

The Pioneer.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.
CHARLES DUPATY, Editor.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
 One copy, one year.....\$3 00
 One copy, six months.....1 50
 Single copies.....10
 Payable invariably in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES:
 First insertion, per square.....\$1 50
 Each subsequent insertion.....75 cents.
 Professional cards (one year).....\$12 50
 Candidates.....12 50

All judicial advertisements must be paid for on the last day of publication, or on the day of sale.
 Communications may be addressed simply "PIONEER, Napoleonville, La."

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Anonymous letters, communication, etc. of any nature whatever, intended for publication in the PIONEER, must invariably be accompanied by the real name of the writer, or else will be declined. When so specified, the name will be withheld. There will be no deviation to this rule.

Subscribers who fail to receive their papers regularly, will confer a special favor by notifying us of the fact.

The President of the Police Jury has received the following card from the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Baton Rouge, to which the notice of parties interested is invited:

BATON ROUGE, Aug. 1, 1877.
 The annual session of this Institution will begin on the first Wednesday of October and close on the last Wednesday of June. All the deaf and dumb of the State between the ages of eight and twenty-five years, not rendered unable by sickness or mental incapacity to pursue the course of study, are entitled to an education free of charge for board or tuition.

JOHN PRESTON,
 Superintendent.

Oscar Folse, Esq., of the popular commission house of Francioni & Folse, New Orleans, was a guest at the Washington Hotel on Tuesday last. Mr. Folse was here on business connected with his commission house, and is the same popular Oscar as of yore. This accommodating house is now in high favor with our planters and will receive a good share of public patronage. Both members of the firm are highly esteemed by our planters, and we bespeak for them a liberal patronage for the fall season. Success for you, gentlemen, and a heavy fall trade. The full patronage of the parish will be awarded to this reliable firm, if we are not sadly mistaken. See their card in our advertising columns.

Lewis Guion, Esq., and wife left on Friday last for Canada and the various intermediate pleasure resorts on the route. *Bon voyage*, with the fond hope that both may return thoroughly invigorated by the cooling, bracing breezes of a more Northern clime.

The numerous friends of F. W. Pike, Esq., will be pleased to learn of his return from Point Clear, in improved health. There is every indication that our esteemed friend will soon regain his former robust health.

Mr. Albert Girard, the genial and trustworthy clerk of that prominent wholesale grocer, commission merchant and dealer in wines and liquors, No. 35 Decatur street, N. O., A. F. Hickman, put in his annual appearance at the Washington Hotel this week. Mr. Girard was accompanied by his brother, Alcide Girard, Esq., who visited this parish in the interests of Battles' Steam Rice Mill, of which Mr. H. A. Battles is the well-known proprietor. This, as will be seen by the card of Mr. Battles published in our advertising columns, is located on St. Joseph street, between Commerce and New Levee, New Orleans, and its staunch proprietor guarantees entire satisfaction to customers in every instance.

It is certainly to the highest interests of rice planters to ship their rough rice to those who make the business of milling this product a specialty. Superior qualities of rice are thus obtained and better prices returned to the producers. Mr. Battles could not have secured the services of a more competent and popular representative to introduce his establishment into public notice in the rice growing region than Mr. Alcide Girard. To Messrs. Albert and Alcide Girard and their employers, we cordially commend those of our citizens who seek strict integrity, experience and intelligence in commercial transaction.

Navigation During Low Water.

A serious question presents itself to the inhabitants of Bayou Lafourche at this time, and we may as well look it squarely in the face if we wish to avoid the evils and inconveniences which we shall suffer if our navigation should be entirely suspended. At this time, the flatboats, which bring our supplies from New Orleans, are seriously impeded in their progress by the shoals in the upper portion of the bayou; in fact we may say with truth that they have been delayed for several days and are forced to ship their cargoes from boat to boat in order to descend the bayou. The low stage of water has not yet been reached, which, as a matter of course, will increase the evils of which we complain, and the end will be that we shall be compelled to haul our supplies from Donaldsonville to enable us to live and carry on our farming operations. This is bad enough, but how will it be when we wish to forward sugar and molasses to meet engagements, in the city, which will have to be done whilst we are busy in taking off our crops?

