

Homer, La.

Friday, Dec. 28, 1888.

The direct tax bill has passed Congress, and is likely to be vetoed by the president.

An Alabama school teacher was recently arrested in the school room for robbing his aged father of \$800.

Mr. Chris Chaffe of Minden had his residence burned up last Saturday. This is twice Mr. Chaffe has burned out within the last two years.

The "City Item" contains a splendid speech of Commissioner Pool made in the interest of Louisiana before the Immigration convention at Montgomery Ala.

The question for an educational qualification for the right of suffrage is promising to become an interesting and lively subject in this state.

The city of Shreveport is on a substantial boom. The new hotel is about completed, and her enterprising citizens are perfecting arrangements to build a cotton factory.

Mr. Moses Fort retires from the Webster Tribune and D. W. Stuart a young attorney of Minden takes his place as editor. Our best wishes go with brother Fort, and we extend a hearty welcome into journalism, the new editor.

Prof. E. Stone Wiggins is again to the front. He now predicts that a certain comet which is rambling around in the heavens will shortly knock an eye out of the planet Mars.

The centennial of Washington's inauguration will be celebrated in New York April 30th, 1889. The President, his cabinet, the Supreme Court and other officials will participate in the ceremonies.

The New Orleans States is rather caustic on Senator Gibson, charging him with arrogance, and egotism, and with making an unfair statement regarding the position of those who favored the election of Gov. McEnery in the late state campaign.

There was a very excited and spirited election in Arcadia last week to decide whether or not John Bayley Corn would be permitted to abide another year. The anti's won by a small majority. According to the testimony of some of the witnesses the jug trade will now be established.

H. Dudley Coleman the Republican Congressman elect from this State, has peremptorily refused to join the Rads in their caucus. He asserts that he will not let partisan prejudice control him in his political affiliations. We hope he will remain steadfast in the faith.

Rev. G. A. Mandaville of Farmerville was arranged before the Methodist conference in New Orleans this week and was tried for insubordination, because he held a holiness meeting in opposition to the presiding elders wishes, and allowed a "donkey party" to be held in his church for the benefit of some religious institution.

Hon. B. R. Foreman one of the leading lawyers at the New Orleans bar was recently tried and acquitted on an indictment for wilful and corrupt perjury. It seems that the prosecution was purely malicious, having been instigated mainly by Ex Judge Lazarus who was removed from the bench by the Supreme court for malfeasance in which proceedings Mr. Foreman was leading counsel against him.

Hon. W. A. Seay, of Shreveport died last week, and was buried with appropriate and imposing ceremonies. Judge Seay was a gifted and prominent man. He was once elected dist. judge, served a term in the state legislature, and was appointed by President Cleveland Minister to Bolivia, which position he resigned on account of his bad health. The deceased had many good virtues, and rare intellectual gifts.

The Holiday Season.

Christmas, the greatest and oldest of all anniversaries has come and gone and we are in the midst of what is called the holiday season. With the coming of this eventful day, we are carried back as it were, nearly two thousand years to the time and place when the babe of Bethlehem lay in the manger. We are reminded of the fact that on that day a deliverer came into the world and peace and good will were vouchsafed unto man. In this advanced age of Christendom we should not go unmindful of the cause and origin of this anniversary, nevertheless the deeds of the day are seldom characterized by such feelings as should be manifested on the celebration of such an event.

This event ushers in the glad-some holidays, bringing joy and gladness to the rolicking youth. Oh! how impatiently has he waited for this delightful season! How his heart palpitated at the thoughts of the many nice things in store for him! The pampered child of opulence, with royal blood coursing in his veins, the beggar boy, the learned and unlettered, everybody, looks forward with expectant hopes to the coming of the holidays. It is called a season of refreshment. There is a cessation for a time of the monotonous routine of every day life. We forget the cares that are around us and the sins that beset us. The burdens of life grow less. We are happier, better creatures, for the time being at least.

