

B. D. HARRISON, Publisher.
DRAYTON B. HAYES, Editor.

HOMER, LA.

Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1878.

Removals were numerous on yesterday.

See notice of succession sales Saturday next.

Read notice of letting the streets this year.

Sheriff's sales of valuable property next Saturday.

Savings Banks are breaking all over the country.

Prof. Tice is said to be responsible for late unpleasant weather.

There is an exodus of defaulting bank officials to foreign climes.

Many of our exchanges come to us in the usual Christmas style—a half sheet.

Robert J. Looney is the Radical candidate for representative from Caddo parish.

Our latest dispatches indicate that England is making mighty preparations for war.

We publish to-day a notice of the dissolution of the firm of J. B. & T. H. Moreland.

Russia, up to date, has lost in the prosecution of the war against Turkey, 80,412 men.

Up to the 25th ult. over \$800,000 of taxes had been paid in and several parishes to bear from.

Messrs. Mitchell, Young, and Duke, all departed for New Orleans on Monday last by way of Minden.

W. H. Wise, Esq., is the regular nominee of the Democratic party, in Caddo parish, for representative.

Buell, the Washington correspondent of the N. O. Democrat, thinks the Pacific Railroad bills will fail.

It is a little singular that the gold value of a silver dollar is 90 cents while the gold value of a paper dollar is 97 cents.

A. McCraie has sold his entire stock of goods to S. Y. Gladney, and has leased to the same party his store house for two years.

Mr. O'Donnell is the Democratic nominee for Senator Eustis' vacant place. The nominee is a working man and represents the laboring class.

One hundred and eight arrests were made in New Orleans from five o'clock of the 25th to same hour of 26th ult. Christmas egg-nogg did it.

We call special attention to the business card of Messrs. Moreland & McFarland, both of them clever gentlemen and of ample experience in the business they advertise.

The new Democratic Senator from California appeared in person before the caucus and advocated his own election, declaring himself in favor of the remonetization of silver and free trade.

We have had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Arthur Levy, of the house of L. A. Levy, Shreveport. Mr. Levy is on a business visit to Claiborne. He informs us that Tomkins' Bank in Shreveport has failed.

We have had the pleasure of meeting with Chas. S. Blackburn, Esq., editor of the Hope City Times. Charley informs us that his father, the Hon. W. Jasper Blackburn, is improving rapidly in health.

Will our readers in Claiborne parish kindly inform us of changes to be made in church appointments for the year 1878? We wish to publish a correct list, but must depend on the members of the various churches and the ministers themselves for information.

The Shreveport roads get no better fast. That colored individual still stands by the mud-hole, two miles this side of the city, charging all he can get for driving through his field. The rumor that a Shreveport business house is in partnership with the ducky is untrue.

A. C. Jones was tried before N. J. Scott, Parish Judge, for shooting a negro that was caught stealing whiskey. The evidence of Marcus Ella, the principal witness for defence, presented some remarkable contradictions, but the accused was not bound over, the judge considering, we presume, that there was not probable cause of the defendant's guilt. However, the evidence must be examined by the grand jury.

We received some weeks ago, through Mr. D. W. Harris, our urbane postmaster, a beautiful song and music, entitled—'Whisper You'll be Mine, Love'—words and music by Jno. T. Rutledge, Ludden & Bates, Savannah, Georgia, publishers. Our musical training having been neglected in early youth, we presented the music to Mrs. E. L. Johnson, one of the most accomplished musicians in our community, who pronounces the piece charming, and so thought we when we heard the words sung by a sweet and cultivated voice a few days ago. We hope to receive other selections from the same source.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

The communication published in another column of this day's Guardian is from the pen of a valued friend of ours, who has frequently in the past advised the people, and generally to their advantage. For him personally we have the highest regard, and usually hear his opinions with a profound deference to his age, superior intelligence and honesty of purpose. But it is not impossible that a person possessing all these attributes may be wrong, and inasmuch as our correspondent, in a private letter to the editor, suggests with an unbecoming sarcasm that a little opposition from us will do his cherished movement no harm, we propose in brief space to furnish that opposition, leaving him to be the judge of its good or bad result.

