

THE BANNER-DEMOCRAT.
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 LAKE PROVIDENCE, LA.
 JAMES N. TURNER,
 Publisher and Proprietor.
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 Saturday, April 9, 1898.

THE RIVER.
 The river continues to rise, and for the 24 hours ending yesterday morning, the rise was 5-tenths. The river gauge yesterday morning read 40-feet, within 4.4-tenths of the highest water mark ever known, when it went to 44.40. The last report from Cairo gave the rise at 2-tenths, which should now be on a stand or falling. At Memphis the rise is rather large, 6-tenths, and it will take several days for it to come to a stand. The river is rising at the rate of 5-tenths, and this morning it is less than four feet of reaching the high stage of last spring. Everything points to an extreme high water—just as high as it went last spring—and our levee board should not wait until the last moment to start the fight that now looks like will have to be made. The levees are in a much better shape than last spring, and with the rainy and stormy season about past, we have a better chance of escaping a flood than ever before—but it is better to be prepared.

The pension fraud continues to increase enormously and it now takes \$148,000,000 a year to pay the pensioners. It is the greatest outrage this country suffers from.

The Constitutional Convention has only a few more weeks in which to get through, and no doubt the people of Louisiana will be glad when the gavel falls for the convention to adjourn.

Poor McKinley, to have to weep over the terrible ordeal of trying to satisfy Hanna and the money sharks on one hand and public sentiment on the other, is causing him many sleepless nights.

The suffrage law given to the State of Louisiana by the Constitutional Convention, is still criticised as to its constitutionality, and there is no doubt that it will be carried to the courts to be settled.

W. C. Brann, the notorious editor of the Iconoclast, is no more, and that paper's career is wound up. In a street duel at Waco on Friday last between the editor and Capt. M. T. Davis, both shot each other to death, making four men whose lives were lost over the vile paper.

After a trial lasting several weeks, Leece and Wolfson, the two men connected with the failure of the Union Bank of New Orleans, have been convicted. Leece was recommended to the mercy of the court. Both gave bond in the sum of \$20,000 each, pending an appeal.

The revolutionary war began April 1, 1776, the war of 1812 on April 12, the Mexican war in April, 1846; the civil war April 1, 1861. General Lee surrendered in April, 1865. Perhaps history will repeat itself and the war between the United States and Spain will start off in April.

The largest cannon in the world was completed at Bethlehem, Pa., last week and will be shipped to New York this week for the protection of that city. It weighs 172,000 pounds, forty-nine feet in length, six feet in diameter at the breach, measures sixteen inches in calibre, carries a conical shape ball five feet six inches long, weighing 2500 pounds, requires 1000 pounds of powder and strikes with the velocity of 1897 feet a second, and it is said that when the ball strikes a ship the shock is so great it will kill every man within 15 yards.

The jurisdiction of the justices of the peace will not be increased, and we will have the same old system that causes so much expense and trouble. Messrs. Breazeale, Wilkinson, Ransdell, Provosty, Coco and Thompson voted against this motion, as they favored increasing the jurisdiction of these officials along the lines set forth in the ordinance introduced by Mr. Breazeale. Mr. Boatner's vote against increasing the jurisdiction showed that his views on the subject had undergone a change from those expressed before the committee. Boatner is now worse than the Irishman's fee. For a flopper he beats all the floppers we ever heard of.

Cotton Prices and the War
 The New Orleans Picayune in the following editorial on the "war" with Spain and its effect on the price of cotton, says:

Since it has become apparent that the trouble with Spain was likely to end in war cotton has gradually weakened. It is true that the drop has not been sensational in its proportions but it has been steady, indicating a firm belief that the effect of war would be unfavorable to the South's great staple. It is true that the price has within a few days risen somewhat in Liverpool, but that is easily explained by the fact that the very cause which would prevent the free shipments of cotton from this country would make that article comparatively scarce abroad.

As the underwriters have already enforced the application of the war risk clause the cost of shipping cotton has been enhanced and there is no doubt that in the event of war cotton shipments would be in some measure disturbed, hence there is some foundation for the unfavorable effect on prices by the probability of war.

It is, of course, not at all probable that Spain would be able to blockade any portion of our coast, much less our large ports, and without an effective blockade there would be no means of stopping shipments from American ports in foreign bottoms. It is now well established in international law that even the merchandise belonging to an enemy is protected by a neutral flag, except such merchandise be contraband of war.

