

WHEREAS, By an act of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana entitled "An Act relative to Public Printing," approved July 24, 1868, it is provided that the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, or a majority of them, shall designate certain Journals to perform and publish the parochial and judicial printing and advertising for the parishes in which such journals may be respectfully published;

Now, therefore, The undersigned, acting officially and in discharge of their duties under said act, do hereby select and designate THE COLFAX CHRONICLE, a newspaper published at Colfax, in the parish of Grant, as the journal to perform and publish all the parochial printing and advertising of the parish of Grant. The said paper is selected and designated in accordance with the provisions of said act as the official journal of the parish of Grant.

The selection and designation herein made shall continue in force for the term of the existence of the present General Assembly, and until another appointment or designation shall be made according to law.

In witness whereof, We have hereunto set our hands, at the city of New Orleans, the day and year above mentioned.

C. C. ANTOINE,  
Lieutenant Governor.  
E. D. ESTILETTE,  
Speaker House of Representatives.

To the Editor and Proprietor of the COLFAX CHRONICLE, Colfax, Grant parish, La.

NOTICE.

All Judicial Advertisements, of every kind, must be paid for immediately after the first insertion, otherwise they will be discontinued. No exceptions will be made to this rule.

On Tuesday, August 1, by proclamation of the President, Colorado was formally admitted into the Union as a State.

A short time ago the United States Senate voted that Pinchback should receive \$20,000 out of the United States Treasury, for not getting his seat in that body. The Democrats, however, have defeated the measure.

The Belknap Case.

Washington, Aug. 1.—The Senate, at 12 o'clock to-day, proceeded to vote upon the articles of impeachment against W. W. Belknap. Upon the first article of impeachment 35 Senators voted guilty and 25 not guilty, for want of jurisdiction.

The presiding officer announced that two-thirds of the Senate have not voted guilty, and therefore the respondent was acquitted on the charge in the first article.

Nearly all of those voting not guilty made brief statements that they did so through want of jurisdiction.

The Senate then proceeded to vote upon the second article, when 36 Senators voted guilty and 25 not guilty. Mr. Maxey, who did not answer on the first roll call, voted upon the second article. Those Senators who voted not guilty repeated their reasons for doing so, being for want of jurisdiction, as stated upon the first roll call.

Mr. West said that believing the Senate has jurisdiction of trial by impeachment only in the case of a civil officer, and not in that of a private citizen, I vote not guilty on that ground.

Mr. Belknap was not present, but was represented by Mr. Carpenter.

Mr. Ferry stated that two-thirds not having voted to sustain the articles of impeachment, the respondent was acquitted on that charge; and after the announcement of the last vote, he directed that judgment of acquittal be entered, in accordance with the twenty-second rule governing impeachment trials.

The Crop Report.

Washington, Aug. 1.—The statistician of the Department of Agriculture, J. R. Dodge, reports the prospects of a reasonable degree of abundance in the crops of the Centennial year. The large area of last year of corn is increased, and the prospect of a good yield is generally favorable, though its early growth in the Northwest was slow, in consequence of cold and wet weather and late planting. Winter wheat is greatly improved in districts where winter killing was reported, resulting in a good yield and guaranteeing a surplus for export nearly equal to that of the two preceding years, unless grain should be greatly damaged after cutting. An extraordinary crop has been gathered in California and Kansas, and comparatively large ones in the Central Atlantic States. In the Ohio valley the crop is not quite an average. The Gulf States have a larger area than usual, with a lower rate of yield.

The great spring wheat States east of the Rocky Mountains give somewhat inferior promise. An average crop of oats may be counted on. Large yields are promised on the Pacific coast and Kansas, Michigan and generally on the Atlantic and Pacific coast. Barley is in high condition on the Northern Atlantic. It is not much grown South, and on the Pacific coast; is below an average in the Ohio Valley. Pastures were in fine condition prior to the appearance of the drouth of July, which have proved locally injurious. Potatoes have a smaller acreage in the beetle infested States, but there is a fair promise for a general crop for the first season. The beetle are generally reported in New England, and as far east as New Hampshire.

COLFAX, GRANT PARISH, LA.,  
Aug. 9, 1876.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., the Democrats of this ward held a meeting to elect delegates to the Parish Convention. The meeting was called to order by Paul A. Huchez. A list of names for delegates was then called by C. C. Nash, and from the hasty manner in which said list was lumped through, it was evident that no small amount of "log-rolling" had been done. Everything passed off quietly, and although rumor says entire satisfaction was not given to some of the shining lights of the party, nevertheless the intended object was accomplished.

