The Opelousas Journal.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE PARISH OF ST. LANDRY.

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THE OPELOUSAS JOURNAL.

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—BY—

J. W. JACKSON & J. M. GALE.

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THE LITTLE HOUSE ON THE HILL.

BY ALICE CARY.

O, Memory, be sweet to me—
Take, take all else at will,
So thou but leave me, safe and sound,
Without a token my heart to wound,
The little house on the hill!

Take all of the best, from east to west,
So thou but leave me still,
The chamber where in the starry light,
I used to lay awake at night,
And list to the whip-poor-will.

Take violet-bed, and rose-tree red,
And the purple flags by the mill,
The meadow-gay and the garden-ground,
But leave, O, leave me safe and sound,
The little house on the hill.

The daisy lane, and the dove's low plane,
And the cuckoo's tender bill,
Take one and all, but leave the dreams
That turned the rafters to golden beams,
In the little house on the hill!

The gables brown, they have tumbled down,
And dry is the brook by the mill;
The sheets I fised with care to keep
Have wrapped my dead for the last long sleep,
In the valley, low and still.

But Memory, be sweet to me,
And build the walls, at will,
Of the chamber where I used to mark,
So softly rippling over the dark,
The song of the whip-poor-will!

Ah, Memory, be sweet to me!
All other fountains chill,
But leave me that song so weird and wild,
Dear as its life to the heart of a child,
In the little house on the hill.

[*New York Ledger.*

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

GOV. SEYMOUR'S SPEECH.

Governor Seymour on taking the Chair of the Convention, delivered the following speech:

Gentlemen of the Convention—I thank you for the honor you have done me in making me your presiding officer. [Cheers] This Convention is made up of a large number of delegates from all parts of our land. To a great degree we are strangers to each other, and view the subjects which agitate our country from different stand points. We cannot at once learn each other's mode of thought, or grasp all the facts which bear upon the minds of others. Yet our session must be brief, and we are forced to act without delay upon questions of an exciting character and of deep import to our country. To maintain order, to restrain all exhibition of passion, to drive out of our minds all unkind suspicions, is, at this time a great duty. [Cheers.] I rely upon your sense of the duty and not upon my own ability to sustain me in the station in which I am placed by your kind partiality.

Men never met under greater responsibilities than those which now weigh upon us. [Applause.] It is not a mere party triumph we seek. We are trying to save our country from the dangers which overhang it. We wish to lift off the perplexities and the shackles which in the shape of bad laws and of crushing taxation must paralyze the business and labor of our land. [Loud cheers]

We hope too that we can give order, prosperity and happiness to those sections of our country which suffer so deeply to-day in their homes and in all the fields of their industry, from the unhappy events of the last eight years.

I trust our actions will show that we are governed by earnest purposes to help all classes of our citizens. Avoiding all harsh invectives against men, we should keep the public mind fixed upon the questions which must now be met and solved. [Cheers.]

Let us leave the past to the calm judgment of the future and confront the perils of the day [Cheers.] We are forced to meet the assertions in the resolutions put forth by the late Republican Convention. I aver there is not in this body one man who has it in his heart to excite so much of angry feeling against the Republican party as must be stirred up in the minds of those who read those declarations in the light of recent events and in view of the condition of our country.

In the first place, they congratulate the perplexed man of business, the burdened tax-payer, the laborer whose hours of toil are lengthened out by the growing cost of the necessaries of life, upon the success of that reconstruction policy which has brought out all these evils upon them by the cost of its military despotism and the corruption of its Bureau agencies.

In one resolution they denounce all forms of repudiation as a national crime. Then why did they put upon the statute books of the nation the laws which invite the citizens who borrow coin to force their creditor to take debased paper, and thus wrong him out of a large share of his claim in violation of the most solemn compact? [Loud cheering.]

