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Special notices 20 cents per line. Funeral notices of less than ten lines, and marriage and religious notices inserted gratis.

Job-work executed in the neatest style, and at reasonable prices. August 22, 1877.

ENOS H. McLENDON,
Attorney and Counselor at Law,
HOMER, LA.

WILL practice in the Courts in 11th Judicial District, and the Supreme Court at Monroe.

Office next door East of Post-office. January 8, 1879. 21y

YOUNG & VAUGHN,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
HOMER, LA.

WILL practice in the Courts of Claiborne, Jackson, Bienville, Lincoln and Union, and in the Supreme Court at Monroe. March 13, 1878-30y

JOHN S. YOUNG,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
HOMER, LA.

LEGAL business attended to in Jackson, Claiborne, Union, Bienville and Lincoln parishes, and before the Supreme Court at Monroe. March 26, 1879. 31y

DRAYTON B. HAYES,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
HOMER, LA.

WILL practice in the Courts of Claiborne, Bienville, Jackson, Union, and Webster, and the Supreme Court at Monroe. Aug. 22, 1877. 1y

DR. SILAS TURNER,
HAVING permanently located in Homer tenders his professional services to its citizens and the surrounding country. He may be found at his office, next door west of the Post-office, during the day, and at his residence at night. January 8, 1879. 21y

DR. S. R. RICHARDSON,
HAVING resumed the practice of Medicine offers his services to the citizens of Claiborne parish, in the various branches of his profession. Office at the Drug Store of Joe Shelton. Aug. 22, 1877. 1y

B. R. COLEMAN,
PARISH SURVEYOR,
WILL attend promptly and efficiently to all business in his line. Charges moderate. Residence 3 miles southeast of Homer, on Trenton road. P. O., Homer, Aug. 22, 1877. 1y

Ragland Sale and Feed Stable.

THE public are hereby notified that the Ragland Stable has been moved from the old stand to southeast corner of the public square, where R. P. RAGLAND, Manager, will be glad to accommodate his old customers and the public generally. Good stable, lots, oysters, &c., at all times and all hands. Good horses, buggies and hacks for hire. Charges to correspond with the hard times. JOHN MURRELL, Proprietor, R. P. RAGLAND, Manager. Jan. 1, 1879. 20y

D. G. TUTT & CO.,
FLOUR, Provision and Grain Dealers,
and Wholesale Grocers,
Manufacturers Agents for Virginia Tobacco, and Agents for the STANBURY COTTON MILLS, of Carrollton, Miss.
504 North Main Street, ST. LOUIS.
July 10, 1878. 47:6m

Thos. H. Morris,
WHOLESALE and RETAIL DRUGGIST,
SHREVEPORT, LA.

KEEPS constantly on hand a complete assortment of everything pertaining to the Drug Business. Also Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Brushes, Window Glass, and Druggist Glassware; Garden Seeds, Powder, Shot, Caps, Wads, Guns, Pistols, and fixed Ammunition—all of which are offered at lowest cash prices. ang14:52:1y

SIMMONS HARDWARE CO.,
Importers and Jobbers, in
Hardware, Cutlery, Guns
and Pistols,
Nos. 601, 603 and 605, North Main Street,
ST. LOUIS, MO.
Aug. 20, 1877. 1y

S. COHEN,
DEALER IN
BOOTS AND SHOES,
No. 107 St. Charles Street,
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Boots and Shoes made to order, and neatly repaired with dispatch. February 26, 1879. 25y

C. W. NEWTON,
Commission Merchant,
AND DEALER IN
Groceries and Western Produce,
No. 61 Magazine Street,
NEW ORLEANS.

February 26, 1879. 25y

Stauffer, Macready & Co.,
No. 71 Canal Street,
AND Nos. 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21 & 23 Dorsier St.,
NEW ORLEANS.

AND No. 96 Chambers Street, NEW YORK,
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN
HARDWARE, CUTLERY, GUNS, PISTOLS,
IRON, NAILS, TIN AND
LEADED PLATES, METALS, PAINTS,
OILS, CORDAGE AND
Agricultural Implements.

Aug. 22, 1878. 1y

LOEB, GUMBEL & SIMON,
IMPORTERS OF
FANCY GOODS AND NOTIONS,
No. 7 Magazine Street,
NEW ORLEANS.

July 10, 1878. 47y

S. W. RAWLINS,
(Successor to Rawlins & Murrell.)
Colton Factor and
Commission Merchant,
No. 38 Union Street,
NEW ORLEANS.

