

# THE COLFAX CHRONICLE.

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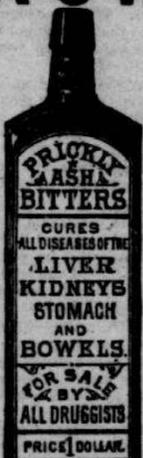
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Feeds and Mortgages a Specialty. Will attend to any business any where in the parish of Grant with promptness.  
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**PRICKLY ASH BITTERS**  
CURES  
ALL DISEASES OF THE  
**LIVER**  
**KIDNEYS**  
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AND  
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FOR SALE  
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**PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD**  
Is Unequaled.

It is not an intoxicating beverage, nor can it be used as such, by reason of its Cathartic Properties.

**Cancer Cured.**  
NEW DISCOVERY!  
TREATMENT PAINLESS

Mr. C. A. Hooper, a native of Rapides parish, has discovered a certain and painless remedy for the permanent cure of Cancer. He offers his services to all who may be afflicted with this heretofore supposed incurable disease. Persons in indigent circumstances will be treated free of charge. Refers by permission to Dr. John Casson, a practicing physician of Alexandria. Terms and charges reasonable. Address, C. A. HOOPER, Pineville, La. tel7

**Still Booming!**  
New Spring and  
Summer Goods

JUST RECEIVED BY  
**B. TURNER**  
Pineville, La.  
A Large and Well Selected Stock of NEW SPRING and SUMMER GOODS,  
**Ladies', Men's and Children's**  
Shoes of Every Description,  
**Clothing, Fancy Goods**  
and Notions,  
SADDLERY, HARDWARE, CROCKERY  
**GROCERIES,**  
PLANTATION  
SUPPLIES,  
and everything usually kept in First-Class Country Stores.  
Will guarantee satisfaction, both as regards Quality and Price. my9

**G. W. BOLTON,**  
Pineville, La.,  
Has received a large and varied assortment of Goods adapted to the wants of the trade, which, owing to  
"HARD TIMES"  
and the great scarcity of money, will be sold at PRICES LOWER THAN EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.  
The entire stock having been purchased in the leading markets of the country in order to cash buyers will be offered not to be found elsewhere.

**GROCERIES, HARDWARE,**  
**CLOTHING,**  
**BOOTS, SHOES AND HATS,**  
**A Complete Stock!**  
**LADIES' DRESS GOODS,**  
At Prices to Defy Competition!  
Jeans, Flannels, Linseys, Notions, Domestic Prints, Tickings, Plaids, etc., at astonishingly low prices. My entire stock of Clothing will be sold at a small fraction above cost. Saddlery and Bridles, among which will be found the Celebrated Texas Saddles, made by Pagett. Call and examine, the Goods must and will be sold. ja7

**Now is Your Time**  
TO BUY  
**CHEAP GOODS**  
FROM  
**McKnight & McNeely,**  
Colfax, La.

They call special attention to the fact that they have just received the largest lot of Ready Made

Clothing,  
Boots,  
Shoes,  
Dry Goods,  
Notions,

Ever brought to this market, all of which were bought on the most favorable terms and will be sold at such low prices as to defy successful competition.

Their Stock of  
**HARDWARE,**  
**GLASSWARE**  
and **CROCKERY**

is complete in every particular. They also have a full line of  
**Saddlery and Harness,**  
**FAMILY GROCERIES,**  
Tobacco,  
Whisky and  
Canned Goods.

They have pleasant and accommodating clerks, who take pride in showing goods to customers. They pay the  
**Highest Market Price for Cotton.**

When you come to Colfax, before buying elsewhere, be sure to call on  
McKNIGHT & McNEELY.  
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**A PRIZE.** Send six cents for postage, and receive free a costly box of goods which will help all, of either sex, to more money right away than anything else in this world. Fortunes await the workers absolutely sure. At once address THE S. CO., Augusta, Maine.