It is, therefore, probable that the effect on the price of cotton will not be lasting, as it is likely that cotton will go forward without interruption as soon as it is demonstrated that Spain is unable to maintain a blockade. As war preparations would more or less interfere with the farm work and planting, and as there would likely be a good demand for cotton as soon as hostilities cease, it is probable that prices would soon begin to improve after war is declared.

It would be well for cotton growers carefully to consider the war question in preparing acreage for planting this season. Another bumper crop on top of the one now being marketed, with every prospect of a general upheaval in Europe at any moment, would certainly sell for even lower prices than those which have ruled this year. As prices this season have been unprofitable, it is not hard to realize that even lower prices next season would mean for the South.

BELLE OF THE BENDS.
 Many have no doubt admired the fine model of the "Belle of the Bends" on exhibition at Guenard's drug store. It is an exact reproduction of the fine steamer down by Carl Robinson, the designer and superintendent of construction of the boat. Mr. Robinson has been in the employment of the Vicksburg & Greenville Packet Co., for years as a ship carpenter, and for several months has been at Jeffersonville superintending the building of the Belle of the Bends—inspecting every plank that went in her, and making her as perfect as a steamboat can be made. Here is what the Louisville Courier-Journal says of her:

One of the handsomest and most complete side-wheel steamboats ever built has just been completed for the Vicksburg and Greenville Packet Company, of which Capt. J. J. Powers is President, by Capt. Ed. Howard, of Jeffersonville. That part of the Mississippi river lying between Vicksburg and Greenville is very crooked and is known as the "Bends," and the new boat has been appropriately named "Belle of the Bends." She is 217 feet long, 32 feet beam and 7 feet hold, 14 feet between decks, with a roomy intermediate deck aft for deck passengers, carpenter shop, sailors' room, also rooms for firemen and deck hands.

Her engines are 18-inch cylinders, 8-foot stroke, driving a wheel 26 feet in diameter, 12 feet length of bucket, each bucket being 26 inches wide. Her battery consists of three steel boilers—Park Brothers black diamond steel—each 44 inches in diameter, 28 feet long, 6 flaps in each, allowing a 178 pound pressure. She has a "Donkey" boiler 12 feet long, 36 inches in diameter, steam capstans forward and aft, freight hoisters, doctors, pumps and everything of the latest and most approved inventions to make her mechanical department complete in every particular. The electric light plant is one of the most powerful and complete on the river—the dynamo operating over 200 incandescent lights, one powerful search light, three arc and fans. The main engines are bedded on steel cylinder frames, box pattern riveted to steel deck and beams, with a steel deck under her boilers.

Her cabin is a model of original design and superior workmanship. It is full length, thirteen feet wide in the clear, and contains sixteen large rooms on each side, including a spacious office and bar. At the aft end of the cabin are two unusually large rooms, each fitted up in suite of furniture and furnished in elegance. The boiler deck guards extend full distance around the cabin, making it an unbroken promenade from the front to the rear end of the boat. All the rooms aft of the gangway are connected with the office with electric annunciator, and every room has an electric light in it. There are five chandeliers, two ceiling clusters and four bracket lights in the main cabin—forty-six lights in all—besides electric fans over the tables.

The Texas contains the Captain's room forward, rooms for the crew, the crew's hall, mail room, a hall and rooms for colored cabin passengers, and behind this cabin a room for sixteen cabin boys, making the Texas 116 feet

J. N. HILL & BRO.

Our New Spring Stock, embracing all the latest styles in Dress Goods, Ladies' Underwear, Waists, etc., is now OPEN, and ready to be inspected, admired and bought by our patrons and the public. We have devoted much time and money to the purchase of our Spring Stock—bearing constantly in mind the wants of the better class of trade—and it is with very great pride and pleasure that we now offer, with the utmost confidence, the largest, most tastefully selected and reasonably priced stock ever brought to Providence.

Call upon us. We will treat you courteously, fairly, and take pleasure in showing you what we have.

J. N. Hill & Bro.

long. The pilot-house on top of this is of the Anchor Line pattern, and with her stately chimneys puts the finishing touch to the entire handsome appearance of the boat.

The hull is a model of strength, grace and beauty. The cabin stairway, doors, skylights and general workmanship are of the highest order. Capt. Gus Mintz, who is an experienced and popular boatman, will have command of her.

The "Belle" leaves Louisville to-day, and she will be welcomed by the people living on the banks of the Mississippi between Vicksburg and Greenville.

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 tariff, clothes are much cheaper.

Uncle Sam purchased twenty-four boats in one day last week, and continues buying more.

