

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, MARCH 12, 1898.

VOL. VII.--NO 6.

Professional Cards.

Samuel J. Powell, John H. Stone, Clinton, La.
St. Francisville.

POWELL & STONE,
Attorneys - at - Law,
St. Francisville, La.

ROBERT SEMPLE,
Attorney - at - Law,

Will practice in the courts of the 13th and 14th judicial districts. During vacation, will meet clients at the Barton House in Bayou Sara whenever requested.

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W. RICHARDS PERCY,
Attorney-at-Law & Notary Public,
St. Francisville, La.

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ROBT. C. WICKLIFFE,
Attorney - at - Law,

ST. FRANCISVILLE, LA.

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St. Francisville, La.

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LOUISIANA HAPPENINGS.

SOUTHERN HEROES WANT TO SHOW
THEIR LOYALTY.

Electric Light Plant Celebration--Joe Hill Found Guilty of Murder--Two Men Convicted of Murdering a Child--Other Interesting News Items.

Joe Hill Found Guilty of Murder.
Joe Hill, colored, was tried Friday, at Clinton, in the district court for the murder of Margaret Foster, also colored, of January 2nd of this year. The jury returned a verdict of guilty as charged.

Electric Light Plant Celebration.
The members of the city council and a number of citizens repaired this evening to the electric light plant and celebrated the completion of the system of works which are giving such gratifying results. Mayor Caffery and others delivered eloquent toasts over the auspicious event, and several bottles of champagne were broken.

No Cases on the Criminal Docket.
The twenty-second judicial court at Diamond will convene in a few days in criminal session, but will cause labor for the grand jury for only one day. The docket contains not one criminal case, and the parish jail has been empty for weeks. Such a peaceful state of affairs has never been known before on the lower coast.

Four Supposed Burglars Placed in Jail.
Four white men were jailed in Thibodaux Saturday morning. They are supposed to be the parties who blew up the safe in Donaldsonville Thursday night. As they were strangers at Thibodaux, and going from place to place begging for money, they naturally aroused suspicion, and their arrest followed.

Baton Rouge Notes.
Capt. O. B. Steele, manager of the Home Electric Light Company of Baton Rouge, has just closed a contract with Mr. Whittemore, of New Orleans, for a 400-horse power, 60,000-pound Corliss engine, to be placed in running order by the first of next May. Additional electrical machinery has also been purchased, which will double the present capacity of the plant.

Two Men Convicted of Murdering a Child.
John F. Button and W. C. Sheppard, charged with the murder of an infant child of Button's daughter a few weeks ago, were placed on trial at Opelousas, Friday afternoon. The jury, after having deliberated but a short time, returned a verdict of guilty without capital punishment, at about 8 o'clock Friday night. All the parties are white, and the evidence went to show that the child had been drowned in a small stream in the vicinity of Palmetto, in the northern portion St. Landry parish. An application for a new trial was filed and overruled Saturday morning.

Confederate Veterans Enjoy a Big Dinner.
The members of Camp 78, United Confederate Veterans, held their regular quarterly meeting at Amite City, Saturday, and celebrated the occasion with a dinner at Connor's Hall. The viands were all that one desired, and were prepared in a most excellent manner. Besides many veterans, there were several invited guests present, and the occasion was made more enjoyable by several witty and appropriate speeches. While there are only a few of the old veterans left, they are ready to defend their country whenever called for.

Southern Heroes Want to Show Loyalty.
At a meeting of Camp Frank Gardner, United Confederate Veterans, at Lafayette last Saturday, a resolution was unanimously adopted offering the services of the camp to the government of the United States in case of war with Spain or any other country. The roster shows nearly one hundred members, many of whom served in the Virginia and other campaigns, and though hoary headed, still possess unabated that valiant and patriotic spirit displayed on many a bloody battle field. The old veterans are determined if the occasion presents, to prove their loyalty to the union in the discharge of patriotic duty.