Some will say that the owners of steamers and flatboats should subscribe the amount and have the necessary work executed to give us navigation. It is true that they would be benefitted, finding profitable employment for their boats; but the planters and merchants will also reap a great benefit from the improvement of low water navigation, and it is but fair that all those who are interested should assist in bringing about the good work. We understand that the owners of the steamers in our trade are willing to contribute liberally in money and lend their services in superintending such work as may be undertaken.

This improvement should be executed by the Congress of the United States, as the lower portion of the Lafourche was (by orders of Gen. Jackson) seriously injured by the felling of trees in its channel to prevent the navigation by English boats during the war of 1812. These obstructions created islands, which seriously impeded the flow of water, and the evil has increased from year to year until the outlet of our stream has continued to be more shallow with each succeeding year; as the head at the Mississippi has continued to enlarge, our bayou may be represented by a trumpet, with the large end to receive the water and the small end to discharge it. This is the reason why we suffer such inconvenience during high water, the outlet being contracted the water can not escape as rapidly as it enters. All this gives us a fair claim on the government for speedy relief; yet, to our knowledge, petitions have been annually forwarded to Congress since the year 1846, and so far the only thing done by the government was to order a survey, which was made last year, and a report of the same returned to the proper department.

Another may say that the State should do something for us, to which we assent; but in the meantime we suffer by the delay, for the State can do nothing until the Legislature assembles.

This brings us to the question: Can we not do something to help ourselves? and we say, we can,

if we will throw aside petty jealousies and unite in one common effort to accomplish what is entirely practicable, and can be done during the present season of low water.

It is not within our recollection that navigation has been obstructed so early in the season; and when we reflect that the bayou lacks a foot or eighteen inches of being at low water mark, it is easy to calculate the trouble ahead arising from a want of water of sufficient depth for flatboats. This state of affairs may continue until January, and we have known the streams to remain low much later in the season. Under ordinary circumstances a large portion of our crops find their way to market during that time, and detention would be productive of serious complications to the planters and the merchants who make advances on the growing crops.

Works of this kind are sometimes effected by a general subscription; yet there is a serious objection to this plan, because some are liberal and others are not so. In an undertaking in which all are interested some plan should be adopted, which will place the amount subscribed on some equal basis, and we presume this plan can be agreed upon by the parties interested. We understand that some data will be furnished in a few days, on which estimates can be based as to the cost of the work, and then it is proposed to call a public meeting to take this matter into consideration, and adopt such plans as may be deemed best for the general interest.

The parish of Lafourche, also, has an interest in this matter, for should dredging be resorted to the lower part of the bayou, and all riparian proprietors of that parish, would find a material relief in levee building.

We should like to have your assistance, Uncle Silas, in calling public attention to this matter.

A Political Experiment.

To be a successful politician one must be a partisan, is one of the apothegms handed down to us from the earliest history of Republican forms of government. In other words, a distribution of the "loaves and fishes" must be made where they will do the most good, and each President who desires a re-election must adhere strictly to this rule or take the chances of defeat for a re-nomination to the office.

Judged by these data, Mr. Hayes does not expect to be a candidate for a second term, for he is disposed, as far as he can control matters, to get rid of official influence in elections. In theory, we advocate the same views, as they are calculated to cause selections for offices to be made from the honest and deserving instead of the wire-pullers and ambitious.

The patronage and influence of the government are immense, and if brought to bear must exercise a weighty influence on the selection and success of candidates. Recent events, as exemplified by the different State conventions which have been held, prove conclusively that politicians fail to express their real sentiments when opposed to the power and patronage of the government. As in the convention of Maine, when pushed to the wall they simply ignored the question of opposition to the Southern policy of the adminis-

tration, and reserved their bitterness for some future arena. There is one remedy for this evil: an amendment to the constitution, extending the Presidential term to six years, without the right of re-election. Under this extension each President would act for the best interests of his country, uninfluenced by what would most subserve the interests of his party. It is more than probable that the ambition of Mr. Hayes will be fully satisfied with four years of occupancy of the White House, and he can afford to deviate from the customs of his predecessors. Civil service reform is undoubtedly best for the country, but if carried out properly and impartially will act as a wet blanket on those who are so active and zealous at elections. "To the victor belongs the spoils," has long been a very popular doctrine with the successful politicians, and if the policy attempted to be introduced by Mr. Hayes be successful, it is probable that the individuals who are elected to office will be representative men, and not those who make a trade of politics.

COMPETITION DEFIED!

