

The Pioneer.

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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.

Mr. L. Fisher, editor of L'Indicateur, No. 98 Chartres st., N. O., is the sole agent of the PIONEER of Assumption for the city of New Orleans.

All persons in the city of New Orleans desirous of subscribing for our paper, or inserting cards can have their orders filled by applying to Mr. L. Fisher, 98 Chartres st., N. O.

We would respectfully suggest to the President of the School Board of this parish, that he should hold a regular meeting of the board on a fixed day in each month, at Napoleonville; and the attendance of himself and Secretary to sign warrants for school teachers, would be a great convenience to them.

On Tuesday last we were visited by S. N. Van Praag, Esq., agent and correspondent of the New Orleans Times, who came hither in quest of information for his paper, and to solicit subscriptions for the use and benefit of the enterprising journal he so fitly represents.

Irrespective of its conservative opinions, to which Mr. Van Praag says it leans, there is no paper published in the city which gives more general, valuable and correct intelligence. Although we may differ with many of the principles now held by the Times, we are ever ready to accord to it honest convictions, and no ordinary ability in its managements and editorial utterances on all questions of public moment, both State and national.

There is always, or should be, a fraternal feeling pervading the press, and all its members should arise above party prejudices and glory in the pecuniary success of the craft. Taking this view, therefore, to live and let live, we congratulate Mr. Van Praag, whom we found a courteous and well-bred gentleman, on his having added many subscribers to his list while here, and trust that his visit has proved both profitable and agreeable.

Fresh Groceries at the Ferry Store.

The Ferry Store has just received a splendid supply of Grayere and Leimbourg cheese and a complete stock of lady peas in cans. Also, a choice assortment of family flour of the best brands, as well as a complete variety of superior family groceries, all of which will be sold at the cheapest rates and with full guarantee as to quality.

Christmas is Coming?

Before our next issue, this venerated day will again greet us, replete with sad and sweet memories of by-gone days; indeed, there are none whose reminiscences are not varied by the changing events of this world. But, as a general rule, our associations as connected with this great festival are pleasant, and bring vividly to mind the dear friends whose society made the day cheerful and its memory green.

On that dear old festival the minds of many aged persons, as they cheerfully are reverently sip from the foaming goblet the time honored egg-nogg will revert to that happy period of youth when abiding faith in Santa Klaus imparted a strange joy and gladness to their hearts, when the excited imagination pictured in brilliant colors the unknown gifts which were to be secretly deposited in stockings and cosey nooks by the midnight visitor.

What efforts were made by the youngsters to keep open their wearied lids and watch the arrival of the sleigh with its rotund driver, and hear hoofs of the tiny reindeer as they pattered on the paternal roof. At a later period, how miserable were these same youngsters when their curiosity was gratified, and with its gratification the annual visits of the good Santa Klaus ceased, and Christmas morning was no longer greeted with loud shouts and heartfelt rejoicings.

This festival should be kept in the old style, and the thanksgiving day of Puritan origin should not supersede it. Keep both days, if you will, but let us praise our Maker in the good old style of our ancestors and quaff the rich, golden liquid, which, from time immemorial, has been revered and well-sustained part of the celebration.

Let us make our children as happy as we were at the same age, and in the midst of our busy lives lay aside for one day its care and perplexities; endeavor—in adding to the enjoyment of the young—to feel that our youthful feelings, so long kept in the back ground, have once more come to the surface and which we celebrate this holy day by returning thanks for the blessing vouchsafed, let us also consult the enjoyment and happiness of our offspring for whom Christmas comes but once a year.

Russia and Turkey.

The Russians have been decidedly successful of late and won the strong fortifications of Plevna, taking 400 guns and about 60,000 prisoners. The accounts state that the Turks, though their strength was greatly impaired by hunger and sickness, fought desperately to the last, and finally surrendered and were made prisoners in a gallant attempt to cut their way out of the besieged city.

Of the prisoners taken 20,000 are sick or wounded.

Uncle Silas asks, in the last number of the Sentinel, "Why is a bald head like Heaven?"