**THE FINE WHITE STALLION,**  
WILL STAND  
AT COLFAX  
OF 1885

**ROBERT E. LEE,**  
Sired by Planter, dam 3/4 bred by the celebrated Leconte stock. Will stand for the spring season at Colfax.  
mh27 J. F. NEAL, Proprietor.

**ESTRAY NOTICE**  
Estrayed before me this day, by J. H. McNeely, one Bay Mare, with black mane and tail, about 13 or 14 hands high, and branded on the left shoulder  
The owner is hereby notified to come forward, prove property and pay charges or the same will be sold according to law.  
A. L. GROW, J. P.  
Colfax, La., April 20, 1885.

AN ABSTRACT NEEDED.

The following correspondence will explain itself, and may prove of interest to our readers:

U. S. LAND OFFICE, NEW ORLEANS, LA.,  
April 15, 1885.

To A. L. Grow, President Police Jury:

Sir—In answer to yours of 13th I have to say that less than three townships of your parish are in the Natchitoches district, and they have no records from which they can make you an "abstract" of entries in the other 18 or 20 townships of your parish. You can only get that at this office.

The "abstract" we have made you is of entries from January 1, 1852, to March 1, 1885. This includes all the large entries made in '82 and '83, and the lands granted to the railroad, and will add over 80,000 acres to your assessment rolls. You have in your parish an abstract of all entries previous to 1882, and this will complete it to March 1st.

If you want a new and complete abstract of all entries in your parish it will cost you \$100, or \$75 more in addition to the \$25 your police jury have already appropriated. That is a very low price for the work, but I think you will find the old abstract there in your clerk's office up to '82, and this completes it, and is all you need. Very respectfully, etc.,  
C. B. DARRALL, Register.

Mr. Darrall is in error in supposing we have an abstract of all entries up to 1882. If there ever was one it has been destroyed by fire. The imperative necessity of such a document is plain to every mind, and we hope the suggestion of the Auditor below will be acted on promptly, as a failure to do so will cut the parish short of \$800 revenue:

AUDITOR'S OFFICE, BATON ROUGE, LA.,  
May 4, 1885.

A. L. Grow, Esq., Colfax, La.  
Dear Sir—Can't you induce your police jury to have a special meeting for the purpose of making an appropriation of \$25 for the parish portion for abstract of entries of U. S. lands made by the Hon. C. B. Darrall. To wait until July would be too late to get lands on this year's rolls. The amount on the abstract, including the railroad grant, is over 80,000 acres. It is a large amount to be lost from this year's assessment. Yours truly,  
O. B. STEELE, Auditor.  
per G. A. SPYKES, Clerk.

Dr. Geo. E. French, an old and esteemed physician of Alexandria, died on the night of May 2d. Dr. French was one of the oldest citizens of Rapides parish, enjoyed the confidence of the people and had an extensive practice.

**Some Uses of Sorghum.**

As Valuable as Corn and Sweet as Sugar  
The Bagasse from it Better than Ensilage—The Pulp Good for Making Paper.

Dr. Peter Collier recently delivered the following address before the New York Chamber of Commerce:

"The history of sorghum with us only dates back to 1853, when Wm. R. Prince imported from France a little sorghum seed, which Mr. de Montigny, the French Consul at Shanghai, China, had sent to the Geographical Society, of Paris, in 1850. In 1857, Leonard Wray, an English merchant, brought from Natal, South Africa, sixteen varieties of sorghum seed. To these last the name Imphee was given, while the former was known as the Chinese sugar cane. And yet this plant, whose merits as a sugar-producing plant appear to have been recognized thirty years ago, had come to be regarded as mainly valuable for forage, or as a source of an inferior quality of syrup. It was a great error obtaining in Great Britain and on the Continent, as also in our own country that the East Indians were a rice-eating people. Fully nine-tenths of them subsist mainly upon sorghum seed. In Turkestan sorghum is the main cereal, as, owing to the excessive droughts, no others could be successfully grown. In the northern part of China sorghum was grown as maize is with us, and for the same purpose, and it so entirely satisfied the wants of the people that it had practically excluded maize. I have personally obtained within a few months from Calcutta eleven varieties of sorghum seed, twenty-one varieties from the Dharwar district in western India, three from Hong Kong, three from Foo Chow, two from Senegambia—in addition to eight varieties from northern China, three from Cawnpore, India, and twenty-two from Natal, south Africa;