If repudiation is a national crime, it is a crime to invite the citizens of this country thus to repudiate their individual promise. [Applause.] Was it not a crime to force the creditors of this and other States to take a currency at times worth no more than forty cents on the dollar in payment for the sterling coin they gave to build roads and canals which yield such ample resources of wealth and prosperity? [Applause.]

Again they say it is due to the laborer of the nation that taxation should be equalized. Then why did they make taxation unequal. Beyond the injustice of making one class of citizens pay for another the shares of the cost of schools, of roads, of the local law, which protected their lives and property, it was an unwise and hurtful thing. [Cheers] It sunk the credit of the country as unusual terms are always hurtful to the credit of the borrower.

They also declare the best policy to diminish our burden of debt is so to improve our credit that capitalists will seek to loan us money at lower rates of interest than we now pay, and we must continue to pay so long as repudiation is threatened or suspected. Then why have they used five hundred millions of the tax drawn from the people of this country to uphold a despotic military authority, and to crush out the life of States, when if this money had been used to pay our debts capitalists would now seek to lend us money at lower rates of interest. But for this covert repudiation our national credit would not be tainted in the markets of the world. [Applause.]

Again they declare of all who were faithful in the trials of the late war there were none entitled to more especial honor than the brave soldiers and seamen who endured the hardships of campaign and cruise and imperiled their lives in the service of the country. The bounties and pensions provided by the laws for the brave defenders of the nation is an obligation never to be forgotten. The widows and orphans of the gallant dead are the wards of the people, a sacred trust bequeathed to the nation's care. Have these sacred trusts been performed? They pay to the maimed man, to the widow or orphan, a currency which they have sunk one-quarter below the rightful value by their policy of hate, of waste, and of military despotism. The pittance to the wounded soldiers is pinched down twenty per cent. below the value of that coin which he had a right to expect. [Loud cheers.]

Is there no covert repudiation in this? [Applause.] Again, they say foreign emigration, which in the past has added so much to the wealth, the development of the resources and increase of power to the republic—the asylum of the oppressed all nations—should be fostered and encouraged by a liberal and a just policy. Is this foreign emigration fostered by a policy which is a mockery of the laws just passed declaring eight hours a legal day's labor. The cost of the Government and the swarms of officials so swells the cost of living that men must toil on to meet the exaction. [Cheers] The time was when we could not only invite the Europeans to share with us the material blessings of our great country; but more than this, we could tell those who fled from oppression that we lived under a Government of laws administered by the judiciary which kept the bayonet and the sword in due subordination. [Cheers.]

We could point to a written Constitution which not only marked out the powers of government, but whose anxious care secured to the humble man the right of property, of person and conscience. Is emigration encouraged by trampling that Constitution in the dust, treating it with contempt, shackling the judiciary, insulting the Executive, and giving all the world to understand that the guarantees of political and civil rights are destroyed? [Applause,]

But the crowning indictment against the follies and crimes of those in power is in these words: "That we recognize the great principles handed down in the Declaration of Independence as the true foundation of democratic government, and we hail with gladness every effort toward making these principles a living reality on every inch of American soil."

If, within the limits of the ten States of this Union, an American citizen, stung by a sense of his wrongs, should publicly and truthfully denounce the men in power, because in the very language of this declaration of independence they have created a multitude of officers to harrass our people and eat out their substance, he would in all human probability be dragged to a prison; or if, in the indignant language of our fathers, he should exclaimed that they have affected to render the military independent or superior to the civil power, have abolished the free system of English law as established here in arbitrary government for the offense of asserting these principles, he would be tried and punished by a military tribunal. [Great cheering.]

Having declared that the principles of the Declaration of Independence should be made a living reality on every inch of American soil, they put in nomination a military chieftain, who stands at the head of that system of despotism that crushes beneath its feet the greatest principle of the Declaration of Independence. [Cheers.]