Because there is no parting and no more dying.—We guess he knows all about it.

The Future of the Colored Race.

To attain distinction and eminence as a race requires both time and a certain quantum of ambition. A single individual, however gifted by nature and favored by circumstances, does not become distinguished in the world of letters, or attain notoriety among his fellows by any patented process or royal road to distinction. Time is essential to success, and that time must be diligently used in acquiring that knowledge which will fit him for the position he seeks to occupy. There are thousands among us who have no claims which entitle him to the name of "admirable critchur," yet we can aspire to success as good citizens, intelligent members of society, and in the due performance of those duties which devolves on us as members of a free government.

Race improvement is necessarily very gradual, and, as applied to those whose early opportunities were extremely limited, they must not despair if their improvement is less rapid than they hoped for. Among the white race there are many who are ignorant, and have no ambition to improve their minds or condition in life. This is a misfortune for any people, but it requires all sorts of folks to make up the world's population; what has existed from the beginning of civilization will probably continue to the end.

The world, amidst all its difference of opinion, has come to the conclusion, that the diffusion of knowledge is the surest basis for the advancement of a people, and that they take rank among their fellows in proportion to their appreciation and recognition of this standard.

The emancipation of four millions of slaves in our midst naturally produced much bitterness of feeling among us, and more particularly with those who were at one blow deprived not only of wealth, but were reduced to poverty. Time reconciles humanity to many things, which at the first blast produce any thing save an agreeable state of feeling. At any rate, we have made up our minds to submit with good grace to the inevitable and to pursue such a course towards our former slaves as to ameliorate their condition and fit them to perform their duties as good citizens.

The Republican party has made a great deal of political capital by playing on their prejudices, to the detriment of their former owners, and professing to improve their condition by the establishment of schools for their children. True, they did establish schools, supported by the whites who paid the taxes, but filled their pockets with the money which was collected for the maintenance of the teachers. A change of government has brought many of these iniquitous transactions to light, and they exhibit a terrible state of speculation and dishonesty. They also used as an argument against the Democrats—who essayed to restore the State government to a respectable position, and to elect officers who would administer the funds collected from the people with discretion and honesty—that the rights of the colored citizens would be ignored and their schools would be closed. This was mere assertion, and its fulfillment was left to the future.

Happily for the country and the welfare of its citizens, we can point with pride to a large number of schools for both races all over the State, in which no distinction is made in regard to the qualifications or pay of the instructors who have them in charge.

But in addition to this, the Superintendent of Education has recently established in New Orleans a normal school for the education of colored teachers, in order that their schools may be supplied with instructors of their own race, thoroughly trained and perfectly competent to teach in the public schools.

We are persuaded that the efforts in the city to bring about mixed schools are confined to but few; and so far as the country is concerned the colored people prefer that their children should be educated in schools set apart exclusively for their instruction, and will prefer no complaint as long as discriminations are not made against them and they enjoy similar apportionments and advantages with the white race.

We feel ourselves justified in saying that race prejudices are rapidly passing away, and in a few years, when the educational advantages now offered have been used freely and intelligently, our great step will have been made towards shrouding the past and opening a bright vista for the future. Gov. Nicholls and the Democrats have fully redeemed the pledges made to the colored people in the past, and ere long they will recognize the Democratic party as that of honesty, progress, and true to promises made previous to the late election.

When this era of good feeling between the races takes place, we shall once more be a united people, and the great point of competition will hereafter be, which race will contribute most to the general prosperity and advancement of our State, in all that will add to the welfare and happiness of her citizens.

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GUION & FOLSE,

Attorneys at Law, NAPOLÉONVILLE, ASSUMPTION, LA.

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N. B.—L. U. FOLSE, Notary Public.

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STATE OF LOUISIANA.

PARISH COURT.

PARISH OF ASSUMPTION.

Succession of Desire Le Blanc.

No. 1173.

WHEREAS, Emile L. Hebert, of the parish of Assumption, has petitioned the Court for Letters of administration on the estate of the late Desire Le Blanc, deceased intestate, notice is hereby given to all whom it may concern to show cause, within ten days from date of this notice, why the prayer of the said petitioner should not be granted.