Nov. 28, 1877. 15:1y

E. J. HART & CO.,
Importers and Wholesale
DRUGGISTS,
Grocers and Commission
Merchants.

Stores 73, 75, 77 and 79 Tchoupitoulas st.
Warehouses 23, 25, 27 and 29 Tchoupitoulas
street, New Orleans.
Aug. 22, 1877. 1y

L. C. Jurey, M. Gillis,
JUREY & GILLIS,
COTTON FACTORS AND GENERAL
COMMISSION MERCHANTS.
Office.....134 Gravier Street,
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Aug. 22, 1877. 1y

John Chaffe, Wm. H. Chaffe,
Christopher Chaffe, Jr.,
JOHN CHAFFE & SONS,
COTTON FACTORS AND GENERAL
COMMISSION MERCHANTS.
Office.....No. 52 Union Street,
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Aug. 22, 1877. 1y

E. Page, P. Moran,
PAGE & MORAN,
Wholesale Dealers
in
BOOTS, SHOES and BROGANS,
Hats, Caps and Trunks.

No. 10.....Magazine Street,
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
Aug. 22, 1877. 1y

JOHN HENRY & CO.,
Wholesale Dealers in
**Boots, Shoes, Brogans and
HATS,**
Nos. 121, 123 and 125.....Common Street,
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Aug. 22, 1877. 1y

WM. P. SMITH,
CASH DEALER IN
**Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots and
Shoes, Hats and Caps,
Plantation Supplies and Groceries.**

Main Street.....Farmerville, La.
COTTON, Hides and Beeswax taken in
exchange for Goods.
Nov. 6, 1878. 12y

MINDEN HOTEL.
THE traveling public and regular boarders will find this house as comfortable and well supplied as the resources and condition of the country will permit. The charges are very reasonable. The Stage Stand is kept at this Hotel.

I have also attached to my hotel a new and commodious Stable, well supplied with provender and water, and a good ostler always on hand to attend to stock.

The traveling public will do well to give me a call.
A. J. REYNOLDS.

T. R. GEREN,
Bat and Billiard Saloon,
MINDEN, LA.

KEEPS on hand at all times a good assortment of all kinds of Liquors and Cigars of the best brands, and a great variety of other good things. Call and see.
Sept. 28, 1878. 6y

THE SHADE OF 'EIGHTY-ONE.
Our statesmen walk in lofty ways
O'er heights where always shines the sun.
But while their glories brightly blaze,
On all their most ambitious days
Still falls the shade of 'Eighty-one.

As carefully they step, they ask:
"Should this be done, or left undone?"
Though they in public favor bask,
They find it not an easy task
To mark their course for 'Eighty-one.

Tis hard to judge from year to year,
How winds will blow and currents run;
And though the sky to-day is clear,
They one and all have cause to fear
Shipwreck this side of 'Eighty-one.

To break a treaty is no joke,
Though now our statesmen count it fun;
Better to act like honest folk,
While dolefully the ravens croak
Above the towers of 'Eighty-one.

For high ambition many a shroud
The fates already have begun;
Of all the vast and eager crowd
Each head may be in ashes bowed,
Nor hail the light of 'Eighty-one.

Could they but see beyond the veil,
The prospect yet revealed to none,
They all would tremble and turn pale,
Perceiving how their projects fail,
Tried by the test of 'Eighty-one.

There is a better course to steer,
A safer track to travel on.
The path of honesty is clear,
And they who tread it need not fear
The deadly shade of 'Eighty-one.

THE EARLY SETTLERS.
How They Worked, Voted, Married, Lived and
Prospered, near Flat a Century Ago.

[Webster Tribune.]
The following very interesting history was written by Mr. Isaac Murrell, who died in 1876—full of years, honored and beloved by his many friends:

Natchitoches parish was established by the General Assembly of the Territory in 1802, and its boundaries were not then well defined. They extended on the south to Rapides, on the east to Ouachita, on the north to Arkansas Territory, and on the west to the so-called "Spanish country." The parish site was at Natchitoches, and there were no civilized settlements north of Campte.

It was said that Isaac Alden was the first to make his way into what is now known as Webster parish. He settled the "Boles place," eight miles east of Minden, about the year that General Jackson issued his order for all able bodied men to report for duty in defending New Orleans against the British, [1811]. And it is also said enrolling officers never found his cabin. He was from New York State. He died since the rebellion, at a very advanced age.