It is held by military orders to be a crime to speak out the indignation and contempt which burn within the bosoms of patriotic men. If to-morrow a military order should be put forth in that State where the ashes of Washington are entombed, that it will be an offense to declare that the military should ever be subordinate to the civil authorities, to speak the sentiment that it was a disgrace to our country to let hordes of officials eat up the substance of the people, he who uttered these words could be dragged to prison from the very grave where lies the remains of the author of the Declaration of Independence. [Loud cheering.]

From this outrage there can be no appeal to courts; and the Republican candidate for the Presidency has accepted a position which makes a large share of our people dependent on his will. [Applause.] In view of these things, can there be one man in this convention who can let a personal ambition, a passion, a prejudice, turn him aside one hair's breadth in his efforts to wipe off the wrongs and outrages which disgrace our country. [Cheers.]

Can there be one man whose heart is so dead to all that is great and noble in patriotism, but that he will gladly sacrifice all other things for the sake of his country, its liberty, and its greatness? Can we suffer any prejudices growing out of the present differences of opinion to hinder us from uniting now with all who act with us to save our country? [Cheers.]

We meet to-day to see what measures can be taken to avert the danger which threatens our country, and to release it from the toils and burdens resulting from bad government and unwise counsels.

I thank God that the strife of arms has ceased, and that once more, in the great conventions of our party, we can call through the whole roll of States and find them to answer for each. Time and events in the great cycles have brought us to this spot to renew and invigorate that constitutional government which nearly eight years ago was inaugurated in this city. [Loud cheers.]

It was here that George Washington, first President, swore to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of these United States, [cheers], and here this day we as solemnly ourselves swear to uphold the rights and liberties of the American people. Then as now a great war which has desolated our land had ceased. Then as now there was in many patriotic breasts a longing for the blessings of good government, for the protection of laws, and for a sentiment of fraternal regard and affection among the inhabitants of all the States of the Union.

When our Government in 1779 was inaugurated in this city there were glad processions of men and those manifestations of great joy which people show when they feel that an event has happened which is to give lasting blessings to the land. [Cheers.] To-day, in this same spirit, this vast assemblage meets, and the streets of this city are thronged with men who have come from the utmost borders of our continent. They are filled with the hope that we are about by our action and our policy to bring back the blessing of good government.

It is among the happiest omens which inspirit us now that those who fought bravely in our late civil war are foremost in their demands that there shall be peace in our land. The passions of hate and malice may linger in meaner breasts, but we find ourselves upheld in our generous purposes by those who showed the true courage and manhood of battle. [Cheers.]

In the spirit then of Geo. Washington, and of the patriots of the revolution, let us take the step to reinaugurate our Government, and to start it once again its course to greatness and prosperity. [Cheers.]

May Almighty God give us the wisdom to carry out our purposes; and may he give every State of our Union the blessings of peace, good order and fraternal affection.

Gov. Seymour closed amid great cheering.

A LEAP FOR LIFE.

During my travels in Mexico and Sonora, I met with many strange and interesting people, and I have been among that class of men who are called trappers, and heard from their lips many a wild tale.

One evening I stopped at a Mexican's to spend the night, and I was overjoyed to find a number of my own countrymen there. They were trappers, and I soon became acquainted with them.

Among the number was a tall, bony specimen of humanity, who went by the name of Long Dick. He was about thirty-five years of age, six feet high, and hailed from one of the New England States. I found that he was well educated, for he did not use the wild trapper's language.

[illegible] by the fire, I thought that he might relate some thrilling adventure; so I drew my chair near him, and said:

"My friend, how long have you been in these parts?"

"Nearly ten years," was the reply.

"Then you must have seen hard times?" I said, anxious to draw him into conversation.

"Yes, I have. When I came here the Apaches were as flies in summer."

"Did you ever trap along the Yellowstone?"

"I did, and will ever remember a terrible adventure which I had there, and which made my hair turn gray, as you can see."

And when he removed his hat from his head, I saw that his hair was as white as snow.

"Before this adventure my hair was as black as yours."

"Will you please relate the circumstances to me?" I asked.