There are always some poor unfortunate about us who do not enjoy these holiday festivities as well as others. Some into whose hearts the rays of the Christmas sun shed no light because "Needs and oppression stareth in their eyes. Upon their backs hang ragged misery." Let us remember the occasion of the anniversary, glean the lesson of the good Samaritan and try and make the unfortunate and sad as happy as we.

Is Human Legislation Necessary to the Promotion of Pure Christianity.

[BY L. A. TRAYLOR.]

[Continued from our last issue.] My third proposition is, that constitutional liberty is based upon freedom of conscience, and that religion, and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by reason and conviction, not by force of law. The example of American Christians in their struggle for constitutional liberty, will be valuable to us in this discussion; and would we sustain the pure Democratic principles upon which our government is founded we must not entangle ourselves in the traditions of the grinding hierarchy which they wanted to destroy. Jefferson in his "Notes on Virginia," states, that at the time of the Revolution Quakers, Presbyterians and Baptists, cherished and diffused their own love of liberty of conscience throughout the whole colony. Thomas Jefferson "an advanced Unitarian; Patrick Henry, a devout Presbyterian; and James Madison, a liberal Episcopalian become their leaders, and the tide of soul liberty swept onward notwithstanding the opposition of the English hierarchy. It is supposed that Patrick Henry was the author of the petition of the Presbytery of Hanover to the Virginia colonial convention, in favor of religious liberty. It is certain that he opposed the fifteenth and sixteenth sections of the Virginia Bill of Rights in these words:

"That no free government, or the blessings of liberty, can be preserved to any people but by a firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, frugality and virtue and by frequent recurrence to fundamental principles. That religion, or the duty we owe to our God and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by reason and conviction, and not by force or violence; and therefore, that all men should enjoy the full-right toleration in the exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience, unpunished and unrestrained by the magistrates. Mr. Madison who was a member of this convention entered heartily into this measure finding fault with but one word "toleration" and with this amendment it was adopted. Mr. Jefferson framed the following Bill, in the General Assembly to revise the laws for Virginia in 1786.

"An Act to establish Religious Freedom:

sembly, That no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry whatsoever, nor shall be enforced, restrained, molested, or burthened in his body or goods, nor shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief; but that all men shall be free to profess an by argument to maintain their opinions in matters of religion, and that the same shall in nowise diminish, enlarge, or effect their civil capacities." These early Christians had good reasons for standing firmly upon these Democratic principles; having suffered under the English Episcopate, and the tyranny of the Roman Catholic society. The British cabinet introduced many schemes to formulate and ecclesiastical establishment under the model of the church of England, and even the order of Bishops was most strenuously opposed by the Protestant Christians, until all fears, of a union of church and state was relieved. An invisible hand has guided the helm of the ship of soul liberty, set afloat by the tears and prayers of the Puritan fathers, and who shall dare lay violent hands upon it:

They had a Divine system of laws—a system from God; attested by miracles; identified with heavenly interpositions; established by prophets; and diffusing a holy light and heavenly halo around this nation, and to this system they were devotedly attached.

To be continued.

THE BIBLE—ITS HISTORY AND DIVINE AUTHORITY.

Synopsis of a sermon preached in Homer, La., Sunday, Dec. 9, 1888, By Rev. T. B. White, D. D.

TEXT—St. John, V. 39. "Search the Scriptures."

EXORDIUM.

The necessity of a Divine Revelation is observed in the insufficiency of human reason to form an adequate conception of the character of God. His highest reach and attainment in relation to God has been some form of skepticism, pantheism or agnosticism. It reached its highest ultimatum in France during her inter-necine wars and Revolutions when God and the Bible was ignored, and virtue and chastity became so prostituted as that the image of a nude female became the centre of interest. And Germany with its transcendental philosophies has poisoned the very sources of religious purity. In those countries where the Bible has been forbidden, or its true meaning perverted, the people have relapsed into superstition and barbarism, until it is noted by some observant travelers which country has the Bible and which has it not.