By order of the Court,

THOMAS DIVINE, Clerk.

Assumption, La., December 10, 1877.

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KEEFE & BODLEY,

Are prepared to do Foundry Work, Machine work, and general Blacksmithing at the lowest prices.

We have refitted the Foundry with the most improved tool, and solicit a continuance of the Planters' patronage.

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SUCCESSION SALES

STATE OF LOUISIANA.

PARISH COURT.

PARISH OF ASSUMPTION.

No. 1163.

Succession of Gedeon Guedry and Anelise Landry, his wife.

By virtue of a decree of sale rendered by the Honorable the Parish Court of the parish of Assumption, on the 20th day of December, 1877, I will offer for sale at public auction on the premises, on

Saturday, January 26, 1878,

between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M., the following described property belonging to the above succession, to-wit:

10. A certain sugar plantation with the buildings and improvements thereon, situated in said parish of Assumption, right bank of Bayou Lafourche, about two miles above the village of Paincourtville, bounded above by the lands of Jean Gonzales & Co., and below by that of Ozimé Blanchard, and measuring three arpents front on Bayou Lafourche by a depth, between parallel lines, of fifty-five arpents more or less.

20. A certain tract of land, also situate in said parish, in Saint Martin's Bruly, in section No. township, range, measuring four arpents and a half front by a depth of fourteen arpents, bounded on the east side by lands of Trsimond Trahan, on the west side by the lands of Désiré U. LeBlanc, on the south side by the lands belonging formerly to Doctor Martin, and on the north side by the lands of (formerly) Gustave Lauve.

30. Another tract of land also in said parish, at Coteau St. Helene, in section, township, range, measuring seven arpents front by a depth of fourteen arpents, bounded towards Bayou Lafourche, by land of Joseph Aucoin, towards Grand Bayou by land of (formerly) Clairville Brand.

40. The undivided half of a certain tract of land also situate in said parish, on the Bay of Lake Verret, as being in fractional section 18, township 13, range 13 E., and measuring fifty superficial arpents, also the undivided half of the buildings thereon.

50. Another tract of land in Bruly St. Martin, in said parish, in section, township, range, measuring three arpents front by a depth of fourteen arpents, bounded north by lands of Harmozine Giroir, south by that of Sarazin Marrois, east by that of Lucien Landry and south by that of Trsimond Trahan.

Also the following movable property to-wit:

Nine mules, two plough horses, one buggy horse, two mares, one pair oxen, one bull, two large carts, one small cart, one carriage and harness, five sets of harness, five ploughs, five spades, four shovels, eight hoes, twelve cane knives, one lot tools, two iron pulleys, twelve silver forks, twelve silver spoons, ten silver tea-spoons, one piano, one silver ladle, one gold watch, house-hold furniture, kitchen utensils, poultry, &c., &c.

Terms and Conditions.

The movable effects up to fifty dollars CASH, and for all sums over fifty dollars, one-half cash and the balance payable in the month of January, 1879, said balance to be represented by promissory notes with good and solvent security, payable to the order of the Administrator, Jean Baptiste Guedry, with interest from maturity until paid at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, and the landed property, one-fourth cash and the balance payable in three equal instalments, one-third in January, 1879, one-third in January, 1880, and one-third in January, 1881, purchasers furnishing their note with good and solvent security in solido payable to the order of the Administrator, Jean Baptiste Guedry; all of said notes to bear interest from maturity until paid at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, and in case of Judicial proceedings to recover the payment of said notes or any part thereof, purchasers to pay five per cent. for attorneys fees on the amount sued for; the land to remain specially mortgaged and hypothecated with the vendors privilege, and the clause de non aliando to secure the payment of said notes, eventual interest and attorneys fees.

P. J. GILBERT,

Auctioneer.

Parish of Assumption, December 21, 1877.

R. N. SIMS,

Attorney at Law,

DONALDSONVILLE, LA.

Will practice in the Parishes of Assumption, Assumption, St. James and St. John the Baptist.

Business promptly attended to.