We have had but little to say editorially about a constitutional convention. The subject has been treated of exhaustively in a series of communications in the Guardian. We could not improve upon the text or sense of the articles from "Fine Hills," and therefore quietly endorse them. And we find that with but few exceptions the people of Claiborne have done the same. True, our contributor informs us that the citizens in ward six in this parish have almost unanimously signed a petition to the Legislature to order a convention. Doubtless that is true. We have often remarked that people sign petitions with great readiness—petitions too upon all questions—the same man frequently signing papers totally opposite in their nature. For example, it is almost universally conceded that W. F. Aycock is the best tax collector we have had for years—there is no cause of complaint against him—yet we observe with surprise that men claiming to be his best friends are signing freely an application for the appointment of another gentleman. Such action is the result of a singular weakness which incapacitates some very good men from saying no. Consequently they give a matter no investigation, but to gratify the man who has the paper they sign their names and think no more about it, unless they should be placed in an awkward position by their too ready assent. We venture the assertion that an active canvasser could procure, against a convention, signature for signature with our friend. But grant that ward six or any other ward is in favor of the convention, the drift of the multitude does not always prove the correctness of any proposition.

We remember, with some mortification, the fact that this very ward six, so boastingly flaunted in our face, was singularly apathetic in the last election, and that very nearly one hundred white men failed to vote in a contest the most important by odds that has ever taken place in Louisiana. And that very fact furnishes an apt illustration of our own main reason for objecting to a convention until we are satisfied that the power of the Radical party in Louisiana is completely shattered. The writer knows much about the difficulty of bringing out the full party vote in an election. Our contributor shared with us the indignation caused by the indifference of many people in Claiborne in the fall of 1876 in rallying to the support of the party in the overthrow of the Kellogg dynasty. It is proper now to consider the possibilities of another election. Can we hope or expect to present the issues of an election for delegates to a convention in a more stirring form than were the issues of a year ago? Are we sure of bringing out the full strength of the white vote? Can we create sufficient enthusiasm to sweep all opposition before us? Our friend will bear testimony that in every campaign we have labored faithfully, and we say now that our experience causes us to answer nay to all the above propositions.

We do think that the wisest and best course is to delay a convention until we are certain of success. Other reasons that we have no need to be found in the series of articles heretofore alluded to. We admit that there are grave defects in our present constitution. We do not propose to endorse that remarkably objectionable instrument, but prefer to bear it yet a little while until we can be assured of the certainty of a better one. We know full well that a majority of papers in the State are against us, yet find in that no reason for a modification of our views. It will be in order now to accuse us of interested views, but it happens that we hold no office which a new constitution could in any way affect. So we may have the credit of being honest in our views. In conclusion we suggest to our good friend that we are aware of no limitation of the number of amendments that may be proposed to the people at one time. But a more accurate knowledge of the instrument he wants abolished will be of no help to him in circulating his petition. People will usually sign without looking.

A majority of all ministers in New York, except those of the catholic and episcopal churches, are going square back on the devil of their fathers. They express an almost unanimous disbelief in the orthodox hell. In their summing up they ignore the brimstone, fire and hot iron business. Verily the world improves.

The Carr brothers, of Red River parish, fell out lately, a Mr. Thompson siding with one of the brothers. John R. Carr submitted to arrest. Thompson and the other Carr resisted the sheriff's posse and exchanged shots with them. Afterward another attempt was made to arrest them. Shots were again exchanged, Carr was shot down and captured, and Thompson escaped.

Constitutional Convention.

