

THE TRUE DEMOCRAT

Official Journal of the Parish of West Feliciana and School Board.

W. W. LEAKE, Jr., Pub. and Prop.

ST. FRANCISVILLE, WEST FELICIANA PARISH, LA., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1896.

VOL. 5.--NO. 42.

Professional Cards.

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St. Francisville, La.

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NEWSY ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Condensed into Short and Pithy Paragraphs For Our Subscribers.

FRANKLIN TO HAVE WATER WORKS.

Criminal Case Continued--To Improve the Jetties--Sugar House Burned--Forged Four Checks--Wanted \$20,000 Damages.

Monroe's New Church.

Work on the new Presbyterian church, which will be the finest in Monroe, La., is progressing quite rapidly and satisfactorily to all parties concerned. The church will be modern in architecture and a thing of beauty when completed.

Sugar House Burned.

The sugar house on Messrs. Picard & Co.'s Live Oak plantation, located at Dutechtown, near Donaldsonville, caught fire between 12 and 1 o'clock Friday morning and was burned to the ground. The flames started at or near the bagasse chimney in some unknown manner. The house had been in operation since last Monday.

Criminal Case Continued.

The case of Chas. McMinn and Geo. Hendricks, white, charged with shooting William Jones, colored, on the Bayou road, leading out of Alexandria, about two months ago, was to have been tried in the district court Thursday, but owing to the physical inability of the wounded man to be present, it was continued until the next term of court.

Franklin to Have Waterworks.

A vote was taken Monday last in Franklin on the proposition to amend the town charter by authorizing the mayor and council to contract for a system of waterworks for supplying artesian well water, the cost not to exceed \$25,000, and to issue bonds maturing in ten years and bearing 6 per cent interest. The vote was practically unanimous, being 143 for to 1 against the amendment.

Negro Boy Killed.

Friday night about 8 o'clock, near Franklinton, La., Buck Burkhalter shot and killed a negro called "Boy" Reid. Burkhalter was playing with the violin while the negro danced. When the latter ran out of the house Burkhalter called to him to stop. The negro came to a halt and Burkhalter leveled a pistol at him and fired, the ball entering the negro's heart. It is claimed that it was believed the pistol was not loaded.

Help for the Drought Sufferers.

The drought sufferers of Louisiana will receive a limited amount of aid from the State Government, and while the aid may seem quite small yet our drought stricken friends should rejoice in the thought that it is better little than nothing, for surely this country is in the most depressed financial condition ever witnessed by the oldest inhabitants, and our gallant yeomen are having to face financial straits unparalleled in the history of this glorious American government.

To Improve the Jetties.

A special meeting of the Mechanics, Dealers and Lumbermen's Exchange was called to order at 1 o'clock p. m., Friday, at New Orleans, President Harrod presiding, Secretary Dirmeyer at his post, and a quorum present. The meeting was called to take action concerning the effort to be made by the States and cities of the Mississippi Valley to secure congressional action to preserve the navigation of the mouth of the river, and to consider further whether the Exchange was willing to contribute. Delegates will be sent from this Exchange to attend the convention to be held in Washington, Dec. 17, 1896.

Revenue Cutter Smith's Command.

The revenue cutter Smith had a new commander Friday morning. First Lieut. E. C. Clayton, who has been stationed at Bay St. Louis for some time past, who was, some six or seven years ago, in command of the Smith, Thursday assumed charge again; and First Lieut. A. Bahner, who has been her commander since the regime of Capt. Hand, which ended with his transfer to the Wilnot, the new revenue cutter now watching for filibusters off the coast of Florida, made his adieu to the crew of the boat and the officials of the custom house with whom his brief stay in New Orleans has made him acquainted.

Wagner Wanted \$20,000.

The jury in the case of John Wagner vs. the Illinois Central railroad, which has been on trial in the United States circuit court at New Orleans Louisiana last Thursday brought in a verdict for the plaintiff in the sum of \$10,000. The suit was for \$20,000. Wagner alleged that while trying to beat his way to St. Louis on a freight train he was kicked off by a brakeman because he had no money, falling un-

der the wheels of the train, which was moving at considerable speed. This was his testimony. The railroad attorney sought to prove that he fell while trying to board the train, or slipped off while it was in motion. Rather, that was the theory advanced by them, for the brakeman who kicked Wagner off the train could not be located, and so there was no positive proof in the premises to be offered.

