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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.

N. J. SCOTT, ATTORNEY AT LAW, HOMER, LA.

WILL practice in the Courts of the 3d Judicial District, and the Supreme Court at Monroe. Office first door East of Brown's Hotel. February 9, 1881.

JNO. S. YOUNG, ATTORNEY AT LAW, SHREVEPORT, LA.

OFFICE on stairs over Looney's saddlery store. Front entrance on Texas street. February 2, 1881.

JOHN E. HULSE, Attorney and Counselor at Law, HOMER, LA.

WILL practice in the Courts of the 3rd Judicial District and the Supreme Court at Monroe. Office next door to the Post-office. January 1, 1881.

JOHN YOUNG, JOEL W. HOLBERT, YOUNG & HOLBERT, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, HOMER, LA.

WILL practice in the Courts of Claiborne, Lincoln, Union, and the Supreme Court at Monroe. December 24, 1880.

JNO. A. RICHARDSON, J. E. MOORE, RICHARDSON & MOORE, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, HOMER, LA.

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

WILL practice in all the Courts in 3rd Judicial District, and the Supreme Court at Monroe. January 5, 1879.

J. E. TRIMBLE, Attorney and Counselor at Law, FARMERVILLE, LA.

WILL give prompt attention to all business entrusted to him in the parishes of Union, Claiborne, Lincoln, Morehouse and Ouachita, and the Supreme Court at Monroe. Special attention given to successions and collections. May 7, 1879.

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.

G. E. BLACKBURN, Homeopathic Physician and Surgeon.

Special attention given to diseases of the EYE and EAR. Office on Milan street, opposite Pacific Hotel, Shreveport, La. February 2, 1881.

C. H. ROGERS, House, Sign, Carriage and Baggy Painter, Paper-Hanger and Glazier, HOMER, LA.

I SOLICIT THE PATRONAGE OF THE people of Homer and vicinity. For evidences of my proficiency, I refer to the numerous persons for whom I have worked in Claiborne parish. Terms reasonable, and work promptly executed. C. H. ROGERS. April 2, 1879.

F. M. FREEMAN, (South-west corner of Public Square.) HOMER, LA.

DEALER in Fancy and Family Groceries, Tobacco, Cigars, Provisions, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Clothing, Dry Goods, Notions, and a full supply of everything kept in a general store. The custom of the public is respectfully solicited. Terms and prices liberal. April 14, 1880.

GET YOUR JOB WORK DONE AT THIS OFFICE

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

Stores 73, 75, 77 and 79 Tchoupitoulas st. Warehouses 93, 95, 97 and 99 Tchoupitoulas street, New Orleans. Aug. 20, 1879.

JOHN CHAFFE & SONS, JOHN CHAFFE & SONS, COTTON FACTORS AND GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

Office No. 52 Union Street, NEW ORLEANS, LA. Aug. 22, 1877.

JOHN HENRY & CO., Wholesale Dealers in Boots, Shoes, Brogans and HATS.

Nos. 121, 123 and 125 Common Street, NEW ORLEANS, LA. Aug. 22, 1877.

S. W. RAWLINS, (Successor to Rawlins & Murrell,) Cotton Factor and Commission Merchant, No. 38 Union Street, NEW ORLEANS. Nov. 28, 1877.

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.

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.

M. ROOS, Wholesale Dealer in Havana & Domestic Cigars, Tobacco, Pipes, Snuff, Whiskies, Wines and Brandies.

No. 21 Texas Street, Shreveport, Louisiana. Nov. 19, 1879.

ARDIS & PARKER, (Successors to Hamilton & Co.) DEALERS IN GROCERIES, WESTERN PRODUCE, BAGGING AND TIES.

5 and 7 Texas Street, Shreveport, La. July 14, 1880.

A. KAHN, SOLE AGENT FOR THE CELEBRATED CHARTER OAK STOVE.

QUEENSWARE, CROCKERYWARE, TINWARE, WOODENWARE, WILLOWWARE, TOYS.

COAL OIL LAMPS, STOVES, CHINA and GLASSWARE, 23 Texas street, Shreveport, La. October 20, 1880.

N. Gregg, R. W. Ford, GREGG & FORD, COTTON FACTORS, AND General Commission Merchants.

Dealers in Groceries and Western Produce. Agents for Pratt's Improved Revolving Head Gin, 20, 21 and 22 Levee, SHREVEPORT, LA.

Oct. 15, 1880. James F. Utz, Joseph B. Smith, UTZ & SMITH, Dealers in Heavy & Shelf Hardware, Machinery, Iron Pipe and Fittings, Agricultural Implements, Mitchell Wagons, Engineers' Supplies, Belting, &c.

