

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

HOMER, LA.

Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1878.

The Police Jury meets next Monday.

Eggs are selling at ten cents a dozen.

The Temperance people have had a bill introduced for the closing of dram-shops on Sunday.

Messrs. Ramsey and Aycock, hunters of great renown, have gone to Dorchester in search of deer.

Mr. Austin Green has been appointed Clerk of the District Court of Ouachita parish in the place of D. M. Sholars, resigned.

No headway has as yet been made with the bill to authorize the working of criminals sentenced to the parish jail or to the payment of a fine.

The farmers of Claiborne will not plant cotton extensively this year. The advantages of living entirely upon the products of the farm are so manifest that nearly all have adopted the style.

A bill in aid of the N. O. Pacific Railroad has been introduced in the State Legislature. It asks for State aid to the amount of two million dollars; but the State will be so secured that it will give nothing to the road but its credit.

We are in receipt of a communication from Mr. Holleman, of Lincoln parish, giving an account of a fight he had lately. Such communications have no general interest, and cannot be published except as advertisements. This fact prevents our giving it insertion in our columns.

Col. Mills, of Texas, has wounded the already lacerated feelings of the New York Democracy by declaring that Tilden would never again be the nominee of the Democratic party for President. The reason of this declaration is that northern democrats oppose too violently the Levee and Texas Pacific Railroad bills.

It is said that the President and his Cabinet are considerably exercised over the prosecution of the Returning Board. If the case goes to the United States Court the very best counsel will be secured for the accused. There is something about this prosecution which gives considerable trouble to Republicans of all grades.

John Wallace, a resident of Washington, Ark., died here last week of pneumonia. The deceased was a painter and had been at work here last year. He contracted the disease in the early part of the winter. Mr. Wallace was a most worthy gentleman and made many friends while in Homer. He was buried with Masonic honors in the Homer cemetery.

Much has been said about the difference in the rate of taxation in Louisiana and other States—that of Louisiana being the highest. We would like to know something of the average rates of assessments in the various States. In Claiborne parish the very best lands have not been valued at more than one dollar and fifty cents per acre. Such very low assessments we do not believe are common elsewhere.

We have received a visit from Mr. H. H. Hargrove, the popular and indefatigable agent of the Shreveport Times. We are pleased to learn from Mr. H. that the Times is almost the equal in popularity of the CLAUDIAN in Claiborne parish. We hope that subscribers to the Times will renew their subscriptions. It is our favorite of all the papers in Louisiana, not only because of its noble record and the present ability of its management, but because of our high personal regard for its editor.

The best stove we have ever seen in Homer is the new one purchased from N. W. Murphy, of Shreveport. The stove is a model of delicious conduct, makes the room warm and comfortable, and only has attacks of indigestion when surrounded by loafers. We owe Mr. Murphy our thanks for making us so good a selection. We have reason to know that N. W. Murphy makes a good Mayor. As chief magistrate of Shreveport he has made it hot for wrongdoers. As a dealer in stoves he has made it comfortably warm for the CLAUDIAN office.

We learn with regret that our comment upon the card of "J." withheld last week, led some persons to believe that that card contained sentiments and words unbecoming the moral character of the writer. Such is not the fact. The objectionable feature in the card was the feeling of anger which we thought prompted it—nothing more. With the understanding we have now, that objectionable feature is removed, and is shown never to have in truth existed. "J." is now and has been for years a friend of ours. In looking over the articles we have written in the controversy between us, we find nothing inconsistent with that friendship; nor with the high regard we have felt for our friend as an honorable Christian gentleman. We may have the highest respect for an individual and yet, with perfect propriety, be caustic and severe in our discussions with him upon a matter of general interest. If, however, in our use of the legitimate weapons of controversy, we are unnecessarily severe upon friends, we are always ready to express our regrets.

OUR LEGISLATURE.

The habit of laying upon the shoulders of the present legislature all the blame for a failure to institute measures of reform and economy in the administration of affairs does not meet with our approbation. In looking back upon the history of Louisiana for several years past, we find ample reason to excuse their shortcomings. Reasons too which should in our opinion be ample justification to the mind of any reasonably honest man who has no selfish motive to subserve when he criticises the course of the legislators of Louisiana.

