

THE COLFAX CHRONICLE.

A Democratic Journal, devoted to Local and General News, Literature, Science, Agriculture, Etc.

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My Stock will be found complete and at prices as low as any, and many articles cheaper than can be had elsewhere.

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BOOM! BOOM!!

In reporting to the Picayune about his trip to the place where gold is found in Grant parish, Assayer Lynch conveyed three wrong impressions to the reporter.

First, as to location—saying the place where the gold was found is between Colfax and Boyce, whereas it is due east of Colfax, and not between these two points.

Second, as to the value of the find—saying that although gold was found, the quantity was small and would not pay—IF THE ANALYSIS NEXT WEEK DOES NOT DISCLOSE THAT THERE IS MORE GOLD CONTAINED IN THE SAMPLES THAN CAN BE EXTRACTED BY WASHING. When Mr. Lynch must know positively that there is MORE GOLD IN THE SAMPLES THAN CAN BE WASHED OUT, having already made the test and found that the fire reveals the presence of an extraordinary quantity of gold.

Third, as to the genuineness of the find—Mr. Lynch says he is of the opinion that the samples sent him first may have been extracted from a "pocket," and were therefore richer in ore than any other spot in the vicinity. As to the samples being found in a "pocket" or extra rich spot of deposit, Mr. Cameron says they came from two elevated spots fully forty feet apart, and if it is a pocket it is extra large.

The first sample sent to Messrs. Clausen & Lynch for assay was a residue from about a half bushel of earth washed out by Mr. Cameron. This sample, under the fire, ran at the wonderful rate of SIXTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS PER TON! The result was so astonishing that Messrs. C. & L. were really non-plussed, and declined to report on the assay, but simply made a gold band of the material and presented it to Mr. Cameron, who has it now, and proposes to treasure it as a keepsake. At their request Mr. C. then sent the assayers a sample of unwashed sand and one of unwashed clay. An analysis of the sand proved it to be rich at the rate of \$200 per ton, while the clay only yielded \$2 per ton.

Mr. Cameron has a party at work getting out the boards for a camp, and expects to commence sinking a shaft in a few days. He says he is satisfied that he can wash out a ton of the \$16,000 material, such as he first sent off for assay, in less than thirty days. He proposes to reveal to the world what is in that "pocket" by scooping it out and having it melted into golden eagles.

ANOTHER "POCKET."

A large number of samples have been sent off for assay during the past week by various persons. Among them Mrs. Lane sent specimens from the hill close to the Darro bridge, where there still remain indications of mining done by the Spaniards years ago. This hill is about a mile north of Mr. C.'s Indian hill, and has the same indications for gold. Those who have examined the dirt of both of these hills say it is exactly the same, while some claim that Mrs. L.'s hill is the richest. On Thursday Mrs. Lane received a telegram stating that the assay of her samples was favorable. Yesterday she received word that the run was at the rate of \$16 in gold and 7 1/2 ounces in silver. The sample assayed was red sand, taken from the side of the bluff at the bridge, and is claimed to be the poorest of the three samples sent. We await a report from the other two samples, which will be received to-day, confident that they will prove more valuable than the one already heard from.

Anxiety is easier to bear than sorrow.

How is it that none of the paragraphers have arisen to remark that New Orleans has Nott—a postmaster?

Mrs. Mary Gibson, wife of Hon. R. L. Gibson, United States Senator from Louisiana, died in Washington City, on Tuesday, 17th inst.

Of the 73 secular newspapers published in Louisiana 30 are for Nicholls, 18 for McEnery, 6 for Moncre, 1 for Williams, 1 for Garland, and 17 non-committal.

Judge Blackman, Mr. S. Callen and Mr. S. M. Brian invested in a 100 acre piece of land in Grant parish, near that "gold mine." As Mulberry Sellers would say, "There's millions in it."—Alex. Dem.

Associate Justice William B. Woods, of the Supreme court of the United States, died at his residence in Washington at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock Saturday, 14th inst., aged 63 years.

Specimens for assay of ores, dirt, etc., were sent off from Colfax to New York, New Orleans, Georgia, and other points during the past week, so that in a few days we will have the opinions of a number of experts as to the quality and quantity of gold in Grant parish.

Mr. Geo. Osmond, editor of the Plaquemines Protector, while acting as one of the sheriff's posse in an endeavor to capture a maniac, was fatally shot by the crazy man, Monday 16th, and died Tuesday from the effects of his wounds. Sheriff Thibaut, then in turn, shot and killed the insane murderer. Mr. Osmond was an able editor, and the Protector under his charge was recognized as one of the best country papers in the State.

