

THE COMMERCIAL JOURNAL

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To insure notice of their communications, writers must furnish their real name.

MIGHTY SHAKY.

If Sanders ever needed his friends he needed them last week. The wires were kept warm communicating with some he thought his friends, only to find that they were allied against him for ostensibly other reasons, but the main reason being that they had had an elegant sufficiency of the Senator-Governor. Insurgency, that was thought impossible, loomed up in a night and the next morn found poor Jared floundering around in a sea of doubt and suspicion. Things looked mighty shaky for the erstwhile powerful ruler and dictator of Louisiana.

Lafourche went for Sanders by a slight majority of less than one hundred, when he was a candidate, but the insurgents found consolation in making Thibodaux their destination in their endeavor to entice Bob Broussard to accept the nomination. While no individual refused the election to the Senate, no one would chance having it said that he was a candidate, for fear of being defeated. All preferred having the toga fastened upon them with out the knowledge that they even had given the honor a thought.

The scare and rush last week was but a confirmation of the fact that the vote on the amendments in the country was a sign of the times and that dissatisfaction and disgust of existing conditions did exist. With proper organization and a leader, the administration forces could have been routed to a sufficient extent to acknowledge their defeat last Wednesday, but unfortunately no one individual seemed anxious to take the lead. Too many fear ventures for the reason that they can not anticipate possible defeat, and even when they feel safe in assuming that they can win out they dare to risk when the knowledge of past defeats come to mind. This is a false position to take, for in politics as in love "feint never hurt won fair lady".

We believe in sticking to the side we consider right; even if we be alone in that belief, and although we are convinced of utter defeat in advance. Being with the majority does not make anything right, and what is wrong can not be made right, regardless of whether the leaders look at it in that manner, or whether the majority feel that to be right we must always win. We would sooner lose all the time and have the satisfaction of being right than win all the time and be satisfied that we were wrong. Fortunately we are not all of the same opinion for if we were the public would be kept in the densest ignorance.

The Governor should realize that he has reached a point where an over-taxed and over tried commonwealth will stand no more. His whims, fancies and prejudices have been exercised to the limit and he should see it, if he will not believe what the sentiment is. Last week should have been a lesson to him as it was the most trying and uncertain one of his career and unless the public good soon gets in his cran-ium the Sanders forces will be unmercifully slaughtered, together with his senatorial aspirations, in January 1912. The month of November, but particularly the ides of December, should be indelibly impressed in his mind. His gravest error was refusing the Senatorship, after having sought and accepted it.

Louisiana has had enough one man rule, the legislators are tired being ridiculed by their constituents, and being pestered with the statement that they are no longer free men; they know and realize that they will have to assert their independence to be reelected; the people have had enough of their nonentity. A great number have already realized that they are serving their last terms, some their first and last terms, and the candidates for their succession are confirmed in the belief that some assurance must be given of the fact that they seek election untrammelled, unbiased, unprejudiced and unbossed by either Governor or sheriff. The blunders and obstinacy of the Governor have made him shaky and given him many a chill, but with all our misfortunes, his blunders, it has indeed opened the eyes of an over tried and disgusted public.

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Thibodaux Opera House. Address Finance Committee Lock Box 291 Thibodaux La.

NEED ATTENTION

Elsewhere in this issue appears a communication, in French, from an eminent driver, who without going deeply into the matter touches upon an issue that is of great moment. Beyond writing on the same and the further fact that Grand Jury after Grand Jury have in a manner commended the fact that the roads were "considering the weather," nothing seems ever to have been done nor is it our belief that anything in that respect will ever be done-unless present conditions are very much changed and bettered.

The present system, as we have always contended, is nothing short of a farce. The law in so far as the roads are concerned means nothing. No one pays attention to the roads in front of their respective properties-unless they become so impassable that they can not use them themselves and sometimes not until one of their own or some travelling vehicle has been stalled in some hole in the road-then it is that they send hands out to remove the vehicle and incidentally give the road way attention. There are some few exceptions, but the above is the general rule. Planters, as a rule, only give attention to the road when they can not possibly use the hands on the plantation.

Those whose duty it is to enforce the road law, compelling all to work their roads do not dare see the law enforced as they know full well the reaction and punishment would come at the next election, hence when the Father says: "less politics and more practical work," he hits the nail on the head. Possibly if there were more independent people and the masses would pay their poll taxes in larger numbers and not depend upon a few politicians to pay it for them, the majority of the people could not be so easily handled at the polls and the results at elections would be different and the good to follow would be so far reaching that in time we would be assured good roads, one of the purposes for which taxes are paid.