Judge Manning addressed the meeting, and especially the colored people, of whom a goodly number were present. His remarks to that class of our citizens were doubtlessly offered in a spirit of conciliation. But they failed to create the impression they were intended to convey. His allusion to color lines were quite pertinent to the occasion; but his encomiums on the Democratic candidate for Governor, and abuse of the Republican candidate for the same office, left a doubt in the minds of his hearers as to his sincerity. The Judge, as everybody knows, is an eloquent and forcible speaker, but he can't win Republican votes to his standard by that style of argument.

A ruse was also invented to inveigle some of the colored people into the Democratic ranks. They need swelling, no doubt, for every Republican they can humbug with Democratic tricks, will count two in this election.

Shortly after the Democrats adjourned, the Republicans assembled, and after the adoption of a few resolutions perfecting their organization, addresses were made by W. S. Calhoun, and Charles Thomas. Col. Hunter was invited to the stand, and responded. He did not enter into the discussion of the political topics of the day as a Republican, but as "an old, gray-headed, he deep-dyed-in-the-

wool Democrat." He believed he was the only one in existence. If our opinions were consulted, (and they are rather crude,) we would never set him down as a "last ditcher." The Colonel's speech was delivered in an easy, off-handed, old-fashioned manner, and from the many hard hits he made at the present Democracy, and ring conventions generally, his address was received with great applause. The old gentleman was particular, and took special pains to spare nobody, irrespective of party or color, without indulging in personalities.

It is needless to say that the Colonel's speech was well received, and although we differ with him politically, we treasured up many of his well-timed and outspoken remarks, and regret that the country does not afford more citizens who partake of the essentials of Col. Hunter.

Ward Meeting.

COLFAX, Aug 5, 1876.

The Democratic citizens of Ward 1 met this day at Colfax to elect delegates to the Nominating Parish Convention, which is to meet at Colfax, the 12th inst.

On the meeting being called to order, Mr. Thos. H. Hickman was appointed President and Mr. Paul A. Huchez, Secretary.

The Hon. Judge Manning being present, was requested to address the meeting.

On rising he remarked that he would have to confine himself to a few remarks.

He premised by eulogizing Gen. Nichols, the Democratic nominee—he was the right man in the right place—his record could not be impeached and his conservatism made him the man for the times. Then addressing the colored citizens present, the judge remarked that economy, peace, order and prosperity were necessary to rebuild the State; instead of a reign of disorder we must have a reign of law to protect both white and black.

He advocated the abolishing of the color line; people should vote for honesty and capacity, not for color. The reason why it is necessary to change the governing power is evident in the absence of prosperity and the nullity of all laws. Louisiana is poor while her resources are illimitable; property has no price, land is worthless. Vote for good and honest men, and all will change. No man can stay at home; it is his duty to himself and to his country to mix in politics. Packard, the Republican nominee, he said, came to this State to get office. He is the man who called the soldiers to his help. While Nichols is to the manor born, Packard is a stranger giving no guarantees for the future.

The honorable gentleman closed by hoping every citizen would do his duty.

The next thing in order being the nominating of candidates, Messrs. Thos. H. Hickman, Robt. Aaron, C. H. Teals, Jeff. Pirtle and A. G. Thompson were elected by acclamation, as delegates to the Nominating Parish Convention.

THOS. HICKMAN,  
President.

PAUL A. HUCHEZ, Secretary.

Mr. Frank A. Moore, who was taken from the custody of the Sheriff of Grant parish, while on his way from this place to Colfax, on Monday, May 27th, 1876, it is reported, was discovered by a posse of men, last Friday or Saturday, in Winn parish, on the Saline, above Mr. Sutton's place. While making his escape he was fired upon and shot through the hand. This is the same person who, the New Orleans Democrat, in a letter written from this place and signed "Philo," accused Messrs. Blunt, Raby, Van Dusen and other Republicans here, of capturing from the Sheriff of Grant parish and intimating that they murdered "poor Moore." As Philo said then, "comment is unnecessary" in view of the facts of the case as they now exist.—N. A. Critches Republican, Aug. 5.

STATE OF LOUISIANA,  
SUPERIOR CRIMINAL COURT,  
Parish of Orleans.

STATE OF LOUISIANA VS. WILLIAM S. CALHOUN.

Decision of the Honorable George H. Braughn, Judge of Superior Criminal Court, on a motion for a New Trial, on Saturday, 8th May, 1875.