THE GREAT SECRET OF SUCCESS IN TRADE—NO SUCH OFFERS EVER MADE BEFORE IN ASSUMPTION PARISH.

If any one truly comprehends the mystery of thriving in business, it is that liberal and enterprising merchant and prominent public citizen, David Levy. Last week Mr. Levy conceived the happy idea of appropriating a quarter of a column in this widely circulated journal to a publication of his magnificent stock of dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes, etc., which he proposes to sell regardless of costs in order to make room for an immense stock of fall and winter goods coming.

If dealers in articles of prime necessity will only consult their best interests, they will not fail to visit his princely establishment in this village and see for themselves that he means business. No merchant anywhere can excel him in cheapness, superiority of goods and fair dealings.

Mr. Levy specifies his goods and prices, and his numerous friends and customers here know that there is no two ways about him; what he says he means. A more elegant and well assorted stock of merchandize cannot be found in the South. If people want bargains we can truthfully tell them that they can be found at David Levy's superb brick store, at the corner of Levee and Canal streets.

See his advertisement and note the low prices at which he offers dry goods, to say nothing of a large and varied stock of groceries, hardware, etc.

Friend L. U. Folse, Esq., had the sad misfortune to lose his infant child on Wednesday last, aged 7 weeks. The bereaved family have our fullest sympathies.

Death has been busy among the ranks of illustrious men of late. Its lightning strokes have indeed been hurled against the knarled oaks of the forest. In rapid succession such celebrities have fallen, as Ben DeBar, Brigham Young, E. L. Davenport, Raphael Semmes; and now is flashed across the cable the startling intelligence of the great Thiers' death.

It is thought here that Morton will entirely recover.

Weather and Crops.

The showers have come at last, and the effect on the cane has been highly beneficial. The same rain a month earlier would have enabled us to make a better crop of sugar than that of last year. Dry seasons are usually favorable to the production of cane; should the growth be sufficient and the frost not visit us too early, we should still be able to make a good show in sugar statistics. So far we have had no storm of wind to blow the cane down badly, though in some few instances it has been prostrated in patches. The corn crop now being gathered is better than the average, and though the cane crop may fall short, yet money will be saved by the extra quantity of corn made. Rice, though planted this year on a diminished area, has done well, and those engaged in its cultivation have every reason to be satisfied with the year's work.

The health of the parish is fair, though there has been a greater tendency to congestion this season than usual.

Amusements Ahead.

The Young Men's Social Club is making extensive preparations for their grand ball at the Firemen's Hall, on Wednesday, the 26th of this month. The committee of arrangements has already engaged the Donaldsonville String Band, which is not excelled in the State for real, genuine ball-room music. The leader of the band, in his acceptance of this engagement, states that his full corps of musicians will officiate on this occasion. The Firemen's Hall will be thoroughly renovated, decorated and provided with every appliance calculated to render the visitors comfortable, gay and joyous. The attendants will also be liberally supplied with splendid refreshments. The club makes no charge for admission to the dancing saloon, the affair being wholly given at the expense of the members.

If energy, good will and a lavish expenditure of money, time and united action among our young men will secure success in a praiseworthy undertaking, we cannot conceive how our gallant friends can possibly fail to have their brightest anticipations realized.

Those who at their own individual expense seek to contribute to the innocent diversions of gay and happy young ladies and gentlemen of the country, deserve the full meed of praise.

Under the inspiration of the recent fruitful showers of rain and rapidly returning prosperity of the parish, our people will enjoy the sound of the merry dancing bell.

Scarcity of Mechanics.

In every city journal there is a general complaint of a want of work for mechanics. At the present time there is a general and active demand among our sugar planters for carpenters, brick-masons, engineers, etc., the local mechanics being overrun with work. The largest contractors here complain that they cannot procure the requisite number of mechanics to enable them to comply with their contracts. Excellent opportunities are now presented in this parish for competent and reliable men in all the mechanical departments herein referred to. Since the death of that valua-

ble standby, Charles Steinman, there is a void here in the copper, tin and sheet iron repairing and manufacturing line. A man or two, well versed in this business, cannot fail to succeed in our village. To such as wish to embark in the enterprise, our village offers every advantage, and now is the accepted time to commence.

We are pained to learn, from the New Orleans Democrat, that the Hon. Frederick Duffel, Mayor of Donaldsonville, has lost a lovely and interesting babe aged 5 months. We tender friend Duffel our heartfelt condolences.