Outside of paying salaries and giving as little as can consistently be given to the schools, so as to put up the appearance, while the schools give their fairs to continue their sessions and get much of the furnishings for the schools-the taxpayers get exceedingly little in return for the money paid in by them. Road inspectors, a misnomer, because there are no roads to inspect unless there has been a drouth for weeks, then the inspectors know that it is useless to make a trip of inspection as the roads are surely good, as long as the weather is good. "Inspectors for what and why"? As the writer says: "for seemingly nothing as no one has any fear of the inspectors and there is either no law or the people have no respect for law in so far as it affects the road for people work them when they can not avoid it, they place anything and everything in the road, brickbats in one place, rubbish in another and oyster shells in another.

It is surprising, says the writer that automobilists, so numerous in this parish, would not register complaints also, as between oyster shells and loose bridges, "working like doors on hinges," one can not but wonder how it happens that there are any machines still operating after one trip, or that there are not more wrecked machines. Again pedestrians either have to take the top of the levee, where there is one, and keep to the beaten path, or sink in the mud shoe deep, ladies and men alike having to muddle their boots and shoes. Vehicles have to eliminate the trot and walk the animals attached, it being sometimes with difficulty that a walk is even possible with out imminent danger. It is not an uncommon thing for the roads to become impassable, and intervals when people will not venture out on them under any condition when livery stables will not rent teams, or not allow you to make a forty four mile drive in less than two days, are certainly not unknown.

The system is dead wrong, too many inspectors at too little money and necessarily not paid a living salary, and all that they can be expected to do is to draw their salaries. The job is for the use of politicians, to reward their benchmark; it frequently happens that it is given to a ward constable so that the two salaries together with a commission as deputy sheriff will give him a decent monthly stipend. Inspectors in name alone, as results will show. The contract system is the only system, a contractor guaranteed by a heavy bond. The communication is respectfully referred to our readers.

DID YOU KNOW:

THAT

It was amusing to see politicians clinging to any and every straw last week, as two ships were in danger?

The administration and insurgents were fighting for dear life, and it was who would not sink?

Yesterday settled the battle, unless a deadlock were made possible, but we believe not?

Truly the Democrats of the third district have shown their Republican tendencies beyond all doubt?

As Democratic as they pretend to be, they dare not risk their interests in the hands of a Democrat?

Yet they will calumniate all who say a good word for our friends, the Republicans?

If we had such proclivities we would be men enough to take bundle and baggage and trust our tuck with the Republicans?

They are Democrats because they can run things and remain in office for life, but really Republican in principle?

The Governor must have had a miserable week last week; his days were long and his nights restless?

It did look at times as if it were all up with Jared and we have been daily waiting for the shouting?

It is up to the people to bust up the ring and so arrange matters that there will be a square deal for all?

Why should any man or set of men have to come to Thibodaux to ascertain if any one individual should run?

The ballot and its casting should be so arranged that merit would win out?

Continue present conditions and the Mexican troubles will be nothing compared to what will follow in this state?

To fish for compliments, one does not place himself in a position to violate the law?

Fishing compliments is permissible in and out of season and there are many who avail themselves of the privilege?

Many are given to the same habit and the fishing of compliments is not restricted to ladies?

It seems to be apparent to a number of folks that Thibodaux should possess an up-to-date theatre?

Shows are playing the country towns, city shows, and are giving us the go by?

There is room for a good theatre here and with the proposed motor line the project should appeal to idle capital?

A modern building in Main Street, converted into an up-to-date play house, according to a plan we have in mind, would be a success?

Very few people can not take care of themselves, but many do not realize it?

They feel that if others do not care for them, think for them, and act for them, they are lost?

Those people should turn themselves over to the law and have themselves declared incapable?

The fairer sex are firm believers in the biblical saying "it is not good for man to live alone"?

For that reason they will not leave him alone and are forever after him?

Many a man however would not take the girl that wanted him; but preferred having the one who wanted another?

Thus it happens that many are left to woo solitude, both among men and the lady folks?

Whiskey blossoms are very frequently evident on the bum and can not be hidden?

Many a bum has become such by a too frequent use of the liquid that produces blossoms?

One who can not make a correct use of anything should leave it alone, or it will be his undoing?

Undoing with too many seems to be a matter of fact and gives them no concern whatever?

It is different with the individual who has the right sort of pride and is undone by misfortune?

Do what is right and do your best will land every man on the safe side all the time?

Do not like others, but do it as you see it, and be positive and honest in your dealings, is the secret?

Opportunities come to all, it is all in knowing how to meet them half way so they do not give one the slip?

What another can afford, and that may be within his means, may not be within yours?

Some bright kid wanted to know if Moses had the same after dinner complaint as his father had?

The doctor gave his father tablets to take after dinner for dyspepsia, and the kid had heard of no other?

The kid wanted to know why the Lord had only given Moses two tablets-for what complaint?

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