I drew my chair still closer to the trapper, and listened with almost breathless attention while he related the follow story:

"You see," he began, "I was trapping along the Yellowstone some years ago, and made the business pay. I had a good pile of skins, and began to make arrangements to return to the States, when I had a terrible adventure.

"One day I was about ten miles from my hut, and when noon came I sat down to eat my dinner, which consisted of bear's meat and dried venison. My horse was tied to a tree near by, eating oats. Suddenly I heard a yell that brought me to my feet, and looking to the north, I beheld about twenty Comanches sweeping down on me at full gallop. I ran to my horse, mounted him and struck out for home. I did not have much the start, and I soon saw that the red devils were gaining on me. So I stuck my spurs into the side of my mustang, and he went bounding over the prairie. I knew that he was worthy the name of horse, therefore I had no fear that they would catch me. But still they gained on me, and I saw that the foremost was within rifle shot. I had learned to fire on my horse, so I dropped the reins over the pommel of my saddle and fired at the foremost pursuer. He threw up his hands and fell from his steed, which dashed away without a rider. The party stopped a moment, but I reloaded and went on. I saw them again in motion, and ere long I was in shooting distance, I fired and emptied another saddle, but it did not stop them—they came on faster than before. I fired twice, and two more Comanches were stretched on the praire lifeless. I had but one charge left, and I determined to keep for the last moment. All at once I heard the sound of rushing waters, and it smote upon my ear as my death knell. I was rapidly nearing 'Dead Man's Gulch,' and my brain whirled at the thought.

"This gulch was a large opening in the earth, made perhaps by an earthquake. It was three miles in length, and about twenty feet wide. I guess it was a hundred feet deep, and a stream ran among the rocks at the bottom. Two of my countrymen had tried to leap the chasm with their horses, when chased by the Comanches, but failed. No wonder that I shuddered as I neared the chasm, for death was likely; but sooner than be captured, I would try to leap the chasm though I perished in the attempt. On I went, and my dusky foes saw where I was going, for they yelled like demons. The sound of rushing water grew more distinct, and by rising in my stirrups I could see the yawning chasm, and a few rods more would decide my fate. The Indians came on, and I decided to use my last shot. I fired, and their leader fell from his horse. I threw my rifle away, for I did not wish to encumber my steed, and again sent the spurs into his bleeding sides. I neared the gulch, and as my noble steed prepared for the leap, I closed my eyes to meet the death I thought was at hand. I felt myself borne through the air, and then a shock. I opened my eyes and saw that my brave horse had leaped the chasm and was clambering to his feet. I jumped from the saddle and assisted him to rise. I cried like a child, and showered kisses upon the dumb but brave animal that had saved me from the bottom of the 'Dead Man's Gulch.'

"I gave my horse rest, and went on my journey. I met my friends, Jake Simms and Pete Peters, who would hardly believe me when I told them of my fearful leap. They told me that my hair was white, and when I looked into the mirror I found that they had told the truth. I may live many years, but I never want to try that leap again. My faithful horse is still with me, and is now in the host's stable; and all the wealth of Golconda would not purchase him, for he saved me from a frightful death in 'Dead Man's Gulch.'"

SEVERE SARCASM.—John Baker, of Illinois, lately proposed that whenever a Democrat had not more than 2000 majority he should be considered defeated, and his Radical opponent be allowed his seat. Mr. Pollard, (Radical,) of Vermont, hearing the suggestion, proposed to amend by declaring that whenever a State did not give over 20,000 Democratic majority, the entire Radical ticket should be declared elected. Such remarks show how utterly disgusted these gentlemen are with the action of their own party in the conduct of contested election cases.

A book-peddler, who has been in Troy about two weeks, trying to sell the [illegible] H. Grant, has given up in despair. He says "I have been a book-agent for a number of years, and have never before failed to be successful in their sale. But the 'Life of Grant' won't sell. Nobody cares for Grant. His own party rejects his 'Life' with indifference, and in many instances with contempt."