Let the people of Louisiana give a thought to the facts. In 1876 the Democratic party of Louisiana carried the state but did not come into actual possession of the machinery of government until the Spring of 1877. Without having at any time during the first two months of the year any real knowledge of the result of the contest between the two governments in New Orleans, they were forced by the nature of things as they were, to avoid any legislation except such as was absolutely necessary to keep the legislature together as a branch of the State Government. When the decision came and the delegates of the people were left free to enact laws for the good of the people they found themselves unable to do so until they could evolve some degree of order out of the confusion in which the Radicals had left everything. Not one bad law, easy of repeal, was the cause of all our trouble, but many such laws, a few valuable in some respects perhaps, but pernicious in others, required investigation. Every branch of the government was rotten and corrupt to the core, but investigation was necessary to reach the facts and so suggest the reforms. The people were clamoring at the length of the session, were complaining of the expense and demanding that legislators should come home. They did so, after accomplishing such legislation as was absolutely necessary to carry on the government and after laying the basis for a thorough cleansing by the appointment of committees of investigation for all departments. All that was done indicated an intention to thoroughly economize and to repair the ravages made by the horde of robbers who had preyed upon us so long.

We do not think the first session furnishes in itself, nor in any of its actions and doings, any legitimate cause for adverse criticism either upon the intentions, character, or patriotism of the men we have chosen to represent us. We believe that it would have been impossible for the same number of men in the State to have done better than those did who represented us in New Orleans in 1877. When we consider all the difficulties they had to encounter we feel surprised that they did so well. The first session was naturally occupied by such preliminary arrangements as were necessary to enable them to find out what was to be done and how the reform should be accomplished in the cheapest and most effective manner. We presume that our delegates felt themselves almost helpless when confronted by the accumulated iniquitous legislation of years. The knowledge of the existence of evils did not carry with it the power or capacity to immediately remove them. So therefore, with a wisdom which did them credit, senators and representatives began with intelligent care and wise deliberation the great work of reform before them. In the interval between the sessions, we are personally aware that there was much correspondence between gentlemen in various portions of the state upon the character of legislation necessary for the accomplishment of important economical results. While many thoughtless people were exhausting the catalogue of abuse, the objects of their condemnation found time to concert measures for the relief of the whole people. We have felt all the while that in 1878 our relief would certainly come and we are happy to say that after a careful

reading of the proceedings of the legislature we have not changed our opinion. True, it is, that legislation does not move on just as we would have it. We see time lost in idle discussions, etc., but we have found such things common in all legislative bodies. We cannot recall a single instance of a legislature not subject to like criticisms.

Those men we have honored with our confidence may deceive us, but we shall not pass judgment until we have better evidence of their unworthiness than we have now. It will require something more than the growls of croakers to force us to go back upon those who we voted for in 1876 and who so nobly fought the good fight in 1877.

These sentiments of ours must not be understood as closing our lips to any of their possible shortcomings. Something must be done at this session, and if in spite of our hopes to the contrary, our Democratic majority should prove feeble to do good and incapable of beneficial action, we shall exercise to the fullest our editorial prerogative of criticism, and the time rapidly approaches when that criticism must begin.

Bonds of Wells & Co. Forfeited.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 26.—The returning board and their sureties failing to answer yesterday the bonds were declared forfeited and judgment nisi entered and capias issued for the arrest of the accused. They are to be detained until they can furnish new bonds in former amounts.

THE RETURNING BOARD.

Arrest of Sheriff Houston by the United States Marines.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 26.—At one o'clock Sheriff Houston, who had been in the customhouse for several hours, learning that a deputy marshal had been put in charge of the collector's office which was locked and bolted proceeded to main door of the office and there informed the marshal and Deputy Collector Tomlinson that he had a writ to execute against Wells & Co., whom he had good reason to believe were confined in the room, and he desired admittance. This was refused, whereupon the sheriff, who was accompanied by two deputies, stated that he would force an entrance. Mr. Tomlinson then summoned the chief deputy marshal, who proceeded to the door of the collector's office and there ordered the sheriff and assistants, as well as the crowd that had gathered to disband. The sheriff refused to leave, stating that he was determined to execute the writ of the court at any hazard or be arrested in the attempt. Sheriff Houston then slightly advancing Deputy Wurzeburger laid hands on him and claimed him and deputies as prisoners. The sheriff and party submitted to arrest and were taken before Judge Billings, sitting United States circuit court, but the latter said he had nothing to do with the matter as the parties had not been arrested by virtue of any process from his court. Mr. Wurzeburger then took the prisoners before United States Commissioner Lane, where he started the case, when Lane requested him to reduce the subject to an affidavit.