Mr Editor:—Allow me through the columns of your paper to inform your readers of what is being done in this Parish in order that our Representatives may understand the sentiment of the people with reference to a Constitutional Convention. A few of our citizens being informed that the people of Bienville parish were petitioning the General Assembly on this subject, determined to act in concert, and several petitions are being circulated praying the Senate and House of Representatives to make provision for a constitutional convention at the ensuing session of the Legislature. On the subject of constitutional revision there is, I suppose, but one opinion. All see and feel the necessity, but how and when is the question that gives rise to differences—some favoring legislative amendments, others a convention. The advocates of the former, i. e. by amendment, urge as one of their heaviest objections to a convention "is the expense attaching thereto. Again they claim that in a new constitution we will have to vote on it as a whole and the probability of having many things still objectionable. One other that I have heard, to my mind too weak to notice, is that the interest of the southern part of the State and the river parishes are diverse to that of the northern parishes, and we will suffer by the combination in a constitutional convention." And still one more as frail, that we may fail to elect delegates who will prove true and patriotic as well as wise enough to do what we want done.

For one, we are in favor of a new constitution emanating from the intelligence of the people of this State, and in trying to meet the objections thereto we shall offer some of the reasons that prompt us. In the first place, according to the provisions of the present constitution, only three amendments can be submitted to the people at a time without said provisions be repealed, and to do this it requires twelve months, and this at least involves two years and two elections before we could hope to secure the relief by Legislative amendments we need. Every thinking man knows how insignificant constitutional amendments, be they ever so important, become in a heated party or personal contest for office. Comparatively few give themselves time to investigate their worth, and thus they are always if ratified, ratified by accident more than otherwise. If as is claimed it might be that delegates might be elected so swayed by local prejudice, or so corrupt as to frame a constitution even more objectionable than the present, on the same parity of reasoning, can we hope amendments to be submitted to the people that will diminish either the number of officers or their salaries, or withdrawing the appointing power of the Governor, or in anything that would affect the interest or power of the present one? Is it more probable that we may be more indiscreet in the selection of delegates than representatives? Such reasons from our opponents is too trifling and contemptible to deserve our time.

It is true we shall have to vote upon the new constitution as a whole, and that it may have objectionable features, surely not more than the present, and the chances are altogether favorable to less, and then we are left the same resource as now, of amending; and I would suggest that just one provision in the new constitution could save all the cost of a convention and be infinitely better for the state, that being a change to biennial sessions instead of annual. We have too much legislation, too many officers with too much salaries. Who will dare gainsay this but the interested? It is also urged that we need a political sabbath after a struggle of years in order that every political nerve be quieted, and the strife and bitterness of years be buried. Go ask the delinquent taxpayer whose home has been sold for taxes, if his condition will admit

of such a sabbath; ask all these people who voted for those who were so loudly calling for retrenchment and reform if they can longer wait for them to fulfill their vows, and if you get no answer sooner, next November, '78, you shall hear them answer if their representatives come not now to their relief by a new constitution. In this parish in less than one week ward six speaks out by petition almost unanimously for a convention. In one day in the town of Homer over one hundred names were signed in a most enthusiastic manner, only one man refusing having objections, and one declining on the ground that he had given the subject but little thought. And so far as I have been able to learn none oppose a convention except those now holding office, and this is not to be construed as embracing all that do hold office, or as a reason that prompts them entirely. I do not regard this the time nor do I claim to be the man to present the objectionable features of the present constitution; but as to the best mode of relieving ourselves, I have no doubt that a convention will be the cheapest and the only way that will ever satisfy the people of this State, and give us a government that will secure prosperity to the people, and afford that shelter and protection that shall invite and encourage emigrants and capital that will develop the resources of our State. Then let every man feel his interest in this subject and get up petitions and secure every voter's name who feels the weight of taxes and wants relief.

State Immigration Convention.

[N. O. Sunday Delta.] In answer to our request in last week's Delta, Governor McEnery, who is an attentive reader of this paper, favors its readers with a valuable communication on the Immigration Convention here next month. Our numerous parish exchanges will help the good cause by republishing the article.

The 14th day of January next has been appointed the day for a State Convention to be held in the city of New Orleans, to take into consideration the proper methods which will lead to a large influx of honest and thrifty immigrants to Louisiana within a reasonable space of time.

It is to be hoped, and certainly is expected that this convention will prove a success, and this hope and expectation are founded in the belief that throughout the State so deep an interest will be taken in the matter as to secure the selection of delegates to this Convention whose character and ability will furnish an earnest that the people of Louisiana intend to inaugurate and establish a successful scheme for immigration and like her sister States of Texas, Florida, Arkansas and Mississippi, settle and establish upon her rich and inexhaustible soil, thousands of industrious people from other sections to help us to build up our broken and ruined fortunes.

