

The "Advertiser."

OFFICIAL JOURNAL of the Parish of Lafayette and Town of Vermilionville.

Published Every Saturday.

WM. B. BAILEY, PROPRIETOR.

Vermilionville, La., March 6, '69.

Notice.—All those who owe the Advertiser, for Subscription, Advertisements or in any other way are notified to come and settle immediately if they wish to avoid costs.

Thanks to Hon. T. C. ANDERSON for pamphlet Programme of the Third Grand State Fair of the Mechanics' and Agricultural Fair Association of Louisiana to commence Tuesday the 6th of April, 1869 and to continue eight days. It contains the schedule of premiums, rules and regulations of the association, names of the President and sub-officers, together with the names of the Directors and all the different committees. We wish the association all the success it deserves, and which its grand aim, emulation and noble competition in improving the various products, and industries of our down trodden country, richly entitle them to. This organization has been, so far, very successful, and has attracted the attention and admiration of our sister States; with proper patronage and the proper spirit on the part of our citizens, there is no telling to what extent can be developed the many hidden resources of our State—especially under the guidance of such worthy and energetic directors as Col. G. A. BREWER, A. W. BOSWORTH, C. H. SLOCUMB, Lafayette Folger and others too numerous to mention, but whose names are well known to our whole country and bid to have confidence in the enterprise.

The contract for repairing the streets was but a short time since, sold to Mr. H. Eastin, and we are happy to see that he has already gone to work in good earnest. Our village is perhaps the most easy to drain in this whole section of country, being situated on high soil and surrounded by ditches deep and wide, of various plantations adjacent, wherein the water could be thrown with great relief to the town, and without detriment to any one. We are confident that hereafter, however inclement the weather, there will be no bogging in the streets. Ere we close this short notice, we would call upon our fellow townsmen, to consider the fact that our sidewalks are almost impracticable—to the fair sex especially. What would it cost to each proprietor to attend to this, after the streets shall have been fixed and drained? What a neat appearance would it give to our little village—how charming and inviting the evening promenade or daily walk. To all this let every property holder purchase lime, say one barrel, it does not cost much; white-wash their out-houses, their fences, and even their residences if they have not the means of purchasing paint; the appearance of our village would then be improved a hundred fold and the value of property be enhanced greatly. The above considerations are not the only ones that we would press upon the minds of the citizens of Vermilionville—the course proposed by us, would add to the salubrity of the place, and greatly improve its sanitary condition, and would win the eye and perhaps permanent stay of the traveler and stranger.

We call upon our fellow-townsmen to ponder well over these suggestions and we warrant that if they adopt them and act in accordance, they will profit thereby.

Some time past we noticed the fact that Mr. Lamson, our townsmen, was building a shop, where all jobs in the way of carriage making and trimming, wheel-wrighting, painting, etc., could be executed with utmost neatness and dispatch, and with certainty to give entire satisfaction to all customers.

We are now happy to state that his shop is finished and in full operation, ready to accommodate all customers. Give him a call and you will be satisfied that we have not been rash or too bold in our praise of this excellent workman.

The weather on the 27th and 28th was excessively cold, and we fear that a great portion of the fruit crop has thereby been destroyed, though some knowing ones of many years experience say, nay.

The attention of the reader is called to the card of Dr. W. H. Cunningham, published in another column.

We are indebted to INDRAMORA for his kind and flattering notice in the last Opelousas Journal, of an article published by us in our sheet of Saturday the 13th ultimo, and in answer, can but say that we are happy to have such aid and assistance in the great work of the coming road. The further suggestions of the able correspondent are thankfully received and appreciated and we have no doubt and hope, that they will produce the proper impression on the minds of the contractors, whoever they may be. The article is replete with sound and practical reasoning and we take pleasure in favoring our readers and the public generally with the perusal of it:

Mr. Editor.—In the Lafayette Advertiser of the 13th, is an editorial of such force and appropriateness. The arguments set forth, should have weight with whomsoever may obtain the contract to extend the N. O., G. W. & Texas R. R. There is one point upon which more may with propriety be said, which is this: The building of an air line road.

It has lately been a hobby with some Engineers, that the true method for rail roads is the strait line between two given points. To this we give cordial assent, whenever, the object for which the road is constructed is not lost sight of. If this idea is to be dogmatically enforced without regard to the amount of business, the developing power, or the income of the road, then we dissent.