First Legal Execution in Franklin Parish.
Friday afternoon at Winnsboro, John Graham, who assassinated his father-in-law, Gip Taylor (both colored), close to Winnsboro in August last, was hanged for the crime. The execution was private, but fifteen persons besides the sheriff being allowed in the guard-house adjoining the jail in which the gallows had been erected. Graham had been tried and found guilty, took an appeal on error to the supreme court and a new trial was granted. On the second trial he was also found guilty. The doomed man was cool and self-possessed on the scaffold and proclaimed his innocence. He said he had made his peace with God and was ready to die although innocent. At 1:40 the trap was sprung. He dangled in the air and in seven and one-half minutes was pronounced dead by the physicians. This is the first hanging by law in that parish.

A New Bank at Crowley.
Mr. A. Kaplan, president of the People's Rice Mill, and representing the

interests in this section of Litchenstein & Hechinger, of New Orleans, has just returned from a trip east. He reports that Lichteinstein & Hechinger have decided to establish a bank in Crowley with a capital of not less than \$100,000. Mr. Kaplan will soon begin the erection of a large two-story brick building on his property on Parkerson avenue, which will be occupied by the new bank, together with the merchandise establishment of Kaplan & Blum. Mr. J. Frankel has organized a mercantile company with a capital stock \$50,000, which concern will occupy a new and commodious brick structure, which Mr. Frankel will build on the site of his present frame store building. Thos. J. Toler is also negotiating for the erection of a brick building on his lot opposite the Crowley bank building. The pretty \$2500 residence of Dr. Warren G. Young, being built by Contractor J. A. Petty, of Abbeville, is about finished. Ex-Mayor P. J. Chappins is figuring on building a \$3000 residence. Dr. Homer Chochoere is building a pretty \$1500 cottage. All contractors report activity in building.

Woman's Parsonage.
Saturday was the third day of the conference of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society being at Lafayette. The meeting Saturday morning was called to order by the president and devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Faventier and prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Herbert. From data furnished by the efficient secretary of the association the correspondent was able to get an idea of the extensive work being done by the members of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This worthy society was organized eleven years ago through the efforts of Miss Lucinda B. Helm, and during that short period 20,000 women have enlisted in the cause and are putting forth every energy to provide every Methodist minister with a comfortable home. Already they have succeeded in building a number of parsonages in localities where the revenues of the church are not sufficiently large to give homes to the ministers. There are 1000 members in Louisiana and thirty-seven auxiliaries. During the past year some \$1300 was paid into the treasury, and it is believed that there will be a considerable increase the coming year. An election of officers resulted in the selection of the same ladies who served during the past year. They are Mrs. F. A. Lyons, president; Mrs. F. E. Ruse, corresponding secretary; Mrs. E. R. Kennedy, secretary, and Mrs. S. A. Montgomery, treasurer. Alexandria was selected as the next meeting place of the society. Invitations were received from the following places: Mer Rouge, Alexandria, Crowley, Lafayette and New Orleans. Rev. W. C. Black, of New Orleans delivered an address Saturday evening on the life and character of Miss Lucinda B. Helm, the founder of the society. The address was very able and well received by the audience. This practically ended the meeting. Sunday no business was transacted, as the day was given to devotional exercises.

ALASKAN NEWS.

Rothschilds will Attempt to Build a Railroad to the Yukon.