NO MIXED SCHOOLS.—Forney, in yesterday's *Chronicle*, endorses the recommendation of the new Mayor of Washington that the two races shall not be put in the same schools in that city.

A man in Cincinnati once advertised for a wife, and the next day he received letters from twenty-seven husbands, saying he might have theirs.

There is said to be a great similarity between vain young lady and a confirmed drunkard, in that neither of them can ever get enough of the glass.

To the Citizens of South-western Louisiana.

MY FRIENDS,—I am now thoroughly repairing my School Buildings for the purpose of opening my Female School on the 2d Monday of September prox. At considerable expense and with much labor, I am preparing to furnish you with a first class School; should my attempt prove abortive, it will probably be a long time ere another effort of the kind is made in your midst; as nothing enhances the value of property, and adds to the prosperity of a country, more than good schools. I hope you will feel much more obliged to me to insist me. *I only ask patronage.* I will open by the 1st of October ensuing, to pay which, I *must have a good school*, or will be disappointed. With thirty pupils, that is, [illegible] and all paying me quarterly in advance, I can succeed. My terms are as moderate as could possibly be asked; as will be seen in the following schedule of prices: $15 per month for Board; 75 cents per dozen for washing; pupils furnishing bedding, napkins, towels, pitchers, &c.; $4 per month for English branches; $5 for French and German, and $5 for Instrumental Music. No extra charge for Wood, Music, &c. As soon as we have sixty pupils, we will reduce English tuition to $3 per month, and Music to $4. *We intend to spare no pains to make ours as good a school as any.* Opelousas and vicinity are noted for health and salubrious climate. We are very convenient to New Orleans by Steamers and Railroad, with Stage. Near us are good Mineral Springs, where parents may spend the Summer with their children, in safety. Can you not send your daughter, and influence your neighbor to send his? We receive all kinds of country produce in payment of board and tuition fees. Invariably quarterly in advance. Address Mrs. S. M. WHITE, or B. F. WHITE, Opelousas.

B. F. WHITE, Superintendent,
Opelousas Female College.

Opelousas, La., July 11, 1868.

JNO. C. TUCKER,

Assistant Assessor U. S. Internal Revenue

FOR THE

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW,

Opelousas, La.

Have formed a partnership, and will practice their profession in the Parishes of St. Landry, Calcasieu, Lafayette, Avoyelles and Pointe Coupee. [Nov23'67.

B. A. MARTEL. GEO. W. HUDSPETH

B. A. MARTEL & HUDSPETH,

ATTORNEYS AT LAW,

Opelousas, La.

Having formed a partnership for the practice of law, will attend to professional business in St. Landry and adjoining parishes.

Opelousas, Nov. 23, 1867.

JAMES M. PORTER,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Office in Opelousas, near the Court-House,

Will practice in the Courts of the 8th Judicial District, comprising the Parishes of St Landry, Calcasieu, Lafayette and Vermilion.

Opelousas, Nov. 23, 1867.

THOMAS H. LEWIS,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Will practice his profession in the Parishes of St. Landry and Calcasieu.

Office with Col. Jas. M. Porter, in Opelousas. Nov23'67.

GEORGE H. WELLS,

Attorney at Law,

Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, La.

PRACTICES in Calcasieu, St. Landry and Lafayette parishes. Dec7'67.

Notice.

THE partnership between George R. King and Edmund H. Martin, for the practice of law, was by mutual consent dissolved on the 25th day of August last. The professional business confided to the firm will continue to receive the attention of George R. King, until parties otherwise direct.

GEO. R KING,
E. H. MARTIN.

Opelousas, La., December 7th, 1867.

GEO. R KING,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Opelousas, La.

Opelousas, December 7, 1867.

JOHN M. TAYLOR,

Attorney and Counsellor at Law,

WILL practice his profession in the Parishes of the 8th Judicial District. Prompt attention given to the collection and prosecution of claims. dec28'67

JOHN E. KING,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Opelousas, La.

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW,

Opelousas, La.

Nov23'67

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