in all seventy-three distinct varieties of sorghum—not one of these appearing to be identical with any of the numerous varieties cultivated in the United States; and it is to be remembered that none of these varieties has ever been cultivated in either of these countries for any purpose other than the seed and such forage as might be secured from the stalks and blades. Indeed, it is probably true that for the past thousand years the seed of sorghum has furnished food in greater abundance for both man and beast than have wheat and maize combined.

It is admitted that the demands upon climate and soil of the sorghum, as also the details of cultivation, are practically identical with those of maize, although it is a matter of moment that the sorghum, provided only it secures a good start in the early portion of the season, is capable of withstanding not only, but even flourishing during a drouth which would prove fatal to maize. The chemical composition of sorghum seed shows it to be practically identical with maize; and for the and for the purpose of food, or fattening, for the production of alcohol, glucose or starch, the one may be substituted for the other, and there is no reason for any difference in their commercial value. Grown as Indian corn is grown, for the seed alone, sorghum is a crop of equal value with corn, and we are prepared to believe that upon a plantation properly located with regard to the mill and with economy in management, the seed will pay the entire expense of cultivation of crop and the delivery of the cane at the mill, as one of our largest sorghum planters has assured me.

It will be seen from tables which I present that the average amount of available sugar present in the juice, actually expressed, from a crop actually grown, equaled 1960 pounds per acre, while the amount of available sugar actually present in the crop, on the supposition of 90 per cent of juice, was an average of 2853 pounds per acre. These certainly are astonishing results, and, since they have been published, there have been, in certain quarters, persistent and continuous efforts to cast discredit upon them, despite the fact that a committee of the National Academy of Sciences (our highest scientific authority) had unanimously indorsed the methods by which these results had been obtained as being "among the best known to science." The New York Tribune, in detailing the average results obtained in 1880, remarks: "The above are certainly amazing results, indicating that the economical production of our sugar supply is something which can be confidently expected in the near future," and, as is further said, "these results confirm in a striking manner the conclusions announced by Dr. Collier, and effectually dispose of the persistent assertions in certain quarters that nobody ever got such results as Dr. Collier."

The bagasse from sorghum contains not only a large amount of sugar, but other valuable food constituents, and it is, as it comes from the mill, in a mechanical condition, admirably adapted for the silo and for eating. It appears from averages of a large number of analysis, that the actual money value of bagasse for food is almost exactly double that of ordinary ensilage, and since many of our farmers are engaged in preparing and feeding ensilage, it is worth while for them to consider the value for this purpose of the bagasse of the sorghum mills, at present used as fuel or for the manure heap. The bagasse, from which the sugar has been thus removed, was afterward submitted to the ordinary process for the preparation of paper pulp, and a sample was made, which, upon being submitted to one of our largest paper manufacturers, was pronounced to be of excellent quality, and worth four and a half cents per pound. A ton of cane would yield at least ninety pounds of such pulp, so that, with an average of ten tons to the acre, there might be made an amount of pulp worth \$40 50. It is to be considered, that each step in the process to which the cane is subjected, increases its value for the production of pulp, and as there is nothing in the treatment which forbids its economical employment upon hundreds of tons of exhausted bagasse, there is reason to believe that ultimately this industry may be added to the production of sugar from sorghum cane, thus utilizing a waste product, and increasing the profits from the crop. I think, therefore, that it may fairly be claimed for sorghum, from the facts which have been presented, that we have in it a crop fully the equal of Indian corn for its seed, and, in its stalk, fully as rich in an-

gar as in the sugar cane of Louisiana, and, besides, furnishing in its bagasse, a material for the silo, twice as valuable as common ensilage for food, or which bagasse may, by diffusion, yield at least an average increase in sugar and syrup of fifty per cent over that obtained by the mill, and then furnish to the manufacturer of paper excellent material for pulp.