Nos. 8, 10 and 12 Spring Street, SHREVEPORT, LA. Sept. 24, 1880.

J. C. BAKER, WITH E. & B. JACOBS, Cotton Factors,

AND Importers and wholesale dealers in Dry Goods, Notions, Groceries, Hardware, Cutlery, Guns, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Liquors, Tobacco and Segars, Texas street, Shreveport, La.

Prompt attention given to all business entrusted to us, and liberal advances made on consignments of Cotton.

JOSIAR. (Parisian.) Things has come to a pretty pass.

The whole wide country over, When every married woman has To have a frien I or lover; It ain't the way that I was raised, An' I hain't got no desire To have some fellow pokin' round Instead of my Josiar.

I never kin forget the day That we went out a walkin', An' sot down on the river bank An' kept on bours a talkin'; He twisted up my apron string An' folded it together, An' said he thought for harvest time 'Twas cur'us kind of weather.

The sun went down as we sot there— Josiar seemed uneasy, An' mother she began to call; "Lowcey! oh, Lowcey!" An' then Josiar spoke right up, As I was just a startin', An' said, "Lowcey, what's the use Of us two ever partin'?"

It kind of took me by surprise, An' yet I knew 'twas comin'— I'd heard it all the summer long, In every wild bee's hummin'; I'd studied on the way I'd act, But law! I couldn't do it; I meant to bide my love from him, But seems as if he knew it. An' lookin' down into my eyes He must a seen the fire, An' ever since that hour I've loved An' worshipping my Josiar.

I can't tell what the women mean Who let the men fool round 'em, Believin' all the nonsense that They only say to sound 'em I know, for me I've never seen The man that I'd admire, To have a hagin' after me, Instead of my Josiar.

CLAIBORNE PARISH. Its Original Boundaries and Present Condition.

Character of the Lands, Products of the Soil, and Returns for the Farmer's Exertions.

Homer, Haynesville and Other Villages—Farm and Skilled Labor—Debt of the Parish.

[From the N. O. Democrat.] The parish of Claiborne, twenty-five years ago, was the largest upland parish in the State. It was originally a part of Natchitoches, but within a few years after the purchase of the territory of Louisiana from France the increase of the population within the present limits of Louisiana, and especially of the country north of Red river, justified the creation of a new parish or parishes. Claiborne and Union were declared parishes by act of the Legislature at one of its earlier sessions.

The territorial governor general, W. C. C. Claiborne, was at that time the great man who stood godfather to the new towns, children, etc., in the State, so after him was the parish named. At that time it included its present territory and in addition that now known as Bossier, Bienville and Webster parishes. The same reasons which warranted the Legislature in cutting off Claiborne from Natchitoches soon made it necessary to form Bossier and Bienville. Since 1865 other reasons, said to have been chiefly political, moved the General Assembly, and a portion of Claiborne's territory was donated to the new parish of Webster. For a like purpose a liberal donation of the parochial domain was added to a slice from Bienville, from Jackson and other parishes and Lincoln parish was the result. So that instead of the largest of the northern tier of parishes Claiborne is to-day among the smallest.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION. Bounded on the north by the southern boundary of Arkansas, on the east by Union and Lincoln, on the south by Bienville and Webster, and the east by Webster, Claiborne lies very near the centre of the northern tier of parishes, and has an area of 778 square miles, or nearly a half million acres of land. A large portion of this belongs either to the general government, the State or to the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas Railroad Company or its successors.

The surface of the country is undulating hills and valleys, running in every direction. While it is thickly settled, the farms are generally small, so that at least two-thirds, some say three-fourths, of the parish is heavily timbered. There are no high hills. All elevations are slight as compared with the elevated lands in the State just north of us. Through this parish runs the ridge from north to south which divides the waters flowing into the Red river on the right or west and the Ouachita on the east.

This undulating surface forms numerous creeks and rivulets, the confluence of which at various points forms the principal bayous, Flat Lick and Black Lake in the west; D'Arbonne is formed in the north,

Middle Fork and Corni on the west; the latter, however, having grown into a pretty large stream before leaving Arkansas. Sugar creek, the line between Claiborne and Lincoln, on the south, is also a large stream. D'Arbonne, after flowing through the parish in a southeasterly direction, runs east into Union, receiving on the way the waters of several streams, until at Farmerville it is joined by Corni, and is navigable from that point to the Ouachita river. In the winter and spring there is an abundance of running water, but almost all the stream lets dry up in the latter part of the summer. There are numerous cool springs, which afford great quantities of water. Wells, however, furnish the water supply. There is no farm in the parish but that has a good well. By digging from fifteen to thirty feet, clear, sweet and pure water may be had anywhere. A gourd of water from a road-side well in Claiborne parish on a hot day in August is a draught to be remembered with pleasure for a lifetime.