Now the road in question, opens a fair field for testing this theory. From New Iberia to the Vermilion bayou, and for some short distance west of said bayou, the country is well populated, and to that extent the people would be benefited, as also the road. But what of the rest of the country westward? We answer, that the company will have heavier work, more expense in the way bridging, a greater scarcity of timber, and besides these difficulties, they will have located their road in a region of country entirely unfit for settlement, and affording no business, all for the purpose of conforming to the air line system.

When the country to be passed over, presents engineering difficulties greater than some other proposed line, but is susceptible of sustaining an equally large population, and affords a similar amount of business, in that case, we were ready to adopt the air line system. In the present case, by using the road-bed now made up to Vermilionville, and thence turning westward towards Texas, a line is projected which opens room for multitudes of sturdy farmers on either side; and the developing power of improvement inaugurated by the road, will myriad fold add to development in other respects. Suppose you add to the distance three miles by this route, it is clear that the company will be gainers; for they will not only obtain greater advantages for construction; and less of engineering difficulty; obtain material in greater abundance; but they will at the same time open the rich lands of a section of country as yet unknown to productive men, and enhance their revenues a hundred fold.

It becomes our duty to advert to the present condition of our Parish roads; they are in a most deplorable, and to be more practical in our expression, in an impassable condition. We would call upon the Police Jury to take this matter into consideration, and afford some relief to the traveling public. Our roads are in a shameful condition, and now that fair weather is setting in, we should avail ourselves of the same, to improve our highways and create the impression abroad that there is still some public spirit left in our little Parish.

The attention of the reader is called to the card of L. H. Gardner & Co. Dry Goods merchants, holding forth at Nos. 91, 93 & 95 Common Street, New Orleans. It was my lot a short time ago to visit the city for the purposes of purchasing dry goods; I was introduced by a well known friend to the owners and clerks of this new commercial firm; their frank and gentlemanly bearing will win custom from any one; there I found my esteemed friends Marion and Turton; who does not know and appreciate them? I found them as usual ready and polite, dealing of such superior quality and at such low rates, that I was really amazed. Their goods cannot be surpassed in quality nor in moderate prices. L. H. Gardner and Co., cannot be excelled in any ways in the city, I will bet on that; Merchants give them a call and you'll find out that I am telling the truth.

We call attention in proper column to that old and respectable Hardware House of Slocumb, Baldwin & Co., New Orleans. They are direct and large Importers, and we take pleasure in recommending them to the patronage of purchasers of Hardware, Guns, Tools and Agricultural Implements, as having every facility in stock and prices, they guarantee as low as any market North or South.

Louisiana:

HER SITUATION AND HER PROSPECTS.

[From the N. O. Times.]

Few if any of the States of the South were more thoroughly prostrated than Louisiana at the close of the war. Her domestic animals and farming implements had been confiscated or destroyed; her most fertile lands were overgrown and overgrown with weeds and bushes; the fences were decayed; the labor system, on which reliance had previously been placed, was completely overturned and demoralized, and the planters were wholly without means to restock their plantations and properly work them. Such a situation, it must be admitted, was sufficiently discouraging. But the stern lessons of the war had familiarized our people with difficulties, and inspired them with a reliance on their own strong arms which they never knew before. Both men and women, who, in their days of prosperity, had always been surrounded by servants, learned to help themselves, and assert the glorious privilege of a self-sustained independence.

The planter who previously relied upon an overseer took the management of his affairs into his own hands, and when necessary, became his own plowman. In this way, though defeated in one field, he became a conqueror in another, and by self-assertion and persevering energy, succeeded in bridging over the abyss which gaped before him. While thus struggling he has been stimulated by the rivalry of Northern and Western men, who have come hither, attracted by the fertility of our lands, and have brought with them the enterprise and labor-saving ingenuity which have accomplished such wonders in less productive portions of our common country.

As matters now stand, our people have much to encourage them—so far, at least, as material interests are concerned. They have their plantations again in a tillable condition, their staple products command remunerating prices, and the prospect of walling out the Mississippi—a kind friend but a dangerous master—is now better than it has ever been since the day when, under the cruel exigencies of war, the levees were first broken. Furthermore, the advantages of our position are beginning to be generally understood, and the spirit of enlightened and far-seeing enterprise is manifesting itself in new railroad and steamboat lines and new appliances for the facilitation of an enlarged prospective commerce.