I. DERIVATION AND HISTORY.

Bible is styled Scriptures a word derived from the latin participle "Scripturus" which signifies writings. It is called Sacred Scriptures because the books comprising it are Divinely Inspired. It is called Canonical Scriptures: (1) As the Divine rule of faith and practice (2) To distinguish it from a collection of books known as the Apocrypha Canon is from a Greek word which signified originally rod or rule but now lists or catalogue. Apocrypha means hidden concealed. When the Divine authenticity of each book of the Bible was established a list or catalogue was made out and was regarded as the Canonical Scriptures. Bible is the most common name. From the Greek "Biblios" which means book of the Book of Books. The division of the Bible into chapters and verses is of modern date, and often interrupts the meaning, and should not be regarded in seeking the full scope and sense of the Divine record. It furnishes the means of referring from one passage to another by which one Scripture illustrates and interprets another. Old Testament has thirty-nine (39) books. New Testament has twenty-seven (27).—Divided into chapters by Angelo A. D. 1240. Old Testament into verses by that noted Jewish teacher: Rabbi Nordica Nathan in 1445. New Testament into verses by that noted printer of Paris Robt Stephens in the sixteenth century.

Scriptures were first written on parchment, bark, vellum and stone hence, it required much time and great labor to multiply and circulate the Divine word. In England in the thirteenth century

common day laborer received for his wages 3 pence or 6 cents for a days work. A Bible with marginal notes and references cost then thirty pound sterling, or \$150 in our currency. Hence it would require him to save all his earnings for seven years to be able to procure a copy. Work seven years to own a Bible! How blest are we! Now a New Testament can be purchased for five cents and a copy of the whole Bible for twenty-five cents. The fifteenth century gave birth to one of the most wonderful inventions of any age. The art of printing—the art preservative of all arts was invented. A new era dawned upon the world of science and literature. Like the sun in his rising must needs baffle with the fogs and shades of night before his rays illuminate the face of nature, giving the flowers their delicate tints, and irradiating all nature with beauty and loveliness, so the Word of God—the sun of the moral universe—illuminates the dark places of earth demonstrating that the "entrance of the Word giveth light" and "Thy word is a lamp to my feet and light to my pathway." Now the American Bible society, British and Foreign Bible society and other similar institutions are manufacturing and circulating millions of Bibles and they are being scattered to the ends of the earth, and like the leaves of the tree for the healing of the nations, are being scattered as before the autumnal winds. As near as can be ascertained the Bible has been translated into more than 250 languages and dialects, 150,000,000 copies in circulation and 1,000,000,000 ready for distribution. Every ship upon every ocean and every train in every zone is the vehicle used by Divine providence to carry the word of life to the people.

11. Is this wonderful book Divinely Inspired? These evidences are internal and direct and collateral abstract and concrete.—Primary, in that it is the full expression of the Divine mind and will concerning man—God's mind written on paper—full, copious comprehensive, embracing all ethical and practical law and precept appertaining to man in his relations and duties to his Creator, himself, and his fellow man. One of the most cogent arguments in proof of its Divine authorship is to be observed in the manner, style and language used. Beginning with Genesis and ending with Revelation [the most startling and wonderful disclosures are made. For example: "In the beginning," When was that? The imagination is taxed. It cannot be measured by the flight of time or the revolving cycles of eternity past. "In the beginning God." Wonderful disclosure! God, The eternal God. "In the beginning God created." That revelation opens up before the mind the great volume of creation, bringing forth order, beauty, physical life, something from nothing. "In the beginning God created the heavens." The heavens declare the glory of God! We are made conversant with those orbs and spheres that glow and glisten in the firmament. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Increasing delight and rapture at every step of these disclosures of the Word of God, "until ringing through the corridors and leaping the domes of universal worlds we hear the voice of Omnipotent greatness exclaim. "Let there be light, and there was light."

