

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

\$1 00

JUSTICE TO ALL.

\$1 00.

VOLUME I.

ST. MARTINSVILLE, LA. NOVEMBER 13th. 1886.

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THE MESSENGER.

Retrograding.

Those who have a partial feeling for the prosperity of this town cannot help but view with sorrow the painful fact, that for the last few years, its commercial affairs have been steadily declining—jogging along, as it were, in a handrum fashion that bodes serious results in a short future unless an effort is made to regain its former prestige. The accusation has been more than once made that we are not up with the times. The tenability of this charge, it is not our purpose at this time to discuss—it may be well founded and it may not.

This town, by its admirable situation should be one of the most prosperous in Southwest Louisiana. The country contiguous to it, is well peopled, fair crops are made, and still our trade is decreasing. While we are not prepared to give the causes which are working to our detriment—they are no doubt many—we must say it is high time for our people to meet those causes squarely and devise the remedy. Every one is complaining, trade is languishing and not a move is being taken to check our retrogression.

In a preceding issue the Messenger showed that right at our doors was a section of country whose trade was valuable and that this trade could be ours with a small effort. Our suggestion fell on barren ground.

Unless we grasp every opportunity that offers, and turn it to our advantage we must expect to continue to advance backwards.

Town outsiders the "tricks of politicians" are, in most instances, certainly incomprehensible. We see a war being waged underhand, against one who has strong claims to the support of the masses, simply because the prospects of another is endangered, and it is thought that by breaking down the pure the un-pure may rise to the surface. Verily politics is made up of surprises!

This last election has satisfied us that the Democratic party can carry any future election, by simply being united. The people must at the start, however, frown down any attempt to jeopardize our chances by those seeking only self aggrandizement.

Old Diogenes walking around in broad daylight with a lighted lantern and a staff in hand, hunting for an honest man had no doubt a hard old time. The people now-a-days don't do much hunting but when they come across an honest man they know it and will stick to him.

The Fort Smith Times, pertinently says: "Suppose old Allen G. Thurman had been in the saddle last Tuesday instead of the Buffalo mugwump? Lord! but wouldn't the boys have crawled out of the brush to stock up the Democratic majorities! As it was—well, Democracy pulled through without a big funeral."

The recent set back met by the Democracy is claimed to be due to apathy in the ranks. The chief mugwump at Washington should set his special "reformers" at work to inquire as to the causes.

The next President if he happens to be elected by Democratic voters, will be given to distinctly understand that as soon as he commences business he must hang out a sign that will read: "Democrats only for office."

Charleston, Savannah and Columbia, were again visited by an earthquake shock last week. The direction of the wave was from south to north and its duration is variously estimated at from thirty to thirty five minutes. It had a compound motion up and down and from side to side and shook the buildings very perceptibly.

The United States Revenue cutter, Manhattan foundered last Sunday, two and a half miles off New Haven harbor, and sunk immediately, carrying with her all on board. It is supposed her crew numbered twenty five.

Lawrence Donovan, of New York who recently jumped from the Brooklyn bridge into the East river, jumped from the new Suspension Bridge at Niagara Falls, last Sunday. He made the jump successfully, a distance of 190 feet. He went straight down, feet foremost. He was not seriously injured he had a broken rib and a bruised hip.

Marens D. Richardson, and aged soldier of Milton Ky., received a pension of \$11,500, the largest pension ever paid by the United States. The cause for granting the pension is total blindness brought on by an injury to the eyes, received in the war in 1863. The pension dated back to that year.

The Southwestern Land Company are making arrangements to establish a new town on the Louisiana Western Railroad seven miles from Rayne.

Ashton Boyle traveling representative of Bernard Klotz & Co., of New Orleans died Monday at Opelousas.

Local Lights.

We will furnish the Messenger from now to the end of the year for 25 cts.

Lots of freight is being handled daily at the depot.

We have been visited by a good and needed rain Tuesday.

Our friend and popular grocer E. R. Knight, received this week a lot of fresh groceries.

We hear that our young amateurs are rehearsing a piece and will give an entertainment shortly.

The obstinate drouth prevailing for the past few weeks, was broken last Tuesday when a copious rain fell.

This is about the poorest place in the state for those getting boozy to try and paint the town red.

The Messenger and the Mayflower of Yarmouthport, Mass., one year for \$1.35.

Rumor has it that we are to have a moss factory in town soon. We do not entertain the least doubt that it would prove a paying investment.

Our local Nimrods are beginning to move about. Game while not plentiful is abundant enough to make the sport enjoyable.

