

The war in Cuba is ruining the sugar industry of that country. The crop of 1896-97 is not expected to exceed 200,000 tons. Last year it was 240,000 tons and the year before 1,040,000.

The Queen's diamond jubilee, to take place in London next month, will be the greatest demonstration ever witnessed. It is estimated that 10,000,000 persons will visit London on the great day.

The floods and destruction to life and property at Guthrie, Oklahoma, was terrible, and is worse than anything that ever occurred in the Mississippi Valley from the effects of any levee giving way. Hundreds of lives were lost by the terrible flood.

In India where the famine plague has been raging with such terrible results, \$2,500,000 was raised for the relief of these starving people. The number receiving relief during the month of March is estimated at 3,141,323.

The dedication of the magnificent Grant monument at Riverside Park in the great city of New York on Wednesday last was one of the most imposing demonstrations ever witnessed. There were many old Confederates in line who paid tribute to the memory of the great soldier.

It cost the Texas Levee Board \$12,435 in protecting the levees in Arkansas. The protection of the levees by this board was a great undertaking. For miles the water was running over the levees, but by superhuman work they were kept intact and the country saved from inundation. The board deserves praise for its heroic work.

The water from the Biggs crevasse has commenced to flow into the Mississippi at the mouth of the Red, and for the next ten or fifteen days the levees from Red river down will feel the greatest strain and we are afraid that the levees in that part of the State will go at more than one point. At New Orleans the situation is precarious and it is becoming more alarming. The Times-Democrat says that the inflow of the water at the mouth of Red river will cause the river to rise for fifteen days on an average of one tenth a day at New Orleans, but we believe that the rise will be more rapid and that they can look for a height exceeding 21 feet, which they predict the river will reach.

William P. Nicholls, nephew of Chief Justice Nicholls, President of the Bank of Commerce of New Orleans, who was the cause of its doors being closed by embezzling a large sum of money, was found guilty on Friday last. Will he ever see the walls of the penitentiary? There is very much doubt, for he is liable to get a new trial. Would a poor man, without means, been allowed to go and see his family after being convicted, as this man was allowed to do? Not much. It is to be hoped that he will not get a new trial and that he will wear the uniform of the same as any other thief. The States says that "it was very much surprised at the verdict of guilty, in view of the many miscarriages of justice which New Orleans has suffered, and the opportunities afforded by our loose procedure to guilty persons to defeat the ends of justice."

Dr. G. H. Tichenor of New Orleans, an "outlet crank," (as everybody is called who is opposed to the all levee system), and who has devoted much time and study to the Mississippi river problem, says that "any man claiming that 'outletters' want the levees destroyed is an imbecile, knave or fool. To make the levees protect the valley we must make the outflow equal to the inflow by discharging mediums which will convey the water to the gulf from the time the river commences to rise until the flood wave passes to its level, thus keeping the water from the levees for a long period, and when the flood wave reaches the levees it will remain against them only a short period, insuring stability, and obviating the necessity of raising the levees to a height that would be destructive to life and property in the event that they should give way."

The office of a circuit judge is surely a soft job, and the lawyer who secures such a position is in possession of an official place that is a thing of beauty and a joy as long as it lasts. The men who hold such positions are usually more of politicians than judges.—Monroe News.

A NATIONAL HIGHWAY.

Within the past five or six years public attention has been drawn more and more to the question of the Mississippi river floods, and the idea has been advanced in many quarters that the general government should take charge of the entire system of levees and general river improvement. But the present flood, the highest and most destructive we have ever had, has brought the question face to face before the people; and not only the southern press, but influential journals all over the land are openly advocating the necessity of the general government taking the levee system in charge.

The Mississippi river is a great inland sea. According to the Pica-yune, it drains an extent of territory equal to one half or more of the territory of the Union, excluding Alaska, an area of a million and a quarter square miles. It supplies to commerce more than 1600 miles of navigable water, over which passes millions of dollars in goods, merchandise, produce and everything produced by the hand of man. In times of war, as in the late civil struggle, it is used as a means of both attack and defense. All of this water comes rushing down upon the three states of Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi, a vast avalanche carrying everything before it when it breaks through the levee line, leaving death and destruction in its wake.