TIMBER, BERRIES AND GAME. The timber supply will meet the demands of the population as it naturally increases through many generations. Pine, several kinds of oak, sweet and black gum, hickory, maple, walnut, ironwood, ash, persimmon and very many other varieties, principally of a smaller growth, are found in easy reach of nine-tenths of the farms. There are thousands of acres of land once cleared, but worn out and now left to grow up or wash away, that are covered with young pines, persimmon, etc. Here and in parts of farms too wet to be cultivated grow delicious blackberries, bushels of which may be seen at a glance; dewberries in luxuriant plenty are found in these old fields. These, with other berries, such as the various kinds of haws, huckleberries, the rich sugary persimmon, paw paw, (the banana of the temperate zone), and many other dainties, are to be had in extravagant plenty for the mere labor of gathering; chinquapins, hickory nuts and walnuts are equally as numerous. To the residents of other less favored localities it would seem that in this respect Claiborne is an earthly paradise, but nature is equally as beneficent in many other parishes.

Game of the smaller species, such as squirrels, birds, hare, etc., are numerous. Deer and turkey are rare, having sought the parishes less thickly settled. The water in almost all the streams dries up, in consequence of which we have but few fish. These are all small. But as springs are numerous, and small marshes fed from springs are often found on every farm, it would not be difficult to make fish ponds, in which a fair supply could be grown. There are many localities where a large pond could be made profitable; so, at least, persons familiar with fish culture say.

CHARACTER AND PRODUCTS OF THE SOIL. The greater part of the soil is of a sandy character, light or dark, with clay beneath. On the hills it is usually light; in the hammock and creek or branch bottom the soil is of a rich chocolate color and very productive. Occasionally a soil red and stiff will be found. Land of this character is very productive, seeming to be specially adapted to grain. It produces cotton remarkably well. In the bayou bottoms, usually averaging a half mile in width, the soil is very rich, and when ditched and leveled yields an ample return for the laborer. But as such lands all overflow, and but few persons provide against the ravages of the water, no estimate is made as to the possibilities of this soil.

One who is familiar with and accustomed to the magnificent crops which reward the planter on the Red and Mississippi rivers is likely to rate too low the fertility of the hills of Claiborne. It may be admitted that the latter looks very like starvation, yet when results are compared a home in the uplands may ultimately mean wealth to many poor men. Let us see. An industrious man who labors intelligently can easily make almost any year in Claiborne parish 200 bushels of corn and five bales of cotton, besides his peas, his fodder, potatoes, syrup, vegetables, fruit, etc. The woods are open and the grazing for his cattle free. Without the expense of a cent for feed, he and family are supplied with milk and butter through more than half the year—this besides what he sells. All this, too, without any fertilizers, without any improved implements. His cotton will sell in the home market for ten cents per pound, \$250; sale of other produce, \$150 more. His land is assessed at \$1, \$2 or \$3 per acre, never more,

making his taxes very low. His other expenses are very small. He has made and cured his own meat; the hogs were fattened in the woods—given corn a few days just previous to killing. He may buy two or three barrels of flour. Many farmers in Claiborne, however, grow their own wheat. He will buy a small quantity of coffee. His wife wants a few pounds of soda and spices, and other little household necessities. He has made his own syrup, of ribbon cane, if he wishes. He has a small flock of sheep. There are many looms and spinning wheels in Claiborne parish yet, and these sheep often furnish a neat, comfortable suit of clothes. No particular estimate is made. It is left for the reader to furnish his own estimate. This is an extreme case, some one will say. Yes; so it is in both ways. The amount produced on the farm is put down at the lowest possible figures, as are the expenditures low. The writer has in his mind a farmer who has lived this way for fifteen years. He always entertained his friends well and bountifully. He raised four children, gave them a fair education, clothed them well; has now a large, roomy house, four fine young mules and his saddle horse, several hundred dollars out at interest and other good things besides, such as hogs, cows, sheep, etc. He began just about like the supposititious party mentioned above. He hired a colored man in the fall of the second year, who aided him in clearing land and lived with him the next year. But the secret of his success was that he labored intelligently, economized intelligently and was aided by a loving, sensible, industrious wife. All this on hill land in Claiborne parish. There are many men in this and other parishes of Louisiana who have begun on what the river-bred man calls poor land, and have, after meeting the usual reverses, steadily improved in a pecuniary point of view.