This immigration movement, now going on throughout the State, must be fostered and encouraged by the planters and landowners; and it is to this class of our citizens that we now especially appeal, to take an active interest in the convention to assemble in this city on the 14th of January next.

Let them see to it that a meeting is called in every parish, and that suitable delegates are accredited to the convention; and our word for it, an impetus will be given to this all-important movement which will bring from every land and clime, men with muscle and brain to help us to rebuild Louisiana and make her what she ought to be, one of the richest States in the Union.

We hope and trust that not a single parish will be unrepresented in the Convention to assemble, the success or failure of which is fraught with weal or woe to our State.

The N. O. Democrat of the 22d December says: Up to date thirty-six tax collectors have presented their final settlements at the Auditor's office for the current year, each one showing by his accounts that the collections for the current year have greatly exceeded the anticipations of even the most sanguine, and the very small delinquent lists showing the willingness of the people of the State to support the government of their own selection even after experiencing years of burdensome taxation.

In the opinion of the State officials the prompt payment, even with reduced taxation, will be ample now and for years to come to meet promptly the interest upon the indebtedness of the State, and will also enable the State to invest gradually in internal improvements, such as the construction of school buildings in the parishes, a feature which, by the way, will be fully set forth in the annual report of the Superintendent of Public Education.

There is at present a bill in the troubles on the Mexican border.

GRAND ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE PUBLIC!

AN EXTRAORDINARY OPENING OF Fall and Winter Goods, AND A CONCERT OF Centennial Curiosities, Now on Exhibition at the Mammoth House of D. STEIN & CO., FARMERVILLE, LOUISIANA.

OUR Stock has been carefully selected in the Northern and Eastern Cities, to suit the people, and we are determined not to be underbid by any House in North Louisiana or South Arkansas.

Cotton is down, and Goods must follow!

We are now offering Goods at the following Low Prices: French Calico, 1 yard wide, 10 cents; Calicoes, from 5 to 6 cts, colors guaranteed; Sea Island Cotton, the best, 1 yd wide, 10c; Linseys, from 15 to 20 cents; Large size Shawls, from 75 cents to \$1; Ladies' peg shoes, \$1 and upwards; Ladies' fine Dress Goods, 20c, worth 40c; 2 yard wide Brown Table Cloths, 35 cts.

We have the largest lot of FLANNELS, QUILTS, JEANS, OSNABURGS, BLANKETS, BEDTICKINGS, CASSIMERE and DOMESTICS, which we sell at astonishing low prices.

Our Stock of Ladies', Men's and Children's Shoes were selected in Philadelphia and Boston markets, with great care as to durability and style.

We are receiving daily the latest styles of CLOTHING and FURNISHING GOODS for men and Boys. HATS of the latest fashion for Ladies, Gentlemen and Boys.

Call and examine our magnificent stock of French and German HOSIERY, which we offer at great bargains.

Saddlery, Hardware, Tinware, Queensware, Furniture, Drugs, Perfumery, &c., in great quantities.

The world renowned SINGER SEWING MACHINES, at reduced prices.

BUGGIES and WAGONS of the best make, at the Mammoth Store.

D. STEIN & CO.,

And everything usually kept in a first-class Country Store.

If you do not see what you want, ask for it.

Hides, Tallow, Wool and Cotton taken in exchange for Goods. Farmerville, Louisiana, October 31, 1877.

Louisiana State University AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE, BATON ROUGE, LA.