The moral excellence and unalloyed truth of the Bible furnishes proof of its Divine authorship. Its ethical teachings are incomparable-transcending those of Descartes, Plato, Aristotle or Socrates.

To be continued.

The sugar crop of Louisiana has been harvested and the yield in some places was unusually large. It is now in order for the price to be reduced.

Sam Jones says he can make \$25,000 a year preaching by traveling all over the country, and that is the reason why he don't settle down in a parsonage on salary of \$750.

Congress has Adjourned until after the holidays. Some of the members are at home with their families who were left behind, and others are spreeing around in Washington having a good time, you know.

LIST OF JURORS For February Term, 1889 of 3d Dist. Court, Claiborne Parish, La.

For 1st week commencing Feb. 28, 1889.

Table with 3 columns: No, Name, Ward. Lists jurors for the 1st and 2nd weeks of the February term.

For 2nd week, commencing March 4, 1889.

Table with 3 columns: No, Name, Ward. Lists jurors for the 2nd week of the February term.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct list of Jurors drawn for the 1st and 2nd weeks of the February term of Dist Court in and for Claiborne parish, beginning on the 4th Monday in February, 1889.

J. R. RAMSEY, D'y. Cl'k D. C. Parish of Claiborne, La.

FRANK SHERARD (TAILOR'S OLD STAND.)

HOMER, LA.

DEALER IN DRY GOODS, GROCERIES AND GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

The best grades of Tobacco and Cigars specialties. EVERY thing sold LOW DOWN.

The GUARDIAN for \$1.00 a year.



The Largest DRY GOODS HOUSE in the State outside New Orleans, covering 2900 square feet in space, for DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, SHOES, HATS

And everything for MAN, WOMAN or CHILD. The only House that manufactures its Own Shoes. The Pioneers and originators of Low Prices for the Best Qualities.

FOR GOOD, HONEST VALUE, GO TO THE OLD RELIABLE ZODIACS. Texas Street, Shreveport, La.

ATTENTION, CONTRACTORS, BUILDERS

And all who use Sash, Doors, Blinds and Moulding.

I have lately added to my STOCK and Immense line of the above described Goods. I have in Stock and to arrive,

Table with 3 columns: O. G. DOORS, WINDOWS, and dimensions like 3 by 7, 8 by 12-12 Lights, etc.

Also a great variety of Moulding. See my Prices. They are as low as the lowest.

G. G. GILL.

UTZ & SMITH. DEALERS IN

HARDWARE AND MACHINERY.

Nos. 8, 10 and 12 Spring Street, BRISTOL, LOUISIANA.

Manufacturer's Agent For General Plantation Supplies

Brown Cotton Gins, Ames Engines, Victor Case Mills, Avery Plows, N. Y. Enamelled Paint, Jones Wagon Scales.

Allan's Cotton Presses, Coleman's Mills, Straub Mills, Coleman's Presses, Cook's Evaporator, Great Western Cane Mills.

Full Line of Blacksmith and Carpenter's Tools. Iron, Wagon Work, Nails, Heavy Sheaf and Builder's Hardware, Cutlery, Iron Pipe and Fittings, Engineer's Supplies, Belting, Gum Packing, Cordage, Barb Wire, &c., &c.

BRIDGEMAN, COLLIER & CO.

DEALERS IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE, SUCH AS DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, NOTIONS, BOOTS, SHOES, HATS, CAPS, &c., &c.

Fresh goods always on hand at ROCK BOTTOM PRICES. Remember the place, North Side of the Public Square, in the J. K. Willet Brick Building, Homer, La.

THE BEST GRADES OF TOBACCO AND CIGARS SPECIALTIES.

EVERY thing sold LOW DOWN.

The GUARDIAN for \$1.00 a year.

Advertisement for VOLINA CORDIAL with a diamond logo and detailed text about its benefits.