POPULATION OF THE PARISH. The population of the parish is 18,953, according to the last census. Whites and blacks are about equally divided. Claiborne was first settled by emigrants from the other Southern States, the majority coming from Georgia and Alabama. A few Virginians, Carolinians, a neighborhood of Tennesseans and occasionally in every community some one from one of the States. Occasionally we find a foreigner from Germany or Ireland. That the people are moral is evidenced by the churches, there being at least forty in the parish. As many of the church buildings are also used for school-houses, it may be claimed that there is a like number of schools in the parish.

THE TOWN OF HOMER. Homer, the principal town, has a population of 750. Several of the stores are large structures of brick. There are three or four merchants whose sales amount to nearly if not quite \$100,000 per annum each, a number of smaller business houses, three large handsome church buildings belonging to the Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist denominations. The Female College building is the property of the Masonic fraternity. It is a large two-story house, commodious and comfortable, with residence and dormitories on the grounds. This college is at present in charge of President T. S. Slight, A. M., an accomplished gentleman and fine teacher. His wife, a lady of great experience and success as a teacher, and a full corps of assistants, aid him in his work. A large number of girls from different parts of this State and Arkansas are now in attendance as pupils. Many of the most accomplished ladies in this portion of the State were educated

here. While fully one hundred pupils are entered on the rolls, so many more could be accommodated. Several of the citizens will board pupils in their families. Homer is rather an educational centre for this portion of the State. Within the last twelve months many families have gone to the town to educate their children.

OTHER TOWNS. Haynesville, twelve miles north of Homer, is a thriving village, with a population of about 250. Several business houses, stores and drug stores, do a good business. Two churches and a flourishing school indicate the character of this community. Summerfield, in the eastern part of the parish, is a growing village in a good country, with schools and churches. Its population is about 150. Liabun, south of Summerfield, has a population of nearly 100 and is surrounded by a thrifty community of prosperous farmers. Athens is another busy little hamlet in the southern part of the parish, with a fine school and two churches. No other parish in the northern part of the State has so many villages.

MANUFACTORIES. There are no manufactories in the parish—except at Arizona two gentlemen have a small broom and ax-belve factory, which does not supply the local demand. This village, which should have been enumerated with those mentioned above, dates its origin from the erection of a large cotton factory there about fifteen years ago. Several old farmers who had saved a few thousand dollars each from the wreck made of their estates by the war, formed a stock company and invested about one hundred thousand dollars in the necessary buildings and machinery. They selected a piece of land belonging to some one of their number, seven miles East of Homer, and erected thereon a very handsome and substantial building, three stories high. Very fine machinery, looms, etc., were purchased, operators procured, and soon a village sprung up around their building. They did well for a year or two, but the want of transportation, incapacity or mutual distrust, one, or perhaps a combination of all, soon brought a distribution of dividends on the wrong side the ledger. The business fell into the hands of the lawyers, and it was not long before the factory and much of the surplus funds of the stockholders had changed hands. The building, contents, etc., were seized under an execution and sold. The last sale was for \$5000 to John Chaffe, of New Orleans. This gentleman has had an accomplished mechanic to overhaul the entire plant, clean it up and put it in working order. It is now in a fine condition, and will be an excellent investment for some one when the long looked-for railroad arrives. A furniture factory near Liabun is spoken of.

There are numerous steam saw and grist mills, with cotton ginning attachments, in the parish. All these are kept busy in the fall and winter months, and those that saw lumber are not idle in the summer. So long as there is no means of communication with the outer world no manufactories would make a great deal of money. The local demand only could be supplied. But with the long looked-for railroad from Monroe to Shreveport several industries might be pursued to great advantage. Bee-keeping, silk-worms, poultry raising and similar industries would yield an ample return for all the capital invested. Broom corn grows finely. The little broom factory mentioned above has been a profitable investment to the owners. The writer is convinced that the best of all industries for this portion of Louisiana, perhaps for the whole State, is jute culture. If the figures published by the journals of the day be correct, if the bark will command the price claimed, its cultivation will be far more remunerative than that of cotton. Two stalks were exhibited at the office of the Claiborne Guardian that were monsters in size. They were raised by E. J. Bridges, near Athens, and had no cultivation. The soil was the ordinary light sandy, without fertilizers. Unless there be some difficulty left to be made known by experience, in this course we have a line of wealth in Louisiana.

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