The states alone, with the present meagre assistance of the general government, cannot cope with the floods that come upon us in the spring. To keep out the water requires much larger levees, almost double the size of the present ones, up and down the entire stretch. This means double the amount of money now available. It is an impossibility for the states to raise it, and the appropriations made by congress are insufficient. In the meantime the waters come up, and this year have actually run over the tops of some of the levees. Now to say that such a system is a success is farcical. No system can be a success when crevasses occur everytime we have a flood. The general government should take charge of the river question, just as the dykes of Holland are kept up by that government.

Every high water we get the waters from the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Indian Territory and a part of British America, which list has been compiled by the Pica-yune. All of this water passes by the parish of East Carroll, with the exception of what sweeps through crevasses and drowns out our neighbors. Over this great flood the people of the northern states send their coal and grain to the Gulf in barges and bear none of the hardships which we have to stand.

Such papers as the Boston Transcript, the Chicago Record, the Washington Post, the New York World, the Springfield (Mass.) Republican and other influential journals are openly advocating the necessity and the duty of the general government taking charge of the levee system. Public opinion is being gradually educated up to this idea. It will take some time yet to get the question squarely before the entire Union; but until the general government comes to the assistance of the river states more than it does at present, wreck, ruin and general devastation will be the portion allotted the people of Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana every flood tide in spite of all the high sounding "theories" of the engineers.

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Judge Gunby, the Democrat-Republican-Populite flopper, should be the last man in the world to say anything about the circuit judge job. As long as he was one of the judges it was a good thing, but as soon as he got the bounce, he commenced to give this branch of the judiciary a shoo. The judges usefulness in this state is passed and his long winded editorials have no weight whatever.

An Incident of Ante-Bellum Days With a Squeal After The War.

CHAS. H. GOFFE.

Previous to the late civil war between the states, there lived in Northern Louisiana, on the shores of one of those lovely lakes with which the valley of the Mississippi river is so frequently dotted, a proud and wealthy planter named Shapley Owen. He was a Kentuckian by birth, and in bearing and manner embodied all the fearless chivalry and courteous hospitality of a typical esion of the blue grass dominion, and it was ever a source of pleasure to him, to narrate the part he had taken in the battle of Tippecanoe, when, as a boy of sixteen, he rode bareback and barefooted by the side of General Shelby as a volunteer courier, when the great Tecumseh fell.

Col. Owen had amassed a large fortune as a cotton planter, and his broad estate of twenty-four hundred acres in the highest state of cultivation, equipped with all the advantages and requirements of a princely domain, was as delightful in location and surroundings, as could be found anywhere on the surface of creation.

The residence was of palatial pretensions, with broad verandas extending from each of the two stories of the stately mansion; a spacious court in the rear; grand halls and elegant apartments within, furnished in the highest conception of luxury and taste, gives an idea of this rural princely home. A dozen or more cozy cottages in the rear, tidy and attractive, were the homes of the house servants and their families. Back on the plantation, in a grove of live oaks lay a village of 50 tenements, occupied by the colored peasantry, or slaves. The mansion or "big house" as termed by the negroes, with the stables, carriage houses, etc., were embowered in a luxuriant growth of china-berry, myrtle and magnolia trees, with the choicest shrubbery of the tropics blooming in profusion. Four hundred slaves answered to the morning roll call, and the yearly output of the plantation was more than two thousand bales of cotton, besides thousands of bushels of corn, and minor productions. We give these details as a gratuitous and truthful portrayal of a model plantation, typical of the ante-bellum days, and it may be of casual interest to the reader, who has floated away.

In the cabin of the rescuing boat a touching scene was being enacted, that softened the hearts of strong men, and brought tears to the eyes unused to such signs of emotion; for there, upon a sofa in the elegant cabin was resting the good lady Owen, exhausted and prostrated from the terrible ordeal, and stooping by her side, with a face portraying the greatest joy, was the faithful slave, whom a kind providence had so miraculously enabled to rescue from a fearful death, the master and mistress of his early life. Col. Owen and his wife have been in their graves for more than twenty years, and the brave hearted negro may too have gone to his rest, but no creation or fiction could more completely delineate the purity of true unselfish gratitude than this simple story of the faithful slave.