That the Rothschilds will attempt to build a railroad to the Yukon is now believed to be certain. The steamer Walcott which arrived at Juneau, Alaska, last Monday, landed a party of over forty men and equipments for railroad building at Pyramid harbor near the Pyramid Harbor Salmon cannery. Lumber was taken along for the purpose. This move is made to hold the town sites until the place had been surveyed in January and the plan of the district at that time was submitted to the surveyor of Alaska. There was filed notice that a grant from the United States was wanted for a railroad terminus there as soon as possible and right of way for a River Dalton trail. The transactions were all accomplished in the name of H. Bratnaber, who is known to be the mining expert and mineral purchasing agent of the Rothschilds and who a few weeks ago left for London to consult with the Rothschilds and to arrange with the Canadian government for the privilege of crossing their territory. Mr. Onderdonk reports that the grades are several per cent. less on the Dalton trail than on the Canadian Pacific and that the climatic difficulties are no more difficult to overcome. It is said here by those who accompanied Bratnaber on his expedition to the interior that he thinks that in several places where the excavations for railroads are necessary enough low grade ore will be loosened to finance many miles of construction. Twenty or thirty employees of the Treadwell company, who have learned of the objects of the expedition, have chartered a tug and a scow and will leave as soon as they can get their stuff loaded for Pyramid harbor, to squat on town lots, that being a profitable form of investment in Alaska at present.

More Trouble for Spala.

The Rebel Chiefs have received a letter from Manila, Philippine Islands soliciting their support for another rebellion against Spanish rule.

THE COURT OF INQUIRY.

ANOTHER SPANISH WARSHIP ARRIVES
IN CUBAN WATERS.

Newspaper Men Arrested at Havana-- Spanish Divers Making Daily Reports To Captain Peral, of the Spanish Court of Inquiry

The Mangrove, with the United States naval court of inquiry on board, arrived at Havana Saturday before noon and at once held a session. Ensign Powelson was examined concerning the work of the divers, over which he was supervision, and his examination was after the recess. Capt. Sampson, the president of the court, said it was impossible to tell any part of the testimony or the conclusion reached.

Three bodies were recovered Saturday from the wreck of the Maine. One of them was identified as that of Robert White, a mess attendant, and another supposed to be that of a man named Stewart. The third body is thought to be that of an oiler.

The Spanish first-class cruiser Almirante Oquendo arrived in Havana harbor at 8:45 o'clock Saturday morning from Spain. She received a welcome from the ferryboats and tugs, on board of which were the civil and military authorities and different societies which had been waiting for the warship's arrival. The docks were crowded with sightseers, rockets were sent up and flags and other decorations were displayed from the vessels in port, the public building and the palaces.

The Almirante Oquendo made a fine appearance as she returned the salute from Fort Cabanas and then saluted the fort and admiral.

Capt. Lasagarta is in command of the Almirante.

The papers at Havana say the new vessel is of the same class as the Vizcaya. The same ceremonies were observed on the arrival of the Almirante Oquendo as were followed out when the Vizcaya reached Havana from New York.

Fitzhugh Lee, Jr., son of the consul general, was among the passengers, who arrived at Havana Saturday on board the Olivette.

The smokestacks of the Maine have been removed. The divers hope to recover more bodies Saturday.

Honore Laine, the correspondent of a New York paper and an alleged French subject has been arrested and imprisoned in Cabanas fortress. A Cuban newspaper man named Pardo was taken into custody at the same time. Laine was formerly imprisoned upon a charge of active complicity with the insurgents. It is said he will be released and sent north on the next steamer.

The court of inquiry at the afternoon session continued the examination of Ensign Powelson, at the conclusion of which an adjournment was taken.

The Spanish divers were down for several hours Saturday. They made daily reports to Capt. Peral, of the Spanish court of inquiry.

Villages Destroyed and People Killed.

Advices received at Mozambique, Africa, Saturday, from the Island of Mayotta, Comoro group, says Mayotta was swept by a cyclone during the night of February 27th. The government buildings were partly destroyed, many of the native villages and crops were destroyed, and large numbers of people were killed or injured. Many of the sufferers were left without any shelter and are now suffering from famine. Mayotta is one of the Comoro Islands, forming, with some adjacent islets, a French colony. The area of the island is 137 square miles. The natives are Mohammedans of mixed African, Arab and Malagasy stock. The population of the island is about 11,000.

Ten Fishermen Drowned.

A dispatch from Memel, Prussia, says that four fishing vessels belonging to that place were wrecked in the storm Friday evening. Ten fishermen were drowned and six others rescued.

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