The fiftieth Congress will be composed of 171 Democrats and 154 Republicans, a democratic majority of 17 in the House of Representatives.

We see to day a practical illustration of the aphorism: The mills of the God's grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly small.

Our friend B. L. Fournet is having his Hall put in tip-top order, preparatory to opening the skating rink, which will be shortly.

Beer on ice at 5 cents a glass at B. Audibert's.

One day last week we noticed fall plowing on the plantation of Dr. Neblett. Grinding had not commenced on this place.

Mr. Leonce Ransonnet has been appointed a member of the Board of Trustees and chief of police of Breaux Bridge vice P. P. Guidry deceased.

Most of the sugar mills in the parish are in operation. From what we could learn the yield is barely satisfactory; the cane in most places being rather small. The total crop will be less than last year.

The Sugarhouse of our friend, Ben Dreibelbis, was inaugurated last Saturday evening, by a grand soiree given to the young people. They were delighted with the soiree and speak in high terms of Mr. Dreibelbis.

Twenty-five cents will secure the Messenger, for the balance of the year

We dare say that there is more business done in Breaux Bridge our sister town than any place of its size in the State. The place right now is on the top crest.

Attention has been called so often to the ugly condition of the culvert at the foot of Jefferson street that we merely mention the fact to-day to fill up the space.

Beer on ice at 5 cents a glass at B. Audibert's.

Judge-elect Mouton, of the Iberia St. Martin District, has awakened sufficient enthusiasm to cause a variety of sweet potatoes. The "Mouton yam" yields 120 bushels to the acre, and evidently Mouton is not a small potato.—N. O. City Item.

Mr. C. E. Schrenks, artist Photographer, from New Orleans, is now located in this town, in the building lately occupied by Mr. J. B. Ferran, opposite the Catholic Church. Mr. Schrenks is now ready to execute all kinds of work in his line, and guarantees full satisfaction. His prices are moderate.

We were most happy to meet our jovial old friend W. B. Berry in town this week. The seventy odds years bear lightly on the old gentleman, and he does not look a bit older than when he was one of us, a good many years ago. He and old Father Time are on the best terms, and we hope they will go down the grade of life at a very slow pace.

The Messenger will be furnished from now to the end of the year for 25 cts.

Now that the cold weather is coming necessitating fires and thereby enhancing accidents by that element, we hope that the fire engines are in thorough working order. Let's take no risks.

An omission occurred in our article on the jollification of our people over the election of Judge Mouton which we hasten to supply. We stated that the wreath emblematical of victory presented to the Judge was the gift of his friends of the fourth ward, which was true, but failed to note the fact that the wreath was the special handiwork of the fair fingers of the Misses Melancon and Jammard. We desire here to say that the Judge is duly sensible of the kindness and impartiality shown him.

A Decatur, (Mich.) boy wore three pairs of trousers to school one day because he thought he was going to get a whipping. The teacher did not whip him and he went home in great disgust.

A GREAT REMEDY FOR CATARRH.

In another column of this paper will be found an advertisement of a Catarrh remedy, of which a sample is sent free to any sufferer of this terrible scourge. We know B. S. Lauderbach & Co., the proprietors, to be a responsible firm and those who write them will receive prompt attention and square dealing.

A Rare Chance.

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.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

STATE OF LOUISIANA.—PARISH OF ST. MARTIN. 21st Judicial District Court

No. 8722.

Victorine Pitt wife of Emile Ambroise & als.
Versus.
Clemence Pitt and her Husband Zenon Pierre.

By virtue of a writ of Fieri Facias in the above entitled and numbered suit and to me directed by the Hon. 21st Judicial District Court of the State of Louisiana, in and for the Parish of St. Martin dated the 18th. day of October A. D. 1886. I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction to the last and highest bidder at the Court House door in the town of St. Martinsville between the legal hours on

SATURDAY the 18th. DAY of DECEMBER A. D. 1886.

It being the third Saturday of said month the following described property to wit;

The undivided one seventh of a certain tract of land situated in the Parish of St. Martin measuring about forty superficial arpents, and together with said land the undivided seventh of all the buildings and improvements thereon erected. The said tract of land is bounded north by Magenta plantation South by land of Michel Gabriel, East by property of Pierre Pitt Jr. and West by Vendor. Said land having a front of two arpents by a depth of twenty arpents starting from the boundary of Pierre Pitt Jr., and coming to the boundary of Vendor.

Sold to satisfy said above mentioned writ.

Sheriff's office this 13th day of November A. D. 1886.

T. L. BROUSSARD, Sheriff.