Senor Genaro Alas, who is considered in Spain to be the first Spanish military writer, published the following article in La Epoca of Madrid on March 11 about the results of a war between his country and the United States. He says:

"Will it be a duel in French style, or until the first blood is shed, or a fight to the death? In my opinion, neither one nor the other. If we are defeated quickly, we shall lose Cuba, and probably also Port Rico, and it is very likely that we shall have a stronger revolt in the Philippines and serious troubles at home. But, suppose that at the beginning of the war we sink the whole Yankee fleet, and even bombard with success two or three Yankee ports, will all end there? Oh, no. The Americans will not stand it, and the nation that from 1861 to 1865 put in arms more than 2,000,000 soldiers, raised powerful fleets, spent \$4,000,000,000 and lost nearly the same amount, will make such efforts that in spite of all my respect for Spanish patriotism, I cannot believe that Spain will be able to stand against it. If there are those who believe in intervention by European powers in favor of Spain, I don't. A fight to the death it will not be, either, because the Americans cannot conquer us with so many miles of ocean between the two countries. We may lose our colonies, but Spain will remain. Probably that loss, though immediately disastrous, would be a benefit to our sons. Now, can any man of sense believe that we can do to the United States what the Americans cannot do to us? Is it not a nonsensical dream to think of a conquest of American territory? I am not doubting the courage of the Spaniards, but I believe that all nations of Europe together are not strong enough to sever a foot of land from the United States. In brief, the United States will not come to conquer us here, nor shall we go to conquer them there. The whole war will be reduced to this: The Yankees will provide the insurgents with arms and ammunition, blockade the ports of Cuba and starve to death our army there, that subsists now exclusively on imported food. What will be the role of our navy? To break the blockade in order to provision our army and in order to get coal for itself; because I suppose that our ships will not come back to coal in Spain. That will be all. At the start the Yankees may destroy our whole navy, or we may destroy theirs, but in the long run they will get the advantage. All other things will be mere episodes of the war. The privaters on either side will amount to nothing in deciding where victory shall rest."

On Monday night Vicksburg was visited by one of the most disastrous fires that has occurred in that city for years. S. O. Pitts drug store, Piazza & Botto's carriage and harness store, the Opera House and several business offices were burned out. The loss is estimated at one hundred thousand dollars.

The levee at Shawneetown, Ill., gave way on Monday about 4 o'clock and it is reported that fully 300 people lost their lives. There was no warning of the danger of the terrible catastrophe. "The town is seventy five miles below Evansville on the Ohio river, and is located in a valley of extreme low land with hills skirting it in the rear with a 25-foot levee in front running from hill to hill." The town has a population of 200, and there is hardly a frame building left standing.

For Sale.
 A limited lot of choice cotton seed for planting—Alden Long Staple variety. Address, FRANKENBUSH & SONS, New Orleans, La., or H. L. Ethel, Lake Providence, La.

Strayed or Stolen.
 One bay pony 14 1/2 hands high, with large Texas brand on hip. Slight in left ear. A liberal reward will be paid for his delivery to me. W. H. MONTGOMERY, Lake Providence, La., March 26, 98.

Fine Cotton Seed.
 I have for sale three hundred sacks of the pure BATES COTTON SEED. It produced last year TWO bales per acre; is an early maturer; does not shed as much as common cotton, and does not fall out of the boll. 1400 pounds seed cotton makes 500 pounds lint. Is a strong bender. Price \$1.00 per 100-pounds less than one ton, or \$15 per ton. W. C. McRAE, AGT., Lake Providence, La., March 26, 97-1m.

Constable Sale.
 State of Louisiana, parish of East Carroll. Third Ward Justice Court—Charles Gregory vs. Lilly Berry.—No. ... By virtue of a writ of F. Fa. to me directed by the Hon. G. M. Franklin, Justice of the Peace of the Third Ward, parish of East Carroll, aforesaid, in the above entitled cause, I will proceed to sell at public auction, at the door of said 3rd ward justice court in the town of Providence, East Carroll parish, La., on Saturday, the 19th day of April, 1898, between the hours prescribed by law, all the right, title and interest of defendant in and to the following described property, to-wit:

One Road Cart, seized in the above suit. Terms of sale—cash with the benefit of appraisement. W. H. HUNTER, Constable. Lake Providence, La., April 2, 1898, 31.

Queen & Crescent ROUTE.
 The Best Line FROM VICKSBURG TO ALL POINTS IN THE North and East. THROUGH SLEEPERS. The Summer Tourist's favorite line via Lookout Mountain. GEO. H. SMITH, G. P. A., New Orleans, La. W. STOMS, ASST. G. P. A., New Orleans, La.