Four Forged Checks.

J. Bertrand is behind the bars of the Central Station, at New Orleans, on two charges of forgery. He is a young man well known in the city, but being short of funds, it is alleged, he concluded to raise the shortage by giving a number of forged checks. The facts were reported at police headquarters and Chief Flotte detailed Detective Kerwin on the case and he arrested Bertrand at the corner of St. Charles and Union streets. The complaint upon which Bertrand was taken into custody was preferred by Mr. Joe Kern, the shoe-dealer. Bertrand gave Mr. Kern a check for \$15 drawn on the Metropolitan Bank to which was attached the signature of Mr. Peter Steff. When the check was presented for payment it was declared to be a forgery. The check was taken in part payment of a pair of shoes and Mr. Kern gave Bertrand the difference in money. It was then discovered that the prisoner had also passed a check for \$20, to which Mr. Steff's signature had been attached, on Mr. Sintes, proprietor of the Jewel Saloon on Gravier street. He also passed another worthless check at Artigue's bar-room, corner of Carondelet and Common streets, and a fourth worthless check on Mr. Joseph Dunn, of the firm of M. F. Dunn & Bro. The prisoner, when seen at the station Thursday night, said that the affair would be straightened out by his friends.

LATEST LOUISIANA NEWS.

Knocked Down and Robbed.

An itinerant sewing machine and clock repairer by the name of Ford was knocked on the head and robbed of \$156 Sunday night about 8 o'clock near the Watkins railroad crossing, one mile from Alexandria. Ford says he was hit on the head twice with a heavy club. His trousers pockets were cut open and his money taken out. He was found a short time after the occurrence, taken to town, and Dr. R. L. Lockett, parish physician, attended him and dressed his wounds. His head was cut badly and looked as if it had been done with a knife. Ford had only been in that community a short time and was on his way to Woodworth when assaulted.

Postoffice Robbery.

In the arrest of George W. Wheeler, a jeweler at Bunkie, Monday morning, Postoffice Inspector Dice has effected the capture of one of the boldest of swindlers. From the information that the inspector has received it appears that Wheeler is a jeweler and has only been in Bunkie a short time. He rented a portion of his store to the postmaster of the place and in enjoying the confidence of that official had free access to the office. Nearly all of the mail of Avoyelles parish passes through the Bunkie office and since the movement of the cotton crop and the general revival of business following upon the election, there has been a great deal of registered matter going into Avoyelles. A new railway and other enterprises, served to make the business of the parish enjoy a better proportion of prosperity than is enjoyed in most other sections of the State. The Bunkie office seemed to be doing a thriving business on its own account, and Inspector Dice decided to detail his assistants Fitzgerald, Hamilton and Peer on the case. They went to Avoyelles, and after a careful survey of the situation decided that there was nothing wrong with Uncle Sam's postal service, but that Wheeler was using his position to rob the mails. They decided to send a decoy letter through the mails, and marking the bills to the amount of \$50, forwarded them to one of the interior towns in the parish. Wheeler bit at the bait, and Sunday Inspector Dice was gratified to receive a telegram from Bunkie announcing the arrest of Wheeler with the money on his person.

Railroad Leaders' Conference.

An important conference of railroad labor leaders was held Friday at the Sherman House, Chicago, Ill. Among those present were Chiefs Sargent, Arthur, Clark, Morrissey and Powell, of the firemen, engineers, conductors, trainmen and telegraphers, respectively. The meeting was to consider matters of legislation and to agree on a plan of action for the coming year. A representative will be sent to Washington, as formerly, to look after the interests of the railroad employes in national legislation. The contempt bill, the arbitration bill and the Phillips commission bill will all be pressed for passage. These bills were all left over from last session.

Sentenced to Hang.

Henry White, charged with the murder of Policeman Jackson at Columbus, Ga., was found guilty Tuesday and sentenced to hang January 15, 1897.

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