white laborers do. They are under instruction relative to labor from their childhood, and still when they are grey headed they are the same heedless batches, the negro traits predominate over all artificial training. House servants have to be taught over and over almost every day of their lives things that white people almost learn by instinct, and when they have served twenty years in a house under good domestic instruction they are still heedless and unskilful.

It is urged that slavery paralyzes their intellect. This is a mistake. It has elevated them by bringing them to this country and making slaves of them. There are not, on the face of the globe, three millions of the African race so happy, or maintaining so high a character as these in the United States. St. Domingo may properly be cited to illustrate our position. On that island there was wealth in abundance, splendid plantations, and a property which it managed with skill and economy might have yielded an abundance for the supply of the island, and an immense surplus for exportation. Before the negroes became masters of the island the French exported \$25,000,000 worth of products yearly. Since that they have never exported an amount exceeding in value \$5,000,000, and this has been principally of the spontaneous production of the island. That island, once proverbial throughout the civilized world for its thrift and fertility, under the management of free negroes has become a mere waste, and a more lazy, thriftless, filthy population can hardly be found in any country under the heavens. Their population decreases yearly, while in slavery they increase rapidly. Nor is this all. The emancipation of 800,000 slaves in the West India islands in 1830 is daily proving to be a sorry experiment. Excitement for a while, and in some places, gave them hope that the change would be beneficial, but time is only proving that, whether in freedom or slavery, the mixture of large numbers of negroes amongst a population of whites is a blighting curse in the end—that the whites are the sufferers and the negroes are benefited by such an arrangement.

If the slaves of the United States were white instead of black there is no doubt that it would be profitable to free them. But to place a race of human beings with woolly heads, thick lips; thick skulls and flat noses upon a level with white men, and pretend that God made them with as good intellects as the whites, and capable of maintaining as dignified positions in society is nonsense, and a low order of nonsense at that. For northern free soilers to draw contrasts between the products of Northern and Southern labor, pretending that slavery alone cramps southern labor and makes it unproductive, is unfair and deceptive. The contrast is not between free and slave labor, but between labor performed by intelligent, ambitious, resolute white men and that performed by stupid, indolent, improvident negroes. Let them have free negroes at the north to fill the places of their mechanics, farmers, and laborers of all descriptions, and give us the enterprising laborers of the north to perform the whole labor of the south, provided of course they could stand the climate, and we should then see the difference, not between free and slave labor, but between white men's and negro labor. Their computations and contrasts would avail nothing if properly scrutinized. Sophistry, misrepresentation and falsehood, malignity, spleen and spite conspire against the south, and right or wrong, constitution or no constitution, these long tongued babblers appear determined to carry the war into Africa, and by an indirect route reach the object which they seek with much order. They charge indiscriminately upon slavery, southerners and the south, and so bounteously lavish their sympathies upon the "poor slave" whom they cannot reach, that they have none left for their "poor white people" whom they can reach by stretching forth their hands.

The cholera is raging among the U. S. troops at Port Lavaca to an alarming extent. It has also made its appearance at Houston, eight deaths having occurred at that place at last accounts.

FRONTIER OF TEXAS.—Four companies of U. S. Dragoons have been distributed on the frontiers of Texas, adjoining the Comanche tribes, for the protection of the inhabitants; also, one company of Infantry, and another, half mounted, to operate in the same direction.—N. O. Com Times.

It is stated in the Picayune of the 3d inst. that no new case of cholera occurred in New York on the 25th ult.—the dispatches by telegraph indicate that it has nearly disappeared from the city.

PORT OF FRANKLIN—EXPORTS.—The following is a statement of the Sugar and Molasses exported from the Port of Franklin, by sea, during the quarters ending 31st December, 1847 and 1848.

Table with columns for Year, Sugar (Hhds, Bbls), and Molasses (Hhds, Bbls). Rows include New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Richmond, Charleston, Apalachicola, Mobile, and New Orleans.

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Charity Hospital—NEW ORLEANS. Daily Report of Charity Hospital from Dec. 25th, to Jan. 6th, terminating each day at 6 o'clock, P. M.

Table titled CHOLERA. with columns for Date, Admitted, and Deaths. Rows list dates from Dec. 26th to Jan. 6th.

Died, In this place on the 1th inst J. Victor, son of R. N. & A. McMillan aged 11 months. Near Franklin, On Friday 5th inst, of Cholera, John Remby, aged 20 years, mate of Brig Mary Ellen.

The Sugar Market. NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 6. Sugar.—Inferior 2 1/2 to 2 3/4, Common 3 to 3 1/2, Fair 3 1/2 to 3 3/4, Prime 4 to 4 1/4, Choice 4 1/4 to 5c. Molasses.—19 to 19 1/2 cts per gallon. MOBILE, Jan. 3. Sugar.—Fair 3 1/2 to 4, Prime 4 1/4 to 4 1/2, Choice 4 1/2 to 5 cts. Molasses.—23 cts. per gallon. NEW YORK, Dec. 28. Sugar.—From 4 1/4 to 4 1/2 cts. Molasses.—From 27 1/2 to 28 cts.

New Orleans Wholesale Prices Current.

Table with columns for Articles, From, and To. Lists prices for various goods like Flour, Pork, Bacon, Lard, Butter, Cheese, Potatoes, Onions, Rice, Beef, Fish, Mackerel, Herring, Coffee, Java, St. Domingo, Soap, Salt, Lime, Hay, Bran.

Town Council.

Monday, January 8th, 1849. The members elect of the Town Council for the ensuing year, met this day, to elect a President and Officers. E. A. Curtis was elected President of the board, Simeon Smith Treasurer, E. How a Tax Collector and Constable, William P. Allen Assessor, and R. L. Curtis Clerk. E. Howie was appointed Market Master for the ensuing year. A true extract. L. R. Curtis, Clerk.

L. R. CURTIS, AUCTIONEER.

Tenders his services to the citizens of the Parish of St. Mary. j11

Servant for Sale.

A Girl about 18 years of age, a first rate Seamstress and house girl. Apply to M. WALKER & CO. j11

Fire Brick.

10,000 Pittsburgh Fire Brick for sale by M. WALKER & CO. j11

Plastering Sand for sale by M. WALKER & CO. j11