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. S. RANDELL, President. S. J. HAMLET, Sec. and Treas.
 OUR MOTTO: "QUALITY, NOT QUANTITY."
The Providence Lumber Co.,
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 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.

IMPROVED SERVICE ON Y. & M. V. RAILROAD.

Beginning Sunday, Feb. 27th, the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley railroad will run elegant Parlor Cars on its day trains Nos. 23 and 24 between Memphis and Vicksburg. A nominal rate for seats in these cars will be charged.

Train No. 24 will leave Vicksburg at 9:10 a. m. arrives at Memphis at 7:30 p. m., connecting with the Illinois Central railroad fast Vestibuled trains for St. Louis, Chicago, Evansville, Ind., Louisville and Cincinnati. To all points mentioned through Sleeping Cars are run between Memphis and Cincinnati, seats in which are free. See condensed schedule.

Leave Vicksburg 9:10 a. m. Arrive Memphis 7:30 p. m. Supper at I. C. dining-room. Leave Memphis 8:20 p. m. Arrive St. Louis 7:16 a. m. next day. Arrive Chicago 11:15 a. m. next day. Leave Memphis 8:45 p. m. Arrive Louisville 7:44 a. m. next day. Arrive Cincinnati 11:40 a. m. next day. Arrive Washington 6:47 a. m. second day. Arrive Baltimore 7:50 a. m. second day. Arrive Philadelphia 10:15 a. m. second day. Arrive New York 12:35 p. m. second day.

Close connection is made at Louisville and Cincinnati with solid Vestibuled trains for points east. Dining car service on connecting trains from Cincinnati. For further information and reservations call on or write to your station agent or the undersigned.

A. Q. PEARCE, C. P. & T. A., Vicksburg, Miss. JNO A. SCOTT, Dir'n Pass'r. Ag't Memphis, Tenn. WM. ALFRED KELLOND, Ass't. Gen'l Pass'r. Ag't, Louisville, Ky. A. H. HANSON, General Passenger Agent, Chicago, Ill.

Y. & M. V. R. R. Schedule.
 EFFECTIVE AT NOON, DEC. 23, 1897.

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION.
 No. 5. (Southern Express)—Leave Vicksburg 4:05 a. m.; arrive New Orleans 11:30 a. m. No. 5 connects for Natchez.

No. 21. (Local Mail)—Leave Vicksburg 8:00 a. m.; arrive New Orleans 5:30 p. m. No. 21 connects for Natchez.

No. 6. (Northern Express)—Leave New Orleans 4:20 p. m.; arrive Vicksburg 11:50 p. m.

No. 22. (Local Mail)—Leave New Orleans 8:20 a. m.; arrive Vicksburg 5:55 p. m. Nos. 6 and 22 connect for Natchez.

MEMPHIS DIVISION.
 No. 6. (Northern Express)—Leave Vicksburg 12:01 a. m.; arrive Memphis 7:05 a. m.

No. 24. (Local Mail)—Leave Vicksburg 7:50 a. m.; arrive Memphis 6:10 p. m. (No. 6 connects at Lulu for Helena; No. 24 connects for Greenville and all Riverside Division Points. Both trains connect at Memphis with fast Illinois Central and other trains for all points.)

No. 36. (Leland Accommodation)—Leave Vicksburg 4:30 p. m.; arrive Leland 7:45 p. m.

No. 35. (Leland Accommodation)—Leave Leland 6:25 a. m.; arrive Vicksburg 9:30 a. m.

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

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.

TOWN LOTS.
 Having acquired the Davis Addition to the Town of Providence and the field immediately adjoining the town. I offer the same for sale at from \$15 to \$50 per lot according to location, Titles perfect.
 CLIFTON F. DAVIS,
 Lake Providence, La.

BRICK, BRICK, BRICK.
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.

GROVES
MAKES CHILDREN AS FAT AS PIGS
TASTELESS CHILL TONIC
 IS JUST AS GOOD FOR ADULTS. WARRANTED. PRICE 50 cts.
 GALEATA, ILL., Nov. 15, 1893.
 Paris Medicine Co., St. Louis, Mo.
 Gentlemen—We sold last year 69 bottles of GROVES' TASTELESS CHILL TONIC and have bought three more already this year. In all our experience of 14 years in the drug business, have never sold an article that gave such universal satisfaction as your Tonic. Yours truly,
 ALBEE, CLARK & CO.
 For sale at the Guenard drug store.
 50c Undershirts selling at 20 and 30c at Levy's closing out at 30c.

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)

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