

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

\$1 00

JUSTICE TO ALL.

\$1 00.

VOLUME I.

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## THE MESSENGER.

### Is It Just.

The following extract is from the published proceedings of the last meeting of the Police Jury:

James E. Mouton, Esq., having presented to the Police Jury, in open session; a claim of Messrs. Gates & Barnard of Iberia for the sum of \$121.40 for damage to steamboat Durio at Breaux Bridge, caused by inefficiency of the Bridge there—And it appearing that said claim is just and reasonable, on motion of Mr. Duchamp, duly seconded—It is resolved that said claim be and is hereby approved and ordered to be paid out of any funds in the Treasury and as a valid claim, out of the revenues of this year.

The facts in this matter appear to be that whilst the Str. Durio was coming through the drawbridge at Breaux Bridge one of the persons, at the crank of the roller on which the chain holding the span is attached, thinking or apprehending that the smoke stack of the boat would strike the span, let go his hold, thereby causing the span to drop, producing the damage for which the Parish is made to pay.

In allowing this claim we suppose the Police Jury did the best thing under the circumstances. We are sure it is a safer plan than litigating over the matter. However, it most forcibly strikes us that if in entering into contracts with individuals, whereby an adequate consideration is given for the performance of certain work, that body should demand and exact a solvent bond for its faithful execution, not forgetting to insert a clause therein making damages accruing from gross negligence on the part of the contractor or his employees, payable by the contractor, such claims would fall on him who by right, should be responsible. If he chooses to employ irresponsible help he should pay the damages following such employment. Though the amount is small, very small, it is sufficiently to teach a wholesome lesson. And we trust it will not be lost.

### WEDDING.

#### Union of Charles E. Whitney and Louise Renaud.

There was a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen yesterday evening at St. Theresa's Church to witness the nuptial ceremony of Miss Louise Renaud, an interesting young lady of this city, and Mr. Charles E. Whitney, the city editor of the Times-Democrat.

The audience consisted of beautiful young ladies, sedate matrons, professional and business men, and the newspaper men, with whom the groom has always been a favorite. The members of the press—representative of all the journals of the city—were out in their might to congratulate their co-laborer upon his entry into the grand old order of benedicts with a partner so fair.

The guests as they arrived were received and escorted to seats by Capt. John Augustin, John Averv, Judge A. Burthe A. Capleville, L. L. Lincoln, S. D. Pool and Charles A. Donnaud. The bride wore a beautiful costume of white silk, elegantly trimmed and a large veil floated around her like a cloud. She was accompanied to the altar by her brother Mr. Paul F. Renaud, and the groom walked by the side of Mrs. Eliza Renaud, the mother of the bride.

Rev. Father Massardier preached a brief sermon and pronounced the happy couple man and wife.

At 8 o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Whitney left for Washington, and the North per the Kennesaw route, and will be gone for about a month. They have the best wishes of the Picayune for their happiness and success.—*N. O. Picayune June 16th.*

The parents of the fair bride were formerly of this town. A host of friends unite with the Messenger in wishing a long, happy life, full of unalloyed bliss to the couple.

### "He Is Not The Fashion."

How often do we hear this expression used, even in a little burg like this, in reply to this question relating to the merit of some young man. "Oh, yes, it cannot be denied that he is upright, and of unblemished private character; but then he is not the "fashion." Alas, it is a fact, that modest merit of the brightest order is too often suffered to perish by cold neglect, while impudent mediocrity makes its way with *eclat* into the good graces and affections of those, who are the fashion. No matter in what one may excel; though he is endowed with all that goes to make a true gentleman, if he be not enrolled among the votaries of fashion, he is cast aside and too often spurned. Unfortunately for him, he is not in possession of that brazen talisman, which seldom fails to act as an open sesame. No, modest merit, has not that irresistible confidence and assurance impudence, that precious metal which is sometimes better than gold. In short "he is not the fashion."

### Their Request Should be Granted.

Mr. Leon Gillard, the member of the Police Jury of the 5th Ward, presented to that body, at its last sitting, a petition from the citizens of Breaux Bridge and vicinity, asking an appropriation to repair the bridge, across the Teche, at that place. They say that the bridge is in a very delapidated and dangerous condition. The petition was laid on the table subject to future action.

We think the people of that section are entitled to a brand new bridge similar to the one not long ago erected here. But we believe the finances of the parish will not admit of it just now. Nevertheless an appropriation large enough to put the present bridge in safe traveling condition is urgently needed. And the Police Jury should not hesitate to grant a just demand. Let it be done at the next meeting.