The war was hadly felt in this remote portion of the Confederacy, until the advent of the army of General Grant in 1863, when the direful calamity of invasion by hostile forces, was soon painfully realized, in devastation and distress that followed. When the advance guard of the Union army swept down the valley the land marks of the old regime were quickly destroyed, and the mystic relations—domestic and social—of master and slave, which years had cemented into wondrous system of mutual regard and dependence, dissolved before the fierce iconoclast of war. The slaves were confronted by a new and strange doctrine; the armed missionaries brought to their doors a new innovation of personal liberty and civil rights, and incited the idea, that the first step to freedom required that the slave must turn against his master, and smite those who had heretofore been held in highest regard. And so, when Henry, the faithful servant of Mrs. Owen's household, was importuned by the new comers to forsake the only friends he had ever known, and to betray the hand that had reared him—to harm those, whose comfort and happiness had been through life, the first impulse of his heart, his better nature revolted with horror. But such splendid specimens of physical manhood were wanted in the service of the Union forces, which began at once to recruit regiments for the service, and Henry was compelled to leave his old master and follow the army. It was with sullen reluctance, however, and poignant grief, and on the first opportunity, the "colored conscript" stole a midnight visit to his old home.

Those were days and nights of dark dismay and trouble, when scouts and marauders, spies and informers were ever prowling about, invading the premises. A constant feeling of apprehension and terror brooded over every household. Late one stormy night, Col. Owen was aroused by a gentle knock on his bed room door, and at once recognized the voice of his favorite servant, Henry was admitted to the apartments. "I want to see Ole Mistus," he said, and approaching the couch whereon his aged benefactor lay, the great tears rolling down his swarthy cheek, "I come to tell Ole Mistus good bye," and taking the good lady's hand, continued: "I'm going to leave this country soon—perhaps to-morrow—I'm going to old Kentucky, but I shall not forget my old master and mistus. Some day, perhaps, I will see you all again, if God is willing, and I want you to remember that no matter what may happen Henry will never forget his best friends." With a parting handshake, the poor heart-broken slave, his lips quivering with emotion that shook his massive frame like an aspen, closed the door behind him, and passed out into what now seemed to him a cold unfriendly, desolate world. All that was dear to him, he had left forever. He had never relied upon himself, and though possessed of intelligence far above the average of his color, yet he had been always dependent. To be sure, he had made several trips to Kentucky with his master's family, and thither he directed his course. There was little difficulty in finding something profitable to do, and it was not long before Henry was doing service in the cabin of an Ohio river steamer.

The months and seasons passed, and lengthened into years, and the cabin boy became head steward of the boat, and had won the respect and confidence of employers, but ever in the strong stalwart breast was a memory, sweet and more precious to him than the wealth of a hemisphere. When the war had closed, and peace had again asserted her benign reign over the late disrupted land, Col. Owen and his wife took a trip north for a visit to their old Kentucky home. The steamer which conveyed them up the Ohio river took fire and burned to the water's edge, and but for the arrival of another boat just at the nick of time, a fearful loss of life would have occurred. No one who has ever witnessed a fire at sea, or been on board a burning steamer, can efface from memory the awful scenes of terror, the harrowing cries of agony and despair, which appall the stoutest heart at such a time, and as the "Gen. Lytle" was being rapidly consumed, and her passengers driven back, inch by inch, to the stern of the doomed boat by the raging flames, many plunged headlong into the river. The rescuing steamer, at great peril to her own safety, ran along side the stern of the burning boat, and a ladder was extended to the hurricane roof, down which many frightened people made their way, and were conveyed to a place of safety. Col. Owen and his wife, both large of frame and feeble with years, were almost helpless, as they stood on the roof, and it seemed doubtful if either could be rescued without bodily harm, if rescued at all, as the ladder was long and unsteady in the swinging and swaying of the boats. The flames were approaching with ravenous greed, and the scorching heat had driven the gallant old gentleman to the very edge of the hurricane deck, and all eyes were riveted on the aged planter and his helpless wife. A catastrophe seemed about to occur that could not be averted. The planter was trying vainly to shield with his person the wife of his bosom from the cruel flames, when suddenly a powerful man shot up the ladder and sprang to the side of the old couple. "Ole Mistus I'll save you, don't you fear!" and gathering the good lady in his strong grasp, he quickly made his way to the lower deck of the rescuing steamer, and deposited his precious burden in a place of safety; then hurrying back he brought down the old gentleman. A few moments later the flaming roof of the Lytle collapsed; the burning hull was cast loose, and floated away.