**Letter from Ward Five.**

Editor Colfax Chronicle:

I notice an article from a gentleman who styles himself West Ender. This gentleman seems to be well posted in regard to the sentiments of the people throughout the parish, but he certainly missed the mark when he shot at ward five. If there ever has been a petition in ward five to ask an election to move the court house and jail I never have seen it, yet I think I have seen all of the fifteen solid voters the gentleman speaks of, and have heard no such petition spoken of. We are in favor of the court house being in the center of the parish, but owing to the financial pressure we do think that the people are too hasty. It seems that the gentleman thinks that the people of ward five have no other occupation only hog hunting. If he would pay us a visit we would make him think different. The obstinate gentleman certainly would obliterate a part of his communication if he had it back. He rather boasts of the litigation of the parish all being in wards 1, 6 and 7. That he can have all to himself, but we have as good facilities for travel as wards 1, 6 and 7, besides four new bridges worth one thousand dollars, which were built by the fifteen solid voters at their own expense. When there is public work to be done they do it themselves. They don't stand around and yelp after what little public money there is to have it done. It appears from the tenor of the gentleman's article, that if he could shoulder the whole thing (the court house and jail) he would carry it to Montgomery. We are somewhat at a loss to know how to reply to the gentleman unless he would get from behind the stump to do his shooting. He says it is only the escapement of a little hot air from a few erratic politicians during a fever heat who have tenure of office on the brain. This is a matter of doubt with us, but we are persuaded to believe that the gentleman is a sore-head or a broken down politician himself, or he would not have written such an article as that in the CHRONICLE of April 25th and then come out under a fictitious name.  
A. P. COLLINS.

**Validity of Tax Sales.**

[N. O. Fickenshaw.]

The advertisement of the tax collector announces that the properties offered for sale under Act No. 82 of 1884, "have heretofore been adjudicated to the State for the unpaid State taxes" of years anterior to 1880.

This statement is either true or false. If the property has been legally adjudicated to the State, it constitutes a part of the eminent domain. By the forfeiture all taxes, State, parochial and municipal, become extinguished—none are due. The title being absolutely vested in the State, it can transfer to the purchaser a clear and unclouded title.

But, if the property has not been legally forfeited, while it may be true that the taxes are still due, as the collector recites in his advertisement, this fact cannot avail the purchaser in a contest with the original owner. The former cannot set up against the latter that he bought at a tax sale and is entitled to reimbursement; or after the lapse of a year that he has prescribed for the property.

The purchaser must stand on the strength of his own title. His title is not such as the State gives to a purchaser at tax sales. It is an absolute title, and the State is warrantor. The property is not sold for the taxes, but to the highest bidder, for what it will bring. None of the formalities required by law for the validity of a tax sale have been complied with. Property legally forfeited to the State before the adoption of the constitution of 1879 remains forfeited. But if all the formalities essential to the vestiture of absolute title in the sovereign were not complied with before the adoption of that constitution the title can never be perfected. Article 210 expressly provides that: "There shall be no forfeiture of property for non-payment of taxes." In those contests which are certain to begin when it becomes the interests of the original owner to attack the title of the speculative purchaser, only one question will or can be raised: "Was the property legally forfeited to, and the title absolutely

vested in, the State, before the adoption of the constitution of 1879?"