The New Orleans newspapers appear to labor under a prejudice similar to that of the Jews during the time of Christ, when they believed of a verity that nothing good could come out of Nazareth. So our city conferees are loath to believe that anything good can come from Colfax. They locate our gold mines near Boyce, or any other point away from Colfax, and repeat the error of location with a persistence that is simply marvelous. Stick to Colfax all the time, brother scribblers, and you will always be within two or three miles of gold.

Leprosy in Louisiana.

For the last two or three years the rumor has been current that leprosy existed in the parish of St. Martin. Acting upon information received and a request from the citizens of St. Martinville, the State board of health lately appointed a commission to investigate the matter. This commission, which was composed of fifteen eminent physicians, submitted their report on the 2d inst. A synopsis of their finding is given below:

We found all classes of citizens anxious that an unparagon examination should be made, and that neither leniency nor favors might be shown, but the whole truth be established and made known regardless of every other consideration. Preparation had been made by the local physicians with the views of facilitating the work of your commission.

The task was of a laborious and exacting kind; keeping the entire body of medical examiners—fifteen in number—continually engaged to the end; not so much in the examination of those persons who were diseased, as it was in the critical inspection of the very large number accused but found to be perfectly healthy. In the final conference the entire field of evidence was carefully traversed; and the substance of this report, as herein given, was unanimously agreed upon.

We found three cases of unmistakable leprosy, and three showing symptoms suspicious of that disease. Besides these, there were reported to us two cases of native citizens, declared to have leprosy. One of them—a white male adult—a blood relative of five of the above mentioned cases, and now a patient in a private institution in New Orleans; the other a light mulatto youth, in the Charity Hospital. In-

cluding one extremely doubtful, we found six cases, all of whom were females; four adults, two children, five white and close blood relatives, with a history strongly pointing to hereditary transmission of leprosy. Of these five white persons, two were married sisters living vis-a-vis on a street in the outskirts of town. These two have the disease unquestionably, and so has the 10-year-old daughter of one of them. The 6-year-old sister of this child has symptoms suggestive of the leprous taint. The other married sister above mentioned has several children, none of whom show signs of disease. The husbands of these ladies are in perfect health. A near blood relative, a lady past middle life, has signs reasonably suspicious of the disease, but by no means certain. Her case constitutes the fifth white person.

These people have been in constant and familiar association with the general community during the whole of their lives, and notwithstanding the fact that we have a history of the disease associated with this particular family, how true or otherwise we are unable to say, but at any rate extending back some seventy years, yet at the present time here are only six cases, including even the most doubtful, although the opportunity to spread has been all this time unlimited.

No such history of a disease can possibly agree with any accepted idea of contagiousness as understood by the medical profession. Your commission, therefore, has failed to discover any excuse or ground whatever for the sudden outbreak at this moment of the wild, utterly false and probably malicious rumors which have magnified the cases of a few unfortunate children of an inheritance, into a mighty epidemic of several hundred cases of leprosy, and the disease still spreading.

If leprosy has kindled such a panic on the score of its contagiousness, upon the same ground tubercular consumption and syphilis should fill the world with terror unnumbered; for the dangers in favor of the latter diseases over the former are as ten millions to a single one.

Your commission unhesitatingly declares that Southern Louisiana, including the parish of St. Martin, is as safe a region for human habitation, certainly in so far as the disease leprosy is concerned, as any in the United States or in the world.

We would not be understood as declaring that no such case can occur as the transmission of leprosy by contact; but we are of the opinion if such does ever occur, the case is exceedingly rare, and is even then really a case of inoculation. The disease is preventable, and should be eradicated from among the American people. There is no cure of the individual; but the disease should be limited to that one person by isolation in an asylum or hospital for leprosy only. Such an institution could be established and maintained by the State or national government at a very moderate cost.

In arriving at a complete history of leprosy in St. Martinville it is necessary to go back a period of seventy years, at which time the first case known to the inhabitants was said to have occurred in a family who came from Nova Scotia. In this family two cases of leprosy occurred ending in death in a brief time. There has not been in St. Martinville any lineal descendant of this family and no appearance of the disease in the town until thirty years after, that is to say about forty years ago a brother and sister came from Nova Scotia and settled in St. Martinville, the disease appearing in the sister shortly after her arrival and making very rapid progress soon caused her death. The brother, some years afterwards, developed the disease and died in 1862. Both these people being unmarried left no descendants.