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THE Acme Brick Company is now ready with a fine lot of Brick for sale for cash. Prices to suit the times. Call at office of Company, No. 5 Levee street, for prices. JNO. W. COOKE, Manager. Lake Providence, La.

Registration Notice. Notice is hereby given that the registration book for the Town of Providence will be open at my office in said town from Monday, April 19th to Monday the 7th day of June, 1897, the date fixed for holding the election for municipal officers of said town. Under Act No. 86 of 1896, providing for a new registration, it is necessary that every one desiring to vote in said election shall register anew. J. S. GUENARD, Assessor. Providence, La., April 17th, 1897.

PROCLAMATION. MAYOR'S OFFICE. TOWN OF PROVIDENCE, LOUISIANA. In accordance with provisions of the Charter of the town of Providence, and by direction of the Hon. Board of Aldermen, an election is hereby ordered to take place on Monday, the 7th day of June, 1897, for the purpose of electing a Mayor, Secretary, Treasurer, City Marshal and five Aldermen. All persons who may desire to vote at said election are required to register and procure proper registration papers in accordance with Act No. 137, of the Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, approved July, 1894. The supervisor of registration will cause his office to be opened on Monday, the 12th day of April, 1897, at hours to be by him fixed and place designated in accordance with said Act No. 137. Given under my hand and official seal of the town of Providence, on this 10th day of April, 1897. E. J. HAMLEY, Mayor.

NOTICE. At a meeting of the Lake Providence Lumber Co., held Feb. 10th last, the Board of Directors agreed on the following prices for lumber, to-wit: Cypress cabin lumber, \$12 per m. Cypress bevelled siding, rough, \$10 per m. Cypress dressed siding, \$13 per m. Cypress T. & G. flooring and ceiling, best grade, \$17 per m. Cypress T. & G. flooring and ceiling, 2nd grade, \$13 per m. Gum cabin lumber, \$8 per m. Singles, all heart, \$2.50 per m. Shingles, 2nd grade, \$2 per m. These prices are for lumber at the mill; when delivered, the hauling will have to be added. E. J. HAMLEY, Manager.

FOR SALE. A BEAUTIFUL FIVE ACRE LOT, having a front of two chains and sixty-six links, on the lake road, next to the property of Mr. J. C. Bass. This is beyond a doubt the finest five acre building lot in East Carroll parish. For terms, apply to MILLIKIN & HAMLEY, Real Estate Dealers, Lake Providence, La. January 16, '96-11. Spring and Summer Samples. Mr. Walter Goodwin wishes us to say that he has just received his new line of Spring and Summer samples, and invites his friends to call and take a look at them. On account of the new tariffs, clothes are much cheaper.

MAX LEVY, Lake and Levee Streets, LAKE PROVIDENCE, LA., Dealer in GENTS FURNISHING GOODS. The finest line of Clothing carried in the city. Ladies Dress Goods, Hats, Caps, Boots and Shoes, Mackintoshes and Hunting Coats, Trunks, Valises and Bags. CALL ON ME Before Purchasing Elsewhere. J. E. SANDRELL, President. A. J. HANLEY, Sec. and Treas. OUR MOTTO: "QUALITY, NOT QUANTITY." The Providence Lumber Co., (LIMITED) CAPITAL STOCK \$50,000. DEALERS IN Cypress, Red Gum, Red Oak, White Oak, Ash, Cycamore, Rough and Dressed Lumber, Plain and Fancy Heart Cypress Shingles, Box Boards and Barrel Heads. CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED. Lake Providence, La.

The Only Family GROCERY, S. A. McNEAL, Proprietor, LEVEE ST., LAKE PROVIDENCE, LA. Dealer in Fine Family Groceries and all kinds of Fruits and Nuts, Meat, Meal and Flour, Wines, Liquors and Cigars, Hay, Corn and Oats. Fine Keg Beer.