The next was a half Indian, who followed hunting. He settled near Germantown in the same year, and until 1818 they had no civilized neighbors.

In the Winter of 1817, Col. Clark, who had prospected the Arkansas territory and the Valley of Upper Red River, gave the people about Lebanon, Tennessee, the most glowing descriptions about the "Long Prairie" country and the Great Red River Raft, that the following Spring ten families fitted out ten keel-boats and embarked for the newly described country in the Territory of Arkansas. In those days there were no steamboats in Red River.

These families were the heads of the familiar family names now among us—as the Duties, Wards, Mournens, Murrells, Doolies.

In their frail fleet they descended the Cumberland and the great Mississippi rivers. Passing round the Great Raft through Loggy Bayou, Red, and the Willow Chutes, they reached the beautifully described Long Prairie early in April, 1818, without any remarkable incidents or mishaps. They were well satisfied with the country, and found that Col. Clark did not over-estimate it.

These settlers immediately went to work, and in a day or two John Murrell was sheltered in a board-camp with his family. Most of the others followed his example, thus making the first improvements and civilized appearance in the country.

Cabins were built, stock procured from the settlements about Natchitoches, Indian paths were made into roads, and corn planted. Everything seemed to run as smooth as glass until the June and July following put in their accustomed beat, when the miasmatic Red River fevers produced great dissatisfaction among the "Pilgrims." A more healthy location was sought, and their new homes were abandoned.

John Murrell at once sought Natchitoches parish, and in August, 1818, with his wife, six children, a pack horse, his rifle, and a dog or two, he found a cooling spring upon the plantation now occupied by Wm. H. Masey, near Germantown. Richard Fields, the half-Indian, lived near, but Isaac Alden lived twelve miles away.

He may be reckoned as one of the first settlers, as when he came in June, 1818, there was only Isaac Alden and Fields, the half Indian, living nearer than Campte, south, and a "village," (now Jackson parish,) east. But that Winter, or next year, Mr. Allen, Daniel Moore, Wm. Gryder, Newton Drew, and others, settled in the country about "Flat Lick," (Small Creek,) subsequently called "Allen's Settlement" Post office. They were soon followed by others, whose families are still here.

The country was beautiful, pleasant, healthy; no under-bush as now. The Summer grass grew tall and as fine as could be wished; wild rice and peas were plenty in the valleys, and high corn waved upon the banks of every little stream. Ticks and snakes were plenty, but mosquitoes were not heard. Game were never more plentiful and astonishingly tame. The black bear, deer, wild turkeys, (and in Winter) water-fowls, were plenty, hunted and killed at will, and were almost the only means of support, until domestic animals were procured. The American panther, black wolves, wild-cats, foxes and raccoons, were very plentiful, also troublesome to stock. Otters, and some beavers, were found, and hunted for their furs. But not a mink nor a weasle was ever seen in North Louisiana until since the war in 1865. The black raven, then so plentiful, is no more seen; and the Ivory-bill wood-cock has ceased his raids upon the dead trees of the newly-made farm. Mocking-birds were never heard until long after the settlement of the country; fish were plentiful, and quails increased; a bale of 450 pound cotton to the acre, and thirty bushels of corn to the acre, was common. Physicians were not known, as the country was too healthy to need a practitioner.

In the Fall of 1818, John Murrell lost one of his little boys, which was the first burial among the civilized. On March 20th, 1819, his son Isaac Murrell, was born, which was the first birth, also, in Natchitoches parish, north of Campte. The oldest grave yard in the Territory is at John Murrell's old plantation, and the first burial there was Fred. Villere, Sr., about 1822.

The first country school was taught by James Ashburner Conly; and the first trading establishment, or store belonged to Hopkins, and was kept by Fashier, who sold out and ran off with his employer's money, in about 1823. Choctaw Indians were plenty and very friendly. The first Church was built by the Baptist, near Flat Lick; but the houses of Newt, Drew, and Overton; John Murrell's at his plantation; Wm. Gryder's, near Dyke's mills; Mr. Nelson's, near Athens, and Peter Frank's, near Brushy Valley, were used as Churches, long before any were built. I believe Jas. Britson was the first Pastor, and Arthur McFarland, who lives at Athens, was his successor.

