St. Landry Democrat.

VOLUME 1. OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1878. NUMBER 8.

ST. LANDRY DEMOCRAT.

M. D. KAVANAGH, Editor.

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M. D. KAVANAGH,
Editor.

OPELOUSAS, SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1878.

We call special attention to acts of the Legislature published in our issue of to day. Some of them are important and deserve attention, especially Act No. 17.

We understand that No. 7 has again been at work in our town, and another man left here early Wednesday morning with his face in mourning. We learned from a secret source that the society was organized by Dr. Harmon, the great temperance lecturer, while on his last visit for the purpose of aiding the U. F. of T. Let the good work go on.

Adrien Dartez of Vermillion parish, charged with the murder of his own brother, in said parish, who was arrested in Texas last December, by G. B. Shaw, sheriff of that parish and brought here and incarcerated shortly afterwards for safe keeping, was taken home Thursday by deputy sheriff Lyons for trial. The charge against him is certainly a horrible one.

MARDI-GRAS.—There was an unusually large turn out of mardi-gras maskers last Tuesday. Our sister town Washington was largely represented on our streets, and everything went off well. Our devil turned out in full costume and seemed to enjoy himself hugely. Why don't Washington and Opelousas organize a mystic krew of their own. They could do it and afford at home the diversion which so many of their citizens annually go to New Orleans to witness.

COL. BUSH.—Some days ago the House of Representatives, passed a resolution allowing Col. Louis Bush, speaker of the house, extra compensation as member ex-officio of the board of Liquidation. The Col. declined to accept it. This was no matter of surprise to those who know him; especially his old army friends. He is above all things an earnest man. He is not one of that numerous class that are eternally prating reform, but fail to practice it when the opportunity presents itself. He always means what he says. Louisiana has no more worthy or devoted son than Louis Bush. He has served her faithfully, alike on the field and in the Legislature. Our greatest regret is that there are not more such as he in public life in the State.

OPELOUSAS GREATEST NEED.—What we want most in Opelousas now, is a dog ordinance similar to the one in force a few years since, when E. S. Andrus was Constable. The census we believe gives Opelousas a population of 1500 souls. In the corporate limits, we are satisfied there are over 500 dogs that could be spared to the great relief too of the inhabitants. They render night hideous by their howling, barking and fighting. They are an absolute nuisance and should either be gotten rid of at once, or made to yield a revenue to the town. The town council at its very first meeting should give this matter its attention. Let an ordinance be passed requiring every dog running at large to wear a stamped collar, not to cost less than $1.00 and in default of such collar, let the Constable be authorized to shoot him and haul him out of town. There are many valuable dogs in the corporation; all such will be immediately provided with collars, and therefore protected. For every one of such dogs there are at least five fistes, curs and mongrels, not worth a dollar, all of whom could be shot and hauled off. Gentlemen of the town council give this matter your attention and rid us of this intolerable nuisance. The dog days will soon be on us and one rabid cur may do more damage in an hour than the whole fraternity is worth.

Our town could be greatly beautified in a few years, if the owners of property would only plant shade trees along the side walks on which their property touches. There is no more beautiful tree than the water oak. It makes a magnificent shade; bears transplanting well, grows rapidly and lasts forever. Many years ago Dr. Campbell and Dr. Littell, adjoining proprietors on Church street, planted a row of these trees along the whole front of their property. The cost was insignicant. The small sapplings have grown into magnificent trees, making a dense shade grateful alike to man and beast on a hot day, greatly beautifying the street and enhancing the value of property.

How much would it improve the appearance of our town a few years hence, were the proprietors on either side of our principal streets to plant rows of these trees adjoining the side walk next winter. They would increase the healthfulness of the town, enhance the value of property and be found a great safeguard against the conflagrations which have proved so destructive in some of our country towns. In our opinion it would be a wise policy in our town council to encourage the planting of trees on the streets. We are now about out of debt, and what objection could there be to passing an ordinance, in part commuting town taxes of proprietors, who would plant the water oak, elm, pecan or walnut along the side walks, bordering their property. Think of it Messrs. councilmen.

Party Organization.

This year the people of Louisiana will be called upon to elect a State Treasurer, members of the Legislature, Sheriffs, one-half the Senators, members of the Police Jury, etc. These elections will not take place until in the month of November. In our parish unfortunately, there has been a division in the Democratic party for the last four years, which has greatly impaired its efficiency as a party organization, and at the last election resulted in a partial defeat of the two Democratic organizations dividing the parish. That this will occur again in 1878, unless the present rent in the Democratic party is healed, and on a grander scale no one can doubt for a moment. The initiatory steps, so we have learned, have already been taken by the Republicans, and the only way to obviate this is for Democrats to cease wrangling amongst themselves, come together at the proper time, nominate a ticket and elect it. Some there are who will sneer at this, but all such had better reflect, that this is a two handed game; that in the last campaign there were two Democratic organizations in St. Landry, each having its own executive committee; each having an equal representation accorded it in the Baton Rouge Convention; each recognized by the State Central Executive Committee; each equally intent on electing the State and Senatorial ticket, and each numbering in its ranks