Great Sacrifice IN DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, BOOTS, SHOES, &c.

To be sold regardless of Costs, in order to make room for my immense Stock of

FALL AND WINTER GOODS COMING.

DAVID LEVY

Invites his friends and customers to come and examine for themselves, as the Prices are lower than ever offered before in this Parish.

- Prints fast Colors, - 6 1/2 a yrd.
- Lonsdale Cotton, - 10 " "
- Fruit of the Loom, - 10 " "
- Apron Check, - 10 " "
- Heavy Jeans, - 20 " "
- Cotonade, - 20 " "

and one thousand and one different articles—too numerous to mention. Therefore give a call to **DAVID LEVY,**

NAPOLEONVILLE.

N. B.—On account of Holy days my Store will be closed Saturday and Sunday, September 8 and 9, also Monday, September 17, 1877.

NOTICE.

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, PARISH OF ASSUMPTION, 15th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT.

The following named persons have been drawn by the Jury Commissioners to serve as jurors for the November term of the 15th Judicial District Court, to be begun and holden at Napoleonville on Monday, the 5th day of November, 1877, to wit:

FOR FIRST WEEK.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Augustin Martinez | Trasmond Daigle |
| August Verret | C. P. Sheldin |
| E. C. Martin, Jr. | Anderson Cooper |
| Vilfred Bourg | F. T. Chimi |
| Henry A. Munson | Drauzin Canienne |
| Leo Canienne | Achille J. Dugas |
| Lucien Charlet | Thomas Chaff |
| Desire N. Carmouche | Pierre Canienne |
| Joseph Mollins | Geovain Daigle |
| Martin Heim | Paul Decourro |
| Rempton Dugas | Honoré Folse |
| Joseph Davis | L. A. Dugas |
| Adolph Weil | Trasmond Daigle |
| Simon Delaune | Drauzin Landry |
| John E. Denee | Supervielle Landry |
| Oscar Folse | J. B. Guadyr |
| Henry Fleteher | Thomas Dyer |
| O'Neal Delaune | John Gonzales, Jr. |
| Marcel Manquet | J. E. Roseman |
| H. N. Ellis | Louis Delaune |
| Cléophas Comeau | Joseph Le Blanc |
| Alonzo J. Munson | Trasmond David |
| R. U. J. Gauthreaux | Fitzhugh Mavor |
| Bienvenu Guadyr | Camille Daigle |
| Arceane Delaune | John Dickerson |

FOR SECOND WEEK.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Silver Gauthreaux | John Webb, Jr. |
| Pierre Juliet | W. H. Bessley |
| Spicer Jones | Ferdinand Delaune |
| Bazile Landry | Nicolas Duff |
| Ernest L. Mout | Pierre J. Gilbert |
| Desid. Bergeron | Maxile Boudreaux |
| Harry Jennings | Théodule Chaff |
| John Marais | Amédée Bourg |
| Alexander Chaff | Allen Hite |
| J. Bro. Neizeroff | Adolphe Loree |
| S. B. Bell | Jules Bernard |
| Venant Hébert | Nathan Levy |
| Murville Landry | Frank Bergeron |
| Joseph Gaston | Engene Charlet |
| Louisgton Blanchard | Basil Ben. |

FOR THIRD WEEK.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Neville Blanchard | Eduard Laulac |
| Frank Pugh | E. D. Barton |
| Silver Boudreaux | E. E. Laune |
| John Pettway | James P. Kock |
| Théodule Canienne | Ozémé Blanchard |
| Horace Mavor | B. Gardner |
| Thomas Loftas | Sam Savage |
| Desire Arceneaux | Valer Boudreaux |
| Jules Bergeron | Elphege Triche |
| W. W. Pugh, Jr. | Mayar Cahen |
| Louis Frantz | Valfred Lavue |
| Arthur Ancelet | Alphonse Kling |
| Antoine Albares | Frank R. Kittredge |
| F. A. Bienvenu | Emile Le Blanc |
| M. Hasiman | Edward Vives |

NOTICE!

All persons holding claims against the School Board of this Parish, are notified to file the same without delay with August Hallow, Treasurer of the School Board of this Parish.

J. E. LeBLANC,
 Secretary Parish Board,
 Parish of Assumption, August 15, 1877.