But if we have reason to be encouraged as to our agricultural and commercial prospects, in political matters our situation is far from being satisfactory. The seeds of corruption introduced into our public affairs by "loil" adventurers and political parasites, have brought about a state of demoralization which is utterly disgraceful. Before the war, when our law-makers were of our own people, our representatives were in the main "honorable men." To introduce a corrupt scheme into the Legislature for the purpose of plundering the community, would brand the name of the proposer with infamy, and to attempt to put such a measure through by bribery would have been not only disgraceful but exceedingly dangerous. Now, all this is changed. The Gophers and Vandals who come among us to profit by our misfortunes, brought with them their own peculiar notions of propriety and morality. Jackals of the army, they profit by the plunder which is found in the footprints of the brave. When the House of Prayer was, of old, converted into a den of thieves, the change was not more startling and peculiar than that which has taken place since the war in our legislative halls. Never before was corruption so barefaced, venality so avaricious, and avarice so shameless. For the good things brought us from the North—the skill, the industry, the perseverance—we are truly thankful. We welcome with outstretched arms the Northern men who come here, as to a home, for the purpose of aiding in the legitimate development of our resources and of participating in the advantages of our situation. Against such there are no prejudices. But those who have come to oppress us in our day of humiliation and weakness—to profit by our necessities—to tax us without our consent and divide our revenue among themselves through shameful subsidies, oppressive monopolies, and all sorts of disgraceful favoritism—occupy an entirely different position. Human nature must be altogether changed before they can be respected. The consciousness of being hated and despised may render them reckless, but even in their recklessness they must remember the stain upon their names and the debasement to which they subjected themselves for filthy lucre, and they can feel no surprise that an impassable abyss lies between them and the people they have wronged.

Our conclusion, then, is, that in all matters of material interest, which depend upon the commercial and industrial energies of those who are thoroughly identified with our State and city, our prospects are good. In political matters our only hope lies in that peace which has been so emphatically promised by Gen. Grant, and in a return to representative institutions, in deed as well as in name. When the voice of public opinion is again so potent as to check usurpation, extravagance and fraud, and re-establish consent as the basis of political authority, then, and not till then, will our complete redemption be achieved.

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Lamarine, the poet is dead.

THE ONE PER CENT TAX.

IT IS DECIDED CONSTITUTIONAL.

The contest with regard to the constitutionality of the law imposing a special tax of one per cent, on real estate, was settled on Wednesday, by the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Ludeling delivering the opinion, of which we can only furnish at this moment a brief synopsis.

The Court held that it was not necessary to decide whether it could go behind an act of the Legislature properly authenticated, and examine into the question of the regularity of the action of the Legislature in its passage; still if that were to be done, it was clear that the law before it had been properly considered, as the journal of the House, showed that on a certain day it, with other bills, had been taken up in a quorum, and on after motion the rules were suspended, apparently without objection, the bill read twice and referred to a committee, and finally passed; that under the constitution a quorum competent to do business, and that it could suspend the rules for reasons satisfactory to itself; and, besides, the Court was bound to presume that the legislators complied with their oaths of office, and not violated them. On the second point—that the law was retroactive, the court held that the Legislature, in passing it, had violated no vested right nor impaired any contract previously existing, and that it was warranted in assuming the last assessment of real estate as the basis for fixing a special tax, to be levied after the enactment of the law, citing several authorities to sustain it in this position. As to the point made, that the tax was not equal and uniform, it was clear that the tax in question was equal, uniform and ad valorem, in the practical sense and meaning of those terms. Absolute uniformity and equality were impossible of attainment, and all that was requisite was that as near an approach to them as practicable, should be provided for. The Legislature had used its discretion in the matter judiciously, and their action in no way violated the provisions of the constitution. The injunction obtained by plaintiff in the court below (Folien) against Mayor, the State Tax Collector, restraining him from collecting the tax was therefore dissolved, and the suit dismissed at the cost of plaintiff.—Pleasants.

LEGAL TENDERS.—The judgment of the Supreme Court of the United States on the subject of legal tenders and contracts, as definitely set down, embraces the following points:

Contracts are to be saleable according to the understanding of the parties, either as presumed from statutory laws or defined by themselves.

Contracts made before the passage of the legal tender law are to be presumed to be made in contemplation of payment in the money which was lawful money where they were made—that is in coin.

Contracts that were made before the passage of the legal tender law are presumed to be made in contemplation of the existence of the law, and may be, therefore, paid in greenbacks or gold, as either might be preferred by the debtor—that is in greenbacks, as the legal money most profitable to the payer.