Great excitement prevails about the customhouse. Mr. Tomlinson the collector's corresponding secretary, made affidavit before Commissioner Lane against Houston for resisting a customhouse officer and has sent for the commander of the Revenue Cutter and a detachment of marines, ordering them to be stationed at his door through which a passage has to be effected to reach the collectors office. General Sheridan and Mr. Dolan appearing before Commissioner Lane and denying the jurisdiction of his court asked for Houston's release. Mr. Gurley, assistant district attorney, asked for a continuance until Monday. Lane refused to grant any continuance but released Houston on his own recognizance, who is understood to have immediately dispatched a subordinate to bring an armed force to force an entrance into the customhouse. The entrance to the collector's office is patrolled by armed marines from the revenue cutter John A. Dix. They are there as the marshal's force and under command of General Wharton. The report that an attorney for the returning board had made a motion before Judge Billings for a writ of certiorari, is not true. At the adjournment of court Judge Billings stated that no such motion had been made. It is understood that the reason why it was not made was the certainty in the minds of the attorneys that it would be refused. Deputy Marshal Wurzeburger states that the marshal did not send for revenue marines, but that Mr. Tomlinson, who made the affidavit, placed them at the collec-

tor's door and turned them over to him saying, "Mr. Marshal I now turn these men over to you."

Ensign Beckwith, commanding the marines, would only state that he was there with his force as a marshal's posse.

Gen. Sheldon ridicules the "sacred soil" idea, and thinks Marshal Wurzeburger is liable under the state law for obstructing a state peace officer in the legitimate discharge of his duty.

LATER.

Sheriff Houston, it appears from the statement of a deputy, is in the marshal's office in conference with General Wharton, and will proceed to make the arrest as soon as the conference is over. The sheriff is said to be acting under the direction of Attorney General Ogden in his conference with Marshal Wharton, and they are reported to have agreed to submit the crisis by telegraph to Washington for settlement.

It is probable that Houston has only agreed to postpone action until Marshal Wharton can obtain instructions from the department of justice.

THE LATEST.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 26, 1878.

The following was telegraphed: To Hon. Charles Devens, Attorney General, United States, Washington, D. C.:

Four persons—J. Madison Wells, Thomas C. Anderson, G. Casanave, and L. M. Kenner—who are under an information for felony under the laws of the state, forfeited their recognizances and have, I am informed, taken shelter in the customhouse of this city. Writs for their arrest are in the hands of the sheriff and he went with the writs to arrest them, understanding that they were shut up in a room of the building. He was about to force an entrance for the purpose of arresting them when he himself was arrested, as I am informed, upon affidavits that he threatened to open the door by force. I am not aware of any cession of exclusive jurisdiction of this building, nor of any law that would give immunity to offenders against the state law within its walls. Please inform whether the federal government has authorized or will sanction this conduct.

[Signed] H. N. OGDEN, Attorney General, Louisiana.

Col. Tomlinson, deputy collector, claims that as acting custodian of the building he had the right to call men from the revenue cutter Dix they being under the control of a collector belonging to the customs service, although wearing navy uniforms. He says the sheriff was about to force the door of the private office of the collector and that he only protected public property. There would be no objection if the sheriff had been able to make the arrest without injuring public property. He called upon a marshal for assistance and after having sent for eight sailors placed them as a posse under a marshal to prevent the execution of writs inside the building until further instructions.

At a conference between Assistant Attorney General Egan, United States District Attorney Lacey, Sheriff Houston and Marshal Wharton, it was agreed that the status quo should be maintained until telegraphic instructions are received from Washington. The sheriff still keeps his men around the customhouse building.

A prominent Republican says two of the four men wanted are not in the customhouse, but went upon a fishing excursion.

Future of the United States.

It is not generally known, even in cultivated circles, that the amount of arable soil in America is greater than in Europe, Asia and Africa put together, and can therefore sustain more lives. This is no rash conclusion. I speak from a scientific basis. Our continent is narrow, and therefore the winds of the ocean water it well. The mountain chains on the east side of the American continent are low; on the east side of the Old World they are high. From this it results that the trade winds, laden with the wetness of the sea, are attracted to our land. The breadth of the Old World, and its high eastern ranges cause the rainless interiors of Asia and Africa. Again, America is the land of fertile plains, the Old World of scorched plains. Our plains run north and south, and so attract and receive the rains. America is high under the equator, the Old World is low. America's narrow under the equator, the Old World is wide; hence with us a small surface is exposed to the scorching sun. The result is, that the productive soil in the Old World is ten million square miles, and in the New eleven millions. Thus bursts upon us in all the light of scientific truth the fact that America can sustain a greater population than the Old World; and if she can, it is unquestionable that some day she will.