S. W. GREEN, Cor. Lake and Church Sts., Lake Providence, LA. DEALER IN... Clothing, Boots and Shoes, General Merchandise, Groceries and Plantation Supplies. Wines, Liquors and Cigars. Call before purchasing elsewhere.

H. L. JONES, Levee St., Lake Providence, La., DEALER IN... Fine GROCERIES, FRUITS Flour, Meat and Meal. Wines, Liquors and Cigars. A Cheap and First-class Grocery House.

A. D. & S. SPENGLER, AGTS., VICKSBURG, MISS. Manufacturers of Sash, Doors, Blinds, Stain-work, Interior Finish, and All Building Material. Cheapest Place in the South. Write for prices before purchasing elsewhere. W. B. THOMPSON. F. L. MCCAY. W. B. Thompson & Co., Cotton Factors & Commission Merchants, NO. 308 PERDIDO STREET, New Orleans, Louisiana. Because the imitations of Dr. Tichenor's Antiseptic smell and taste like pepper is no proof that they are "just as good" as the original, simon-pure compound that has given universal satisfaction for ten years. You may know Dr. Tichenor's Antiseptic by the trade mark. J. S. Guenard always keeps it for sale. Wanted—An Idea Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas; they may bring you wealth. Write JOHN WOODRUM & CO., Patent Attorneys, Washington, D. C., for their \$1.00 price offer and list of two hundred inventions wanted.

Information for the Public. The following is the schedule of the Y. & M. V. R. R., taking effect from Sept. 13. New Orleans Division—Train 5 will leave Vicksburg at 8.10 a.m. and arrive at New Orleans 10.55 a.m. Train 21 will leave Vicksburg 8.00 a.m. and arrive New Orleans 5.30 p.m. Train 6 will leave New Orleans 4.20 p.m. and arrive Vicksburg 11.50 p.m. Train No. 22 will leave New Orleans at 8.05 a.m. and arrive at Vicksburg at 5.55 p.m. Memphis Division—Train No. 5 will leave Memphis at 7.55 p.m. and arrive at Vicksburg at 3:00 a.m. No. 23 will leave Memphis at 8:45 a.m. and arrive at Vicksburg at 6:45 p.m. Train No. 6 leaves Vicksburg at 12.01 a.m. and arrives at Memphis at 7.10 p.m. Train No. 24 will leave Vicksburg at 7:30 a.m. and arrive at Memphis at 5:30 a.m. All trains run daily. For information as to rates &c., write to W. D. BRENT, C. T. A. Vicksburg, Miss.

JOHN WILLIAMS Undertaker. Lake Providence, La. Keeps on hand a large assortment of Burial Caskets, New, Plain and Ornamental Metallic Cases and Wooden Coffins Made and Trimmed to Order. [April 12-29-17] Chas. Swofford, House, Sign and Ornamental Painter, Bugzy Painting and Paper Hanging, Lake Providence, La.

Wanted—An Idea Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas; they may bring you wealth. Write JOHN WOODRUM & CO., Patent Attorneys, Washington, D. C., for their \$1.00 price offer and list of two hundred inventions wanted. 40 YEARS' EXPERIENCE. PATENTS TRADE MARKS, DESIGNS, COPYRIGHTS, Etc. Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain, free, whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Oldest agency for securing patents in America. We have a Washington office. Patents taken through MUNN & CO. receive special notice in the Scientific American, beautifully illustrated, largest circulation of any scientific journal, weekly, Volume 35, 6 pages, \$10.00 in advance. Specimens copies and MANUSCRIPTS FREE. Address MUNN & CO., 361 Broadway, New York. VICKSBURG AND MEMPHIS PACKET For Helena, Greenville, Lake Providence, Vicksburg, and All Way Landings—The Swift and Elegant Steamer In Place of Bald Eagle. A. L. CUMMINS, Master. L. F. CUMMINS, Clerk. Leaves every Wednesday at 5 p.m. Passing Lake Providence on Friday noon going down and passes Saturday evening going up. Passage from Providence to Vicksburg \$2; round trip \$4.