Nearly every Democratic paper, in the third Congressional district have already expressed their preference for the Hon. E. J. Gay as his own successor. If they reflect the sentiments of the people in the parishes in which published—and we have not the least reason to doubt that they do—this gentleman should feel highly gratified at this exhibition of good will. There is no doubt that he has proved a faithful and conscientious representative and another term should be his deserts.

### Local Lights.

Keep cool, Audibert's Ice cold beer will do it.

There is but one bird (black) in the parish cage.

Roasting ears were selling in town this week, four ears for a nickel.

The great trouble here is, we have too many patriots, entirely too many martyrs, posing for effect.

The ball of the Mikado Social Club to take place on the 26th. inst., promises to afford a gala time to the votaries of Terpsichore.

Neatly printed ball programmes, with pencil, &c., attached, ready for use, for sale at this office. You can buy one, two, or as many as you need.

J. Kleber Melancon and P. Treville Melancon of Breaux Bridge, were registered as guests at the Metropolitan Hotel in Washington D. C. last Monday.

The Mutual Benevolent Association of this town having secured a train will run an excursion to New Orleans on the 13th of July. We shall have more to say about this matter.

We have it on the best authority that the Dramatic Club of our sister town of Breaux Bridge will soon give a theatrical entertainment. The plays are being rehearsed now.

Mr. J. D. Collins, of Cypress Island, has sent to this office this week, some cotton blooms gathered from his field. Mr. Collins has several acres of cotton in full bloom.

Hon. Alf. Voorhies, of this parish voted against the Sunday law. The vote stood 71 to 19 in favor of the bill. The bill only awaits the signature of the Governor to become law.

Dr. Arthur Guilbeau, of Breaux Bridge and Dr. W. G. Martin, of Arnaudville, were in town last Saturday. We also noticed Mr. O. Martin, of Breaux Bridge in town last Tuesday.

At the Succession Sale of the Est. of J. P. O'Rourke, the store building was purchased by Mr. Edwin Gueriniere, for \$1000. And the residence was bought by Mrs. J. O'Rourke also for \$1000.

We again call the attention of property holders to the fact that the assessor has the assessment lists for the current year open for inspection and correction. Let those interested remember this, as the twenty days allowed to visit the lists will soon expire.

Lovers of the mazy dance, are informed that the dancing programme as adopted and which will be observed at the coming ball is printed in neat little books with pencils attached and for sale at this office. Everybody will want one.

We were pleased in meeting this week our young friend Walter Simon who has been spending a few days with his parents and kinfolds. Walter is looking well and his traveling seem to do him good. He has recently traveled throughout the States of Georgia, Alabama, and Florida, and is now on his way to Texas. Wherever he may be we hope he will meet with the best success.

June has indeed, been a wet month. It has been rain, rain, every day, for the past two or three weeks. The crops will if not already, feel the effect of this long continuous rain. Where there was late planting and the crops were not rid of the grass, there will be a sweet old time fighting the growing weeds. However it might be worse and if we have fair sunny weather for the next few weeks, the planters may pull out at the big end of the horn.

Thursday evening, towards 6 o'clock, the sky suddenly became overcast by dark, threatening clouds. Soon a strong wind commenced blowing from the West, followed by a slight rain. So strong had the wind become, that for a while it was a general question if a cyclone had not struck the town. However it did not last over half an hour or so. We fear it has tended to seriously injure the crops. For certain the corn is laid nearly flat on the ground and other crops have suffered as bad. Anyhow let us continue to look on the bright side.

We have always contended that St. Martinsville has a bright future ahead of her, if her people will only bestir themselves. While our neighbors are grasping at every chance and making the most of their opportunities, we are sorrowfully forced to acknowledge that our people seem to be utterly indifferent as to how the "world wags." A glance will show right around us are means to enhance our trade, but no special effort is being made to turn it in its proper channel. Unless we "hustle" and show the people naturally tributary to us, that we want their trade, is it reasonable to suppose that they will come to us, especially when our neighbors are extending the warmest welcome to them?

Rev. Parmentier assisted by Rev. Coughlin, gave stereopticon exhibitions at College Hall, last Tuesday and Wednesday. A large number of people were present at both entertainments. The proceeds proved satisfactory, we believe, and are destined to a fund to build a Catholic Church in New Iberia. The views shown were well selected and varied, and we hear that every one attending was well pleased. It is certainly worth the price of admission if not more. After each exhibition a lottery was drawn, the prizes being valued at \$10 each. The prize the first evening a beautiful toilet set, was won by Mr. J. E. Mouton; the prize the second evening was won by A. Minatzi, being a pretty statuette.