Raising cotton was nearly unknown, until about 1826, when J. McCrady built a gin-house and press, at his store, at Flat Lick. Soon after this, another was built by Russell Jones, Sr.; and a third by John Murrell. If we could now see our original gins, they would appear odd, indeed. The gin saw-plates were forged out in a blacksmith shop; also, the grates, cylinders, etc.; the teeth were cut by "shop-made" machinery, and put on the cylinders in half circles. I suppose a bale a day was about all one could gin. The press had two screws, and, operating, had to be turned round, then pass to the other screws and turned half round—using the same screws and a pair of oxen.

Previous to the creation of Claiborne out of this portion of Natchitoches parish, marriages were never celebrated in the country, owing to the inconvenience of obtaining a license. Parties desiring to marry, simply obtained the services of a minister, procured horses, struck out upon the first path that led across the Arkansas territorial line—for there were no public roads and no other conveyances. On arriving at the first convenient log for dismounting, the party halted, the couple joined hands, the minister read the marriage ceremony, signed a certificate of the facts, and sent them on their return home rejoicing. The settlements being about twenty miles apart, a ride on these occasions, in order to get witnesses, often fifty miles a day had to be traveled, or the parties camp out all night in a wilderness of wild beasts. Many romantic stories were told of those matrimonial journeys.

The first post-office was established at John Murrell's house, and he was appointed post-master, by Post-master-General John McLean, in 1827, which position he held until his death, in January, 1847. The office was named "Allen's Settlement," for Mr. Allen, who settled in the neighborhood in the Fall of 1819. It was also known as "Murrell's Post-office."

Isaac Alden was appointed by the Governor as Justice of the Peace for this ward. His jurisdiction extended from a short distance above Campte to the Arkansas line, and from the Ouachita line on the east to the Texas line (not then established) on the west. But as his subjects were very few, his office was merely nominal. The Sheriff, Assessor, and Tax Collector, were scarcely known to the inhabitants, and candidates never found their constituents in this portion of Natchitoches parish. In fact, it seemed to be a beautiful country to itself, without civilization or law, and but little gospel, and left almost entirely to govern itself.

Strange as it may seem the few settlers, perhaps not over forty or fifty voters, spread over so vast a territory, and mingled with Indians, (for there were still a great many Choctaws here,) they lived more like a band of brothers than the gathered up fragments from different States and nations. A crime was rare. When a stranger came, who could not identify his standing as of good character, he was waited upon and given to understand that the people governed, and that he had better be honest or move.

Claiborne, at its creation in 1828, contained the territory now comprising Claiborne, Bienville; Bossier, Webster, and portions of Red River, Jackson and Union. The boundary began on the line between townships 13 and 14, which crosses Red River near East Point, and running east to the Ouachita parish line; thence north to the Arkansas territorial line; thence west to Red River, and down Red River to the point of beginning near Loggy Bayou. We had a population, in which there were about seventy voters, to begin the new parish with. Russellville, near Athens, was the parish site, which, on being surveyed, was then believed to be near the centre of the new parish. A jail and a court house were then built, but until this was done court was held at the house of John Murrell. Cliechester Chaplin was Probate Judge; Isaac McMahan was Sheriff; and Dave McMahan Clerk of the Court. Major James Dyer was also our first Representative in the Legislature. Claiborne was almost too poor to sustain itself. There were only about thirty slaves in the parish, and but little of the lands had been put upon the market. In 1836 and 1837 emigrants from Alabama and South Carolina came, and the planting of cotton and corn increased.

Minden was located in 1837, by C. H. Veeder, a man of energy and speculation, who named it for his native town. Overton was located the same year and named for Judge J. H. Overton, who outlived the town.

A division of Claiborne was much talked of. Towns had been laid out and named, among them Minden and Overton—both striving to get the parish site. Newt, Drew, a Overton, was using every argument against Chas. H. Veeder, the proprietor of Minden, who, also, was striving to have the new courthouse located at his town.

Through the energy of Mr. Veeder the Legislature made an appropriation for the building of an Academy at Minden. His "Minden Academy" was, by special act, subsequently merged into the Minden Female College.

In 1840 Mr. Veeder procured an appointment of Commissioners to locate the courthouse at Minden, but owing to the strong opposition of Drew and his friends, who used the argument that Overton was at the head of navigation, and more central, and offering liberal subsidies in land, lumber, etc., the Commissioners acted slow, if at all, and their time soon elapsed, and the courthouse was located at Overton, and Russellville was no longer the parish site of Claiborne.