It is a very difficult matter for the Presiding Judge on a trial like the one had in this case not to form an individual opinion. In fact, it would be impossible, and therefore, it is superfluous to say that I have formed mine. I have frequently discussed this case with the District Attorney, out of Court, and expressed my opinion fully. However, as Presiding Judge, I am compelled to have an opinion, and as such I have endeavored, in this case, as in all others, to cast aside all impressions not warranted by the law and the evidence. I believe that in this case all the rulings of the Court during the trial were strictly correct. The argument just closed by the learned counsel for the accused, is almost an endorsement of that belief; because no erroneous rulings were shown nor even alleged.

Counsel seems to rely on the first point in the motion, that the verdict is contrary to the evidence in the case. I think he is right; I don't think the evidence in the case justifies the verdict. The testimony of Judge Philips, Van Dusen and Smedley related to Mr. Hawthorn; had no connection whatever, except by inference, with the defendant, who has been convicted.

The evidence of Olivia Williams, on whom the State relied before the experts were introduced, did not make even a plausible case, and had the State rested its case there I would have instructed the jury to render a verdict of acquittal. The testimony of the prosecuting witness had a strong effect upon the Court. She appeared to be in doubt as to whether it was her signature or not.

Mr. Whitaker, than whom there is not in the country a more skillful expert in penmanship, said, unhesitatingly, as did the other expert, Mr. Burns, that the signature was a disguised one. They did not assert, and could not assert, that it was the signature of Olivia Williams. The evidence of those experts was, in my opinion, reflected by the evidence of the experts introduced by the defense. It is true that they do not possess the extraordinary powers of imitation which Mr. Whitaker has, but they are good, skillful penmen, and equally competent judges. Mr. Benedict, to my own knowledge, is a very expert penman and writes equally well, either with the left or right hand.

He has had a long experience during the many years he has served as Clerk of the United States Court and as a member of the bar. While the experts of the State could not allege that the signature was not the signature of Olivia Williams, the experts for the defense pronounced it her signature, and they were better able to determine the question than the experts of the State, because they had frequently seen her hand writing, while the experts for the State had never seen it; therefore, when the case was closed, it was a weak one for the prosecution, and, in my opinion, it stood just where it did before the experts were offered. Taking the most favorable view of the case on behalf of the State, it was a doubtful one. There was a strong and reasonable doubt in favor of the prisoner, and he should be given the benefit of that doubt. I am satisfied that if the District Attorney, or myself, had been on that jury, we would not have concurred in the verdict rendered.

As to the political prejudice against the accused, to which the learned counsel has referred, I think it my duty to say, that during the trial I saw no evidence of it.

I think the jury was an impartial one, and, if they erred, I think it was through their desire to do justice to the State.

Considering all the circumstances of the case, I think the accused entitled to a new trial. Let the order for a new trial be entered.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a verbatim report of the decision of Honorable George H. Braughn, Judge of the Superior Criminal Court, taken down by me on the hearing of the rule for a new trial in the State of Louisiana vs. William S. Calhoun.

(Signed:) WALTER REGAN,  
Stenographer.  
COLFAX, LA., Dec. 13, 1875.

I hereby certify that W. S. Calhoun never asked me to cancel any judgment in favor of Olivia Williams vs. William S. Calhoun; that I was shown a letter from George W. Lane, by S. B. Shackelford, who was acting as agent for said George W. Lane, and to have said judgment canceled. I further state I had no conversation on the subject with Mr. Wm. S. Calhoun until after his trial in New Orleans.

F. E. LAYSSARD,  
Former Deputy Recorder.  
Witness: A. L. Grow.

Sworn to and subscribed before me at Colfax, La., this 30th day of December, A. D. 1875.

R. C. REGESTER,  
J. P., 1st Ward, Parish of Grant.

The following is an extract from the "Court Notes," published in the New Orleans Times of February 16, 1876:

NOLLE PROS.—State vs. W. S. Calhoun, charged with forgery, etc., and with publishing as true a forged certificate.

I certify that the foregoing report of the opinion, granting a new trial in the case of the State of Louisiana vs. W. S. Calhoun, charged with forgery, is, to the best of my recollection, correct. One word erased and one substituted.

G. H. BRAUGHN,  
Judge.

State Senator.

We see that Dr. Kelly, of Winn, is again out for the Senate from this District. We think Dr. Kelly should withdraw from the race. Winn had the nomination the last time, and if, as we learn, he bases his claims on the ground that he was not seated, he might for the same reason keep running from now till his death, and be in the way of many candidates more available than he is. Dr. Kelly, in Catahoula, is regarded as a very weak man; is considered as having made a very weak fight for a seat in the Senate, and we don't think he could carry the party vote in this parish. We want the ablest, strongest, and most available man for this position, and we think Chas. J. Boatner is the very man, and the District would always be proud of such a representative. We knew nothing of compacts, and believe in nominating the best men in the District for office, regardless of what parish they hail from. One thing is certain, if Chas. J. Boatner is nominated, he will be elected, and if he is elected he will contest in such an able and persevering manner that he will be seated. The delegates to the Senatorial Convention are to meet and put out the best man in the District and work for the interest of the State and District.—Catahoula News.