The next case to occur was in the person of a young man, a native of New Jersey, but a resident of Martinique for some years. He arrived in St. Martinville in 1853, and first showed symptoms of leprosy in 1857; got progressively worse and died in 1867. He had a brother, who is still living in St. Martinville, is married and has a family. They are all healthy.

The next case to occur was in the person of a man, a native of St. Martinville, whose mother was a native of San Domingo. This is of all the most interesting case to us, because the present cases being all lineal descendants of this man's mother, the hereditary taint is clearly manifested. It is said that he presented well marked symptoms of leprosy and died in October, 1863.

The friends of the State administration would fight any other candidate that they might present as bitterly as the people do Nicholls, if that candidate had the same chances of success that Nicholls has. They fought Ogden bitterly. They want a harmony which leaves the offices in their hands, and beyond this they do not care a thrip for harmony.—Homer Journal.

Contentment is a good thing until it reaches the point where it sits in the shade and lets the weeds grow.

The best way to keep good acts in memory is to refresh them with new ones.

Leisure is a very pleasant garment, but a bad one for constant wear.

Progress of Revenue Reform.

It is significant that the moneyed men of the country, the bankers, bondholders and capitalists, are beginning to concern themselves very anxiously as to the reduction of the surplus. When the great struggle for the abolition of excessive taxation first began, it was antagonized almost without exception by the real financial corporations and magnates. The conduct of that gallant and patriotic fight was relegated to a few devoted enthusiasts in Congress, to whom their opponents contemptuously referred to as free traders, fanatics, etc., etc.

But the movement assumed definite form. It gathered strength and gained accessions. Year after year, although thwarted at the preceding session by a combination of the Republicans with the Randall Democrats, these undaunted men returned to the charge, stronger, more confident and more resolute after each encounter, and steadily drawing nearer to victory. In 1884 the party leaders ceased to deny or belittle the danger involved in a perpetuation of oppressive and unnecessary taxes, and in fact proclaimed the purpose of the Democracy to avert that danger by summary and radical expedients. This declaration entered into the platform of that year. It constituted a part, and a large part, of the pledge upon the faith of which the country voted the Democratic party into power, and it still remains a sacred compact between that party and the people—a compact thus far unfulfilled.

Now, however, the gravity of the question is receiving wider and more serious recognition. The accumulation of a surplus in the treasury is no longer one of those distant evils visible only to the inspired ken of seers; it is present, it is imminent, and its forbidding shadow falls upon and chills such tremendous interests as to quicken the pulse of every intelligent observer. Since the adjournment of the last Congress, in both sessions of which the handful of Democratic renegades led by Mr. Randall helped the Republicans to discredit their party before the country, thoughtful men in every walk of life have begun to realize that a crisis of mysterious import and incalculable outcome is involved in the continued withdrawal from circulation of vast sums wrung from the people by needless taxation and hoarded in the treasury in excess of any legitimate demand and beyond the reach of useful employment.

Solicitude is no longer confined to the so-called free trade agitators, bankers, capitalists, financiers, all are asking themselves how this is to end and what can be done to arrest the peril. The very men who were once securely counted upon to give character and substance to the opposition have now become the coadjutors of the revenue reform leaders to the extent of admitting that there is grave peril in the situation, and that some remedy for it must be devised. Indeed, the Democratic party must inevitably come to be the party of the solid interests of the country, for it is the only party that has had the wisdom to perceive the danger and the courage to confront it. A great change is taking place in public opinion—in intelligent public opinion. In this struggle for a reduction of taxation the Democratic party is drawing to itself all that is substantial and influential in the ranks of its opponents.—New York Star.

While Thad. Stevens was a young lawyer he once had a case before a bad-tempered Judge of an obscure Pennsylvania court. Under what he considered a very erroneous ruling, it was decided against him; whereupon he threw down his books and picked up his hat in a high state of indignation, and was about to leave the courtroom, scattering imprecations all around him. The Judge straightened himself to full height, assumed an air of offended majesty, and asked Thad. if he meant "to express his contempt for this court?" Thad. turned to him very deferentially, made a respectful bow, and replied, in feigned amazement: "Express my contempt for this court? No sir! I am trying to conceal it, your honor," adding as he turned to leave, "but I find it d—d hard to do it."