Veeder failed, financially, and left the country shortly after his defeat. The Red River people petitioned for a new parish, and in 1843 Bossier was created. This left our courthouse on the edge of Claiborne. Then that portion became dissatisfied, and as the public buildings needed repairs, a legislative enactment was secured authorizing the Police Jury to locate the courthouse within three miles of the geographical centre of the parish. This was opposed by three of the seven Police Jurors, and they were strongly endorsed by their wards. It was within the power of the minority to defeat the majority, in this way: The majority had designated their place for location near the old "Wind-fall Race Tracks," which was believed to be near the centre. They bought (advancing the money) eight

ty acres of land from the government, (which, possibly, the parish still owns unincumbered,) and named their town Lexington. The minority contended that the act of the Legislature giving the Police Jury the power to establish nine police jury wards in Claiborne, notwithstanding Bossier had been taken off with two of the wards, was still in force, and that the parish was not fully represented—being entitled to two more police jury wards. They created these two wards and ordered an election. At the next meeting of the Police Jury the two new members, Major Jas. Dyer and Wm. Wimberly were present, and the majority was against Lexington.

Soon after, Athens, about four miles from Lexington, was agreed upon by the Police Jury for the parish site. The "Claiborne Academy" building there was used as a Court House until November 29, 1847, when the building, with all of Parish and Court records, were burned and supposed by an incendiary.

The Academy was built in 1833, by a State appropriation of \$5,000, but the school had long ceased. A new parish was petitioned for, and in 1848 Bienville was created by dividing Claiborne through the middle, east and west. Commissioners surveyed and located Homer as the parish site for Claiborne and Sparta for Bienville.

The oldest grave-yard in Claiborne is at "Allen's Settlement," and the first civilized burial was that of the corpse of Mr. Miller, grand father of "Long John Miller." The first marriage was Miss Elizabeth Franks and Daniel Lowe, but as the parties then were in the habit of crossing into Arkansas to be married, the wedding could hardly be called of this parish.

Isaac Alden, John Davidson and D. C. Pratt, were about the only Whigs, called Federalists, and who opposed the re-election of President Jackson. Having no other returns before me, I refer to the following of 1844:

For Congress—J. E. Morse, Democrat, 338; L. Borden, Whig, 186. State Senate—Brazzale, Dem., 300; Judge Campbell, Whig, 233. Representative in Legislature—Killgore, Dem., 288; S. P. Gee, Whig, 228; Peets, Dem., 506; Deal, Whig, 238.

General election in 1846: For Governor—Johnson, Dem., 452; Landry, Whig, 365. Congress—J. E. Morse, Dem., 490; John Waddell, Whig, 270. Legislature, House—R. M. Drew, Dem., 457; S. P. Gee, Whig, 302; S. M. Smith, Dem., 434; W. C. Martin, Ind., 238.

The Democratic party always had the majority. Webster parish was created in February, 1871, with the site at Minden. A fine brick Court House costing \$22,000, has been built.

Cotton Valley, Murrell's Point, Shongaloo, Taylor's Store, and Germantown, are small business centres in the parish. The Minden Landings, Murrell's Point, Noles' Landing and Port Bolivar, are the principal shipping points on the Lake and Bayou. Between 12,000 and 15,000 bales of cotton are yearly shipped from the Minden Landings, and about twice that quantity from the Lake.

The Future of New Orleans.
The City of New Orleans has the prospect of the early completion of the Morgan road to Houston and the Louisiana Pacific road to Shreveport. At Shreveport she is in connection with Fort Worth by the Texas Pacific Railroad, and at Houston she is in connection with San Antonio. And now we learn that President Diaz, of Mexico, is well disposed to give a charter to the American contractors seeking concessions for a road from the Rio Grande to the capital. It is said that Mr. Sullivan's scheme for such a road would have been approved by the Mexican Congress last winter if that body could have been assured of his ability to put the project in operation. It seems to be evident that Diaz is willing to establish much more friendly relations between his republic and ours than now exist, and the time ought to be a proper one for pushing the negotiations, in order to avail ourselves of the President's great influence, his popularity and administrative skill. His term expires in 1881, and his successor may be as hostile to our interests as Diaz appears to be favorable to them.

These connections with Texas and with Mexico present a brilliant future to the Crescent City.—Mobile Register.

GET YOUR JOB WORK DONE AT THE OFFICE