

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

JUSTICE TO ALL

VOLUME I.

ST. MARTINSVILLE, LA. APRIL 24th. 1886.

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## THE MESSENGER.

### We Must Make Up.

There is no doubt, that with a bridge over the marsh near Lake Tasse, and one over Bayou St Clair would tend to enhance the business of this town many thousands of dollars. Why with the knowledge of the benefits that would follow this has not long ago been done is an enigma we are not prepared to solve. The people of these respective neighborhoods are anxious to do their trading here; and, it seems to us that self-interest should find a way to offer them means to do so. Every year trade which properly belongs to us, is being diverted into other channels, and no effort is made to check it. The fact is palpable that business is not increasing with us; if we are not retrograding we are not advancing; and, worse than all, our neighbors are prospering—if we can judge by surface indications. Now, to regain, what is ours, we must open up all avenues to afford full egress and ingress to and from this town; we must take all chances offering and make the most of our opportunities. The state of lethargy and apparent indifference must be cast aside, and, every one must unite for the betterment of things. St. Martinsville, by her admirable situation and surroundings should be one of the most prosperous towns in the state and yet will be, if the people will but awake to their true interests.

### A Little Money In It.

In its last issue the Messenger adverted to the positive inconvenience experienced by passengers taking the local train here to meet the west bound train at Cade's Station, occasioned by the long wait at the latter place. And when we denominated the condition of things an outrage, we but voiced the sentiments of the traveling public, and, also, of the greater part the people of this town, who, recognize the fact that they are receiving that treatment they have reason to expect. We yet hope that this matter will be forcibly brought to the attention of the railroad magnates, when we trust, the course of complaint will be removed. Now, in the interim we suggest that one of the livery stables at this place start a hack line between this town and Cade. The distance is but seven miles. Let the charge be, say fifty cents, and we believe they would make a little money. For, passengers, in every instance, would prefer taking a conveyance which does not compel them to wait over three hours in a desert. During the summer months the roads are in fine traveling condition, and as the stables are not doing more business than they can conveniently attend to, even an average of three passengers a trip would pay.

Mr. Hoxie, Jay Gould's railroad manager was hostler when a boy in a livery stable in Iowa.

### NO GO.

Last week W. B. Merchant, Esq., addressed a letter to Judge Fred Gates requesting that he and Judge Fontelieu agree to empower the courts to decree a new election, in this district for the Judgeship, saying, at the same time that he thought Judge Fontelieu favorable to the plan. Judge Gates answered that his acquiescence in the suggestion would practically be a confession of the truthfulness of the charges against him, and intimating that he is more than willing that the Courts pass upon the issues involved, in as much as he expects to bring to light matters which he would like the people to become acquainted with. And to cap the climax, as it were, concludes as follows: "Awaiting the actions of the Courts permit me to quote the saying of a celebrated French Marshal: J'y suis, j'y reste." Evidently Gates knows when he has got a soft thing.

### Award of Merit to Sisters of Mercy.

The news as to the conferring of the diploma of merit was in all the New Orleans papers on Sunday 18th. inst. Our Convent in St. Martin is a branch of the Convent of Mercy of New Orleans, which has been so distinguished, and pursues the same System of education, &c: as follows.

The diploma of merit of the North, South and Central American Exposition has been awarded to the schools of the Sisters of Mercy, of New Orleans for their educational display in the Collective Educational Exhibit. A special diploma has been presented to the same for needle work, plain and artistic.

### Local Lights.

To-morrow is Easter.

The steamer New Iberia was in port last Sunday.

Audibert challenges the world to play a game of domino.

Send your work to Journet and Begis, they are skillful workers.

Dame Rumor has it that we will soon have a new hotel in town.

The peach crop hereabouts, this season promises to be large.

Charles Renaud has the cheapest grocery store in town, give him a trial.

Mr. C. Harrison, is the leading merchant of Pinaudville, his prices defy competition.

La "Lune de Miel," is what the Firemen have in store for you Sunday May 2nd.

Remember, tomorrow the Benevolent Association will give a grand Theatre, Bazar and Ball.

The Firemen are preparing for a grand entertainment to be given on Sunday the 2nd. day of May.

The members of the Home Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 filed this week, an act of incorporation, of the company for a period of twenty-five years.