—The planters of Red River parish say that the crops are the finest known for many years.

A recent dispatch from Philadelphia says that the number of visitors to the Centennial Exhibition since it was opened aggregate 2,265,075, and the cash receipts \$743,574.50. The number of deadheads is therefore 766,921.

The Fourth Grand Fair of Rapides parish, will be held at Alexandria on the 17th, 18th, 19 and 20th October.

Amendments to the Constitution

[No. 96.  
An act to amend the Constitution of the State of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, two-thirds of the members of each house agreeing thereto, That the following amendments be proposed and entered upon the respective journals of the Senate and House of Representatives, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and the Secretary of State shall cause the same to be published three months before the next general election for Representatives in the General Assembly, in at least one newspaper in every parish in the State in which a newspaper shall be published, and said proposed amendments shall be submitted to the people, at said election, in such manner and form that the people may vote for or against each amendment separately, i. e. First proposed amendment, "For approval," or "Against approval," and a majority of voters, at said election, shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments, the same shall be appropriately numbered, and become a part of the constitution, and be proclaimed as such, by the Governor and Secretary of State.

1. The expenditures of each session of the General Assembly for per diem and mileage of members, for payment of officers and employes, and for contingent expenses, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars; and members of the General Assembly shall receive five dollars a day during their attendance, and a mileage of twenty cents a mile for actual distance from the court house of their respective parishes to the State Capitol.

2. The last sentence in article six of the constitution, which reads as follows, to wit: "If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within five days after it shall have been presented to him, it shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly by adjournment prevent its return, in which case the said bill shall be returned on the first day of the meeting of the General Assembly after the expiration of said five days, or be a law," shall be amended so as to read as follows, to wit: "If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within five days, not including Sundays, after it shall have been presented to him, it shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly by adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law unless signed and promulgated within twenty days after said adjournment."

3. The judicial powers heretofore vested in parish courts are hereby abrogated and withdrawn. The District Courts of the State, outside of the parish of Orleans, shall have original jurisdiction in all civil cases when the amount exceeds one hundred dollars, exclusive of interest, and appellate jurisdiction over cases decided by justices of the peace when the sum in dispute exceeds fifty dollars, exclusive of interest. In all such cases their jurisdiction shall be unlimited, and they shall have full jurisdiction over matters of probate and succession. Each of said district judges shall receive a salary of four thousand dollars annually, payable quarterly on his own warrant. Justices of the peace shall have jurisdiction in civil cases, without reference to interest, the amount in dispute does not exceed one hundred dollars; with power to pronounce judgment for that amount and such interest, not to exceed eight per cent per annum, as may be proved, and shall have, in addition to the criminal jurisdiction now vested in them, all such criminal jurisdiction as is now vested in parish courts. Clerks of the district courts shall have power to grant writs of arrest, attachment, sequestration, provisional seizure and injunction; to receive and protract wills; to appoint administrators, executors, curators, tutors and guardians in cases in which no opposition shall be made; to homologate accounts, tabulars and schedules of debts when no opposition is made thereto; to render judgments, being prima facie evidence of correctness; to grant orders directing sale of property belonging to debtors or minors, and to grant orders of seizure and sale by executory process, and shall receive such fees thereon as may be provided by the General Assembly.

4. The Governor shall receive a salary of six thousand dollars annually, payable quarterly on his own warrant.

5. No fees or emoluments of office shall be allowed or received by the Treasurer, Auditor, Attorney General, or by district attorneys.

(Signed) I. D. ESTILETTE,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
(Signed) C. C. ANTOINE,  
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

A true copy—P. G. DESLOUDE,  
Secretary of State.

The foregoing was received in the office of the Secretary of State July 17, 1876, and is made public in accordance with article 147 of the State constitution, which provides:

An amendment or amendments to this constitution may be proposed in the Senate or House of Representatives, and if the same shall be agreed to by two-thirds of the members elected to each house, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered a their respective journals, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and the Secretary of State shall cause the same to be published, three months before the next general election for Representatives in the General Assembly, in at least one newspaper in every parish in which a newspaper shall be published. And such proposed amendment or amendments shall be submitted to the people at said election; and if a majority of the voters at said election shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments the same shall become a part of this constitution. If more than one amendment shall be submitted at one time, they shall be submitted in such manner and form that the people may vote for or against each amendment separately.

P. G. DESLOUDE,  
Secretary of State.