When a girl gets mad and rises from a fellow's knee, but thinks better of it and goes back again, is what they call a relapse.

Consult Your Interest

Before purchasing elsewhere, by examining

E. L. JOHNSON'S

—Stock of—

GROCERIES, PROVISIONS and CONFECTIONERIES.

THE BEST and CHOICEST of Everything in my line at the LOWEST PRICES at THE CASH.

A Full Line of TIN-WARE always in stock. A first-class TINNER kept regularly at work. STOVE and OTHER REPAIRING DONE TO ORDER. Good Work and Moderate Prices.

The best CHURN in the World for Sale. Certificates can be procured from a large number of the best families in North-west Louisiana.

E. L. JOHNSON, North side of Public Square, Homer, La. 246m

January 30, 1878.

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 undersold 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 \$15; Ladies' pug Shoes, \$1 and upwards; Ladies' fine Dress Goods, 20c, worth 40c; 2 yard wide Brown Table Cloths, 35 cents.

We have the largest lot of

FLANNELS, QUILTS, JEANS, OSNABURGS, BLANKETS, BED TICKINGS, 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 of

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. 114m

W. H. ELLINGTON, HOMER, LA.

Family and Fancy Groceries,

PROVISIONS, FRUITS, SUPPLIES OF all kinds. The best of everything at the lowest prices. Call at the old Furniture Store, south of the Court-house. Jan. 16, 1878. 22-

Mt. Zion Seminary.

THE exercises of this Institution for the year 1878, will commence on Monday, the 4th day of February next.

Rates of tuition \$2 and \$3 per month, from day of admission. Board \$8 per month.

W. H. LESLIE, Principal. Dec. 5, 1877. 162m

ARIZONA SEMINARY.

THE exercises of this Institution, for the year 1878, will commence on Monday, the 21st January next.

Rates of tuition, \$2, \$3 and \$4 per month from day of admission. Board in good families at the lowest rates.

W. J. LESLIE, Teachers. A. HARRIS, Nov. 25, 1877. 152m

Price of Hauling Reduced.

NOW is the time to have your Cotton hauled 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

Lost or Mislaid,

A CERTAIN PROMISSORY NOTE, EXECUTED sometime in 1875, by Tony Thornton, in favor of the undersigned, for Sixty Dollars, due 1st Jan. 1876, bearing eight per cent. interest from date, and witnessed by V. V. Thompson. All persons are warned against trading for the same. GODFREY PUGH, Jan. 23, 1878. 23-3t

Notice of Dissolution.

THE partnership heretofore existing between J. B. & T. H. Moreland has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. Parties indebted to the firm will settle with either member of the firm, whose receipt will be valid.

J. B. MORELAND, T. H. MORELAND. Dec. 29, 1877. 206m

THE undersigned will continue to run the MORELAND MILL and GIN, and ask a continuance of the liberal patronage heretofore given. They intend, by strict attention to business, to merit favor and so give satisfaction.

T. H. MORELAND, J. W. McFARLAND. Dec. 29, 1877. 206m

JUDGMENT.

S. F. Bailey, Wife, vs. E. G. Thomas, Husband. No. 1369—Parish Court of Claiborne parish, La.

IN this cause, after issue duly joined by defendant, and by reason of the law and the evidence on the trial being in favor of the plaintiff and against defendant, and it being proven that defendant is in embarrassed condition pecuniarily, and that he is indebted to plaintiff in the sum of four hundred dollars for paraphernal funds received and appropriated by him—it is ordered, adjudged and decreed, that plaintiff have judgment against defendant for the sum of four hundred dollars, with interest at five per cent. per annum from December 18th, 1877, with recognition of her special privilege on defendant's personal and movable property according to law, and that she separate in property from him and have the administration of her own affairs. Thus done, read and signed in open Court, this 22d of December, A. D. 1877. (Signed) N. J. SCOTT, Parish Judge.

State of Louisiana, Parish of Claiborne. I hereby certify, foregoing is a true copy of the original judgment now on file in my office. As witness my hand and official seal, this the 3rd day of January, A. D. 1878. DREW FERGUSON, Clk. D. C. Jan. 3, 1878. 216t