Do not fail to attend to the entertainment of the Benevolent Association to-morrow night, it will be a grand success.

The thanks of the Messenger are due to the Benevolent Association for a complimentary ticket, for the entertainment which will be given tomorrow night.

Mr. A. M. Hebert, the popular merchant, has a refreshment parlor, for the ladies, where will be dispensed at reasonable prices, ice cream, confectionery, sherbet, &c.

To-morrow, the Mutual Benevolent Association gives a dramatic entertainment, to be followed by a grand ball. A gala time is in store for those attending.

Mr. A. M. Hebert has opened a "Salon Prive" for the ladies, where Soda Water, Sherbet, Ice cream, Cakes, Fruits and all the delicacies of the season will be served at moderate prices.

Pinaudville has got the improvement fever bad. New buildings are going up, others are being repaired, and there seems to be a general feeling of hope for the future that is pleasing to note.

Rev. Father Laurent has delivered a series of sermons, in the Catholic Church during this holy week. A large number of the faithful were attracted thither by the eloquence of the eminent divine.

Mr. Henry Beslin was appointed Police officer vice Mr. O. Wilty who resigned. Mr. Beslin took charge of the town Police yesterday morning. Mr. Beslin was formerly Police officer of this town, and knows how to deal with the disturbing element.

Fears are entertained that, notwithstanding the lateness of the season, an overflow will yet be witnessed. In fact from a gentleman, from Grande Pointe, we learned that the people living on the outskirts of the woods were seriously contemplating the expediency of morning.

The Messenger has tumbled to the racket. It seems that combinations are already being formed for the next election. The plan is to make a careful survey of the field, feel the public pulse in a quiet way, and should the views advance be well received, earnestly work to secure a following. One of the "boys" told us that when they show their hands some of the old ones will wince.

It is really a pleasure to note with what vim our planters are pursuing their agricultural labors. On each side of the Teche from here to Arnaudville, it is indeed, rare to find a field which is not receiving the husbandman's tillage. Though the weather, so far, has been very unpropitious, nevertheless, the planters have succeeded in accomplishing much work. And, if any conclusion can be drawn from the premises, it is that the planters are going in with a firm and commandable determination to make the two ends come nearer together than they have been for years past.

### A Few Chips

Education is something the boys get after they leave school.

It is astonishing how many excellent opportunities to be honest are wasted.

If you want an honest press, you ought to honestly support it.—[Archbishop Mac Hale.

Our "olive branch" does not suit Bro. Gray by long odds. Well we are open to conviction.

Louisiana Democrat: To the farmer in Webster or Claiborne Parish, who will raise the greatest number of bushels of corn on an acre of land, a citizen of Minden offers a prize of \$50.

Since Judge McAdam, of New York, decided that a husband is liable for slanderous words spoken by his wife, it behooves a good many husbands to keep the jaws of their better halves employed chewing gum.

Again we beg to tender our grateful thanks to those friends who have recently placed us under renewed obligations for their efforts in extending the circulation of the Messenger. Not loud, but deep are our thanks.

The business men of a town "shape its destiny" they make its prosperity or they force it to move backward. A progressive community is easily discernible, and so is a slow-and-never-advance people. It is not so much the situation as the spirit that bring results. A community where its people are determined to advance will move forward.

The Messenger notes that its contemporaries are indulging in a little advice to the State Solons, who will soon assemble—some of this advice is good, and some indifferent. This little bantering hopes, without pretending to advise that some way may be found and adopted to make the payment of the poll tax, not a voluntary contribution, on the part of non-property holders but compulsory.

The steamboat Mary Lewis has been raised, and towed to the Morgan wharf. She had a hole knocked into her, three planks inside and 36 feet long. It will require considerable repairs before she will be ready for service.—[St. Mary Review.

Last week eggs sold at eleven cents a dozen, but on Monday they brought sixteen. "I often wonder, said an honest grocer the other day, "what price the commission merchants return to their country patrons when the market fluctuates as it does now. My opinion is that whilst all the gentlemen engaged in the commission business are admirable for their unswerving fidelity to the interests of their patrons and their scrupulous nicety of honor would alone hinder them from wilfully quoting a lower figure than that for which produce is actually sold; they are, like all other human beings, liable to errors of forgetfulness, and will generally bear watching."—[St. Bernard Eagle.