It has been always competent to dealers to make contracts on the gold basis. Coin being named as the condition of a bargain, can be collected. The court reasoned that a contract for a given amount of gold, according to the standard weight and purity, is as lawful as for any other specific article of commerce.

The court held, in very distinct terms, that coins contracts made now will be valid. This makes superfluous the introduction of the specific law for receiving them, which are pending before Congress, and made portions of the several finance bills that are under discussion.

These decisions are on the construction of the legal tender law as a statute, not on the question of the constitutionality of that law itself.

The court expressly stated that in these decisions it had not found it necessary at all to examine the question, "whether the clauses of the currency act make United States notes a legal tender are warranted by the constitution."

The case in which this judgment was rendered is, we believe, the same wherein it has been so often stated that the constitutionality of the legal tenders was to be decided by the court. It now appears that that point was not considered at all. Judge Davis, in assenting to the conclusion, took pains to say, for greater precaution, that it is to be interpreted as the construction of a statute, and Judge Swaine, also concurring, said that the question of constitutional power was not part of the case.—Pleasants.

THE POINT OF THE BAYONET.—A New Application.—A neighbor tells us he heard a colored preacher, on his farm, get off the following for the benefit of his hearers: "You think de Lord ain't 'bout heah all de time! If you dux, you is mistaken. One time he met de double walkin' roua' like a borin' lion, an' he axed him what he was doin' s'uffin, an' de Lord say, I gwine to put you into de pit for a thousand years, an' I got a great mind to put you in dar for two thousand years; an' arter dat, if I catch you roua' agin, I'll put you in dar foreber, if I's got to do it de p'int ob de bay'net. The preacher said 'de Lord was in a full blaze of alabaster glory all de time he was talkin'.'—W. Baton Rouge Sugar Planter.

AN ARMY UNDER PAY.—A Washington special of the 15th say: The quartermaster general sent documents to day, to the military committee of the House, showing the number of persons employed in the department, from which it appears that the total number of civilians employed is 10,494. The number of enlisted men employed for civilian duty is 4178, making a total of 14,672. The pay per month of the civilians is \$442,592, and for the enlisted men \$26,121. The men are employed chiefly as clerks, laborers, superintendents, storekeepers, messengers, trademen, etc. Similar reports are expected from the other departments of the army.

To all amateurs of a good pipe or segar, of good Tobacco for chewing, smoking or other purposes, we would cheerfully recommend the store of J. P. SARRAZIN, Nos. 91 and 93, corner of Chartres and Conti Streets, New Orleans. Their well established reputation in this line, is fully maintained by their present choice stock on hand.

"Mack" says Colfax is a man without brains, Butler a man without conscience, and Sherman a man without heart.

The yearly consumption of beef in France is 910,000 tons; in England, 1,690,000 tons; and in the United States, 2,000,000 tons.

When the war broke out Texas had only 3,000,000 head of cattle. There are now 12,000,000 head of cattle in that State. So says a speaker in the Social Science Convention.

The estimate of 2,500,000 bales of cotton (say 374,000,000 pounds) as the average of last year's Southern crop is a very encouraging one for general trade during this year. At an average of 25 cents, the South will have cleared, after paying all expenses of transportation, commission sales and so on, about \$70,000,000. And this, says the New York Times, will be pretty much intact as new capital, for the South bought very little grain last year, raising all she needed.

L. LEVY,
Near the Court House, Plonsky's
Old Stand, Vermilionville,
SPRING GOODS!
JUST RECEIVED! JUST RECEIVED!!

L. LEVY takes pleasure in informing the citizens of Vermilionville and vicinity, that he has and will keep constantly on hand a general assortment of

Dry Goods,
Consisting of
READY MADE CLOTHING,
FRENCH AND ENGLISH JACONET,
CALICO, IRISH LINEN, SHEETING,
BLEACHED SHIRTING, NAINSOOK,
BISHOP LAWN, VICTORIA LAWN,
ETC., ETC.

Also BOOTS, SHOES AND HATS.
FANCY ARTICLES, YANKEE NOTIONS, ETC.

Will always keep on hand an assortment of choice family Groceries, and many other articles too numerous to mention.

Those wishing to purchase cheap Goods will do well to call and examine my Stock, before purchasing elsewhere.
March 6th 1869. L. LEVY.

W. E. Cunningham, M. D.
OFFERS his services as Physician, to the citizens of the Parish of Lafayette.
Residence near Bertrand's Store.
March 6 '69.—1y.

L. E. SALLS,
JUSTICE of the Peace and Notary Public in and for the Parish of Lafayette.
Vermilionville, February 13th 1869.