Act No. 82 of 1884, under which these sales are being made, has been called the "Ironclad Act," because it makes the deed of the tax collector "conclusive evidence" of five facts essential to the validity of a tax deed. Inasmuch as these are not tax sales, it is, perhaps, not necessary to discuss this point, but conceding that the sale is a tax sale and the deed a tax deed, for the edification of buyers, it may not be amiss to cite the most eminent authorities on this subject:

"There are fixed bounds to the legislation over this subject which must not be exceeded. As to what shall be evidence and who shall assume the burden of proof, its power is unrestricted, so long as its rules are impartial and uniform; but it has no power to establish rules which, under pretense of regulating evidence, altogether preclude a party from exhibiting his rights. Except in those cases which fall within the familiar doctrine of estoppel at common law, or other cases resting upon similar reasons, it would not be in the power of the Legislature to declare that a particular item of evidence would preclude a party from establishing his rights in opposition to it. In judicial investigations the law of the land requires a trial; and there is no trial if only one party is suffered to produce his evidence. A statute making a tax deed conclusive evidence of complete title, would, therefore, be void as not a law regulating evidence, but an unconstitutional confiscation of property."  
(Cooley on Con. Limitations.)

Blackwell on tax titles says:

"That the Legislature has the further power to declare the deed conclusive evidence is denied. \* \* \* Here the legislature steps in and deprives him of his defense, by declaring that the tax deed shall conclude him on all these points. Is such a law valid? Is it true that the Legislature possesses such an arbitrary authority? Is it true that the law making power under the pretense of regulating remedies can violate the obligations of contracts, and divest the estate of a citizen? May the Legislature do indirectly what it is forbidden to do by direct means? Can it under the guise of taxation or the appropriation of private property to public uses, take the property of A and give it to B? To render the law in question valid, these inquiries must be answered affirmatively."

In spite of its iron armor this act is not impregnable. But the purchaser has one consolation. If his title is declared null and void, the tax collector will refund price paid.

After the collector has turned the money realized from these sales into the State treasury, and they have been distributed in accordance with sections 2 and 5 of the act, the question arises, from what source will the collector get the money to reimburse the unwary and incautions buyer?

**Nervousness.**

The moment there is danger of impairment of the mind from excessive nervous exhaustion, or where there exists forebodings of evil, a desire for solitude, shunning and avoiding company, vertigo and nervous debility, or when insanity has already taken place, PRUSA and MANALIN should be implicitly relied on. But it is never well to wait so long before treatment is commenced. The early symptoms are loss of strength, softness of the muscles, dim or weak sight, peculiar expression of the face and eyes, coated tongue, with impaired digestion; or in others, certain powers only are lost while they are otherwise enjoying comparatively good health. In all these PRUSA and MANALIN should at once be taken.

Mrs. S. Smith, Hillsville, Lawrence County, Pa., writes: "Dr. S. B. HARTMAN & Co., Columbus, O.: I have been a great sufferer for ten years. It seemed as though every organ in my body was diseased at one time or another. I had about given up all hope, when I commenced taking PRUSA and MANALIN. I immediately began to improve, the soreness and pain disappeared, strength gradually returned, and now I am as well as ever in my life, and I owe it all to your PRUSA and MANALIN. I recommended it to my friends and it gives better satisfaction than any other medicine I ever heard of."

Miss Maria Roderick, Warren, Ohio, writes: "It is with pleasure and many thanks that I write to you to tell you of the great benefit I have derived from the use of the PRUSA. I have used several bottles of your PRUSA, and can safely say it has done me a great deal of good. I have improved ever since I commenced its use."

Mr. T. J. Webber, Plymouth, O., writes: "I am selling your PRUSA, and having a good trade on it. It gives excellent satisfaction."  
Mr. Thomas Acton, Brooklyn Village, Cleveland, Ohio, says: "I received a severe wound in my foot by tramping on a spike. It inflamed and was painful and swollen. I had every reason to fear lockjaw. Your simple suggestions as to local applications and the taking of your PRUSA and MANALIN were followed to the letter, and, thanks to you, my foot is entirely well, and I am happy."