THE course of study embraces a wide field of Literature and Science. Tuition and the use of the Library and Apparatus are free. No incidental or matriculation fees to pay. Board, including washing, lights, fuel, blacking, mending, medical attention, &c., \$16 00 per month. D. F. BOYD, President, Dec. 5, 1877. 164t

Mt. Zion Seminary. THE exercises of this Institution for the year 1877, will commence on Monday, the 4th day of February next. Rates of tuition \$2 and \$3 per month, from day of admission. Board \$5 per month. W. H. LESLIE, Principal, Dec. 5, 1877. 162m

Price of Hauling Reduced. NOW is the time to have your Cotton baled to Shreveport and sold, for \$1 per hundred. I will make weekly trips to Shreveport. Personal attention given to all orders and sales. W. H. ELLINGTON, Oct. 17, 1877. 93m

CHARLEY YANCEY'S WAGON, TOM YEGAN, Driver, MAKES Weekly Trips to Shreveport. Care and attention given to all orders. Prices low, and prompt trips made. Give Tom your business. Oct. 24-10tj

Partition Sale. Succession of Dempsey Applewhite. BY virtue of a commission to me directed by the Honorable Parish Court of the parish of Claiborne, I will sell, at the Court-house door in the town of Homer, on Saturday, the 12th day of January, 1878, the following described tract of Land, situated in the parish of Claiborne, to-wit: The northwest quarter of Section five, Township twenty-two of Range five. Also, the west half of the southwest quarter of Section eighteen, same Township and Range. Also, the east half of the southeast quarter of Section thirteen, Township twenty-two, Range six. To be sold by order of Court to effect a partition. Terms of sale: Cash. H. W. KIRKPATRICK, Sheriff, Dec. 11, 1877. (pf 86) 17:ts

Partition Sale. Succession of Jesse Applewhite. BY virtue of a commission to me directed by the Honorable Parish Court of the parish of Claiborne, I will sell at public auction, at the Court-house door in the town of Homer, on Saturday, the 12th day of January, 1878, the following described Land, situated in the parish of Claiborne, to-wit: The west half of the southeast quarter of Section nineteen, Township twenty-two, Range five west. To be sold by order of Court to effect a partition. Terms of sale: Cash. H. W. KIRKPATRICK, Sheriff, Dec. 11, 1877. (pf 84) 17:ts

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, VARIETIES

I HAVE OPENED AND AM NOW SELLING at the Store-house lately occupied by A. W. BARROW, A large stock of DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, CLOTHING, BOOTS, SHOES

and all articles usually kept in a first-class store. My terms are strictly and emphatically cash. I have purchased my stock in person, and have exercised the greatest care in their selection. My prices are as low as those of any other house in the country. Give me a trial, and you will be satisfied. Oct. 17, 1877. M. C. LAWRENCE 94

BARGAINS! GOODS AT SHREVEPORT PRICES AT THE EMPORIUM OF ALEX. WELLS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—I respectfully invite you to inspect my large and beautifully selected stock of FALL AND WINTER GOODS, consisting of Dry Goods of every description—Clothing, Hats, Boots and Shoes, and almost everything kept in a regular store. Having determined to change my business from the old established rule of credit and no pay, to that of cash, I will make it to the interest of those who purchase goods to buy of me. Before buying elsewhere, please call and examine my stock. "A penny saved is a penny made." Oct. 24, 1877. 10ts

Piano and Organ Agency HAVING accepted the Agency of the celebrated MARCHAL & SMITH Piano Manufacturing Co., New York.

I am prepared to sell first class Pianos at the lowest cash prices. The Marchal & Smith Pianos combine every improvement in tone, touch, power and durability, and have everywhere won for themselves a reputation for unrivalled excellence and durability. All Pianos sold by me will have the makers' guarantee for seven years, and also receive my personal supervision and be delivered, thereby guaranteeing their being in perfect order and tune. I will receive orders for the celebrated MARCHAL & SMITH HAMLIN ORGANS. These Organs are unsurpassed in the world, and have the endorsement of all the leading musical instrument makers in Europe and America. Prices as low as any first class Organ. All instruments sold by me will have the personal guarantee in addition to the makers'. For descriptive lists, prices, &c., apply to A. A. WHEELER

Prof. Music in Homer Female Institute. Having a full supply of musical instruments prepared to tune and repair Pianos and Organs in a thorough and workmanlike manner. With many years' experience in the best establishments, both North and South, I am certain I can guarantee my work every respect. A. A. W. Aug. 25, 1877.