NOTICE.
ALL persons indebted to the Estates of Don Louis Broussard and Anastasia Laundry are requested to come and settle immediately, if they wish to avoid costs.
Wm. MORROS, Attorney.
Feb. 27th 1869.

State of Louisiana, } Parish Court.
Parish of Lafayette, }
WHEREAS Julien St. Julien of the parish of Lafayette has filed a petition in said Court praying to be appointed administrator of the succession of Josephine Broussard.

Any person intending to make opposition to said appointment will file the same in said Court in the town of Vermilionville, within ten days from the publication of this notice, otherwise said appointment will be made.

[L. S.] Given under my signature in said Court in the town of Vermilionville, this 3rd day of March 1869.
A. MONNIER, Clerk.

Alexander Meaux,
AUCTIONEER in and for the Parish of Lafayette.
Feb. 29, '68.

Dr. J. D. TRAHAN. E. A. ROSE
TRAHAN & ROSE
SUCCESSORS OF
LEE & YOUNG
APOTHECARIES AND DRUGGISTS
WILL constantly have on hand complete assortment of
Chemicals, Drugs,
Patent Medicines, &c.
Also Paints, Oils, Window
Glass, Books, Stationery,
Fancy articles, Garden
seed, &c., &c.
Prescriptions promptly and
attended to at all hours.
Vermilionville, La.
January 9th 1869.

J. D. TRAHAN, M.D.
Office at the Drug-Store.
NOTIFIES his friends and public that he has removed his Office to the Drug-Store, where he is ready at all hours of the day to attend calls from patients.
March 6 '69.

J. P. SARRAZIN
Steam Tobacco Manufactory
Nos. 91 and 93, corner Chartres and Conti
NEW ORLEANS.

DIRECT importation of French, English and English PIPES. Always on hand large assortment of leaf tobacco for pipes, also a full supply of Domestic and Havana cigars. Our Havana cigars are of a direct import, and of the most favorite brand. The undersigned informs his friends in country that he has constantly on hand a large stock of
Smoking and chewing tobacco,
ready for delivery. His assortment includes
MEARSHAM, BRUYERE
India rubber and Clay pipes, in variety New Orleans, for the price and quality. By calling and visiting his steam manufactory and sales rooms. They are well known in Louisiana and other States, and will do any petition.
J. P. SARRAZIN

ESTABLISHED IN 1822.
Slocumb, Baldwin & Co.
74 Canal and 95 Common Street
ADJOINING CITY HOTEL,
New Orleans,
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN
HARDWARE AND AGRICULTURAL
IMPLEMENTS.
Feb. 20th '69.—6m.

Probate Sale.
Succession of Victor Herpin deceased.

THERE will be offered for sale by the Sheriff at the Court house in Parish, on
Wednesday the 31st day of March 1869
One certain tract of wood land situated on the East side of Bayou Vermilion, measuring about 3 arpents front by forty in depth, but above by land of heirs of Bismont, below by tract of J. J. Caffery.
Terms & Conditions:—A credit of one, two and three years at the day of sale. Purchasers furnish their notes with two or more good solvent securities in solid, to the satisfaction and to the order of the administrator and payable at the office of M. E. Du Esq. Said notes to bear interest at rate of eight per cent per annum maturity until paid, said land must specially mortgaged until purchase and interest if any, shall have been paid.
A. J. MOSE,
Parish Judge
Feb. 27, '69.

Probate Sale.
Succession of Jean Antonio Dominguez, deceased.

THERE will be offered at Public Sale to the highest and last bidder, on Saturday 20th day of March 1869 at the last residence of deceased, the following property belonging to said deceased, to-wit:

The undivided half of a certain tract of Prairie land, situated in Parish, containing Eighty arpents, bounded North by land of Antoine Dominguez, South by land of widow Antoinette Dominguez, East by land of the deceased Narcisse B. Acosta and West by Opelousas road.
Two Guns, One Saddle, One One Good Watch.
Terms & Conditions:—Cash at sale.
A. J. MOSE,
Parish Judge

Copartnership.

THE undersigned, have since the 1st October 1868, formed a Copartnership, under the name and style of LABUSQUIERS & Co., for the purpose carrying on a General Commission business in the city of New Orleans; and Warehouses, 17 St. Philip St. New Orleans, near the Opelousas Depot.
M. LABUSQUIER
H. F. SPRINGER
LOUIS DUPLEIX
nov. 14, '68.—1 m.