

THE MESSENGER.

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BY
EASTIN & BIENVENU,
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Some Queer Questions for Mr. Gay.

Charenton, La. October 3 1886.
To the Editor of the Times-Democrat:

The Democratic convention for the nomination of a Democratic candidate for Congress met in Franklin on the 25th of September and nominated the Hon. E. J. Gay as our standard bearer and for re-election to Congress.

As there seems to me some lukewarm Democrats and others in this district who think he has done enough for his district; our Congressman might allay their fears and probably make enthusiastic supporters of the same by answering in public speech or otherwise the following questions:

Are you or are you not in favor of the opening of Bayou Plaquemine, with locks in the same for short and cheap navigation to the Teche and Opelousas country; the improvement of the Teche and Bayou Black; the cutting or digging of the Charenton Canal and the improvement of that most important stream, Bayou Lafourche? Are you also in favor of closing that terrible and menacing stream the Atchafalaya, the waters from which threaten to ruin by annual overflows in the near future this rich section of country?

If our honorable Congressman answers these questions in the affirmative with his well known views on protection for sugar and rice and every home industry, he will get a rousing majority in this district at the next election.

AN INVETERATE AND ALWAYS DEMOCRAT.

Mr. Gays Response.

The Item desirous of giving the gentleman addressed a fair chance, laid the above letter from our contemporary before him. Mr. Gay replied:

I have given earnest attention to the subject of the improvement of the natural water ways of Louisiana and have taken all possible preliminary steps to lay the foundation for the favorable action of Congress by securing surveys and estimates by the engineers department.

I desire to see the reopening of navigation from the Teche and Atchafalaya by way of Bayou Plaquemine to the Mississippi river.

This involves locks at the head of Plaquemine, the improvement of the channels of that bayou and the various bayous connecting it with Grand lake.

The opening of this route to the river will give the best channel for navigation from the tributaries or the Atchafalaya to the Mississippi, and will justify the restricting of the head of the Atchafalaya so as to diminish the volume of water in that stream which I approve.

I have warmly advocated the improvement of Bayou Black so as to connect Berwick bay with Terrebonne at Houma and the improvement of the Bayou Terrebonne to its connection with Bayou Lafourche.

Surveys and estimates for locks at the head of the bayou Lafourche and the improvement of a lower water navigable channel in that bayou have been provided for.

The navigation of the upper Teche by locks has received my attention and it is expected that Major Heuer will present plans and estimates for this improvement which will form the basis of legislation at the next session of Congress.

I introduced a bill to secure the canal connecting the Teche with Grand Lake at Charenton, but all canal improvements have been separated from the jurisdiction of the Committee of Rivers and Harbors, in consequence of the importance of not leading down the interests of the rivers and harbors with the Hennepin and other important canal projects. As separate measures no canal bill were passed.

All these works and others in the Third District are having special attention and are recognized as being of the greatest importance.—N. O. City Item.

We offer to our readers, and the public the grandest offer ever made in this parish. We will furnish the Messenger and The Mayflower, of Yarmouthport, Mass., an eight page family paper, for one year, for \$1.35.

A Model Postmaster.

New York World.

In a private note Col. Donn Piatt indignantly denies that he has been writing Communistic essays for the press and as to that Mac-o-Cheek Postmastership he says: "It was greatness thrust upon me as a practical joke. The patrons of the office do not find it so funny now. I have moved the office to my house and taken the old sign from my gate, which was No Admission on Business, and in its place hung up a tin horn, with directions which read, Any one having business with this post-office will blow the horn and give the P. M. time to chain his dogs. I have to guard against country commissioners, lightning rod men book agents and other nuisances, two huge mastiffs one St. Bernard and a bull dog of amazing pertinacity of purpose.

A Stroke from the Hatchet.

There is a sort of criminal law practices in New York which is picked up in the better class of barrooms. But lawyers look at these things queerly. Horace Greely said: There once was ages ago a time when it was considered base and detestable for a man to sell for money to the most scandalous of criminals and the most impudent of cheats, his countenance, his intimacy, his friendship the utmost efforts of all his talents, skill and learning to save a villain from the gallows or the prison which his crimes had richly merited or to enable him to cheat some widow or orphan out of their patrimony and livelihood. This romantic and antiquate sense of decency and self respect has however long since disappeared. For lawyers to league themselves for money with the most consummate of scoundrels to become as it were accessories after the fact to the greatest of crimes and villainies by their paid labors in shielding the perpetrators from detection and punishment, or from being obliged to disgorge their dishonest gains.—all this has become a regular business transaction and the lawyer shares the spoils of the murderer and robber, and pockets the fee stained with the blood, or wet with the tears of some wretched victim of fraud or force from whom his client had just before extorted it, with no less satisfaction than he puts into his pocket the last dollar of the poor, deluded victim who, having been plundered or cheated of the greater part of his property by some unprofessional rogue spends the miserable remnant of it in the vain and deceptive pursuit of the legal address.

There is a great deal of truth in the above, and it is also a refreshing reminiscence of the ringing Anglo-Saxon which Horace Greely used to write when he had a subject he was interested in—Washington Hatchet.

Notice to the Public.

The tickets issued to Laborers on the St. John Plantation, marked "not transferable," will only be cashed at the end of each month, to the laborers to whom they are issued. The public are notified not to negotiate for said tickets.

G. W. Thomas.
St. Martinsville, Sept. 11th. 1886.

Post Office, St. Martinsville, La.

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Notice To Tax Payers.

Take notice that in accordance with Section 35 of Art. 96 of the General Assembly of 1882, your Taxes for the year 1886 according to the Tax Rolls on file in this office as also in the office of the Clerk of Court ex-officio Recorder of Mortgages of the Parish of St. Martin, are now due and collectable, and if not paid as the law directs on or before the 31st of December A. D. 1886 you will become delinquents and the amount of your said Taxes will then draw 1 per cent interest per month from the 31st of December until paid or the property thus assessed will be seized and sold according to law.

Sheriff's Office St. Martinsville Parish of St. Martin, this 18th day of September A. D. 1886.

T. L. BROUSSARD.
Sheriff and ex-officio Tax Collector.

JAMES SIMON.

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

—and—

NOTARY PUBLIC.

Office near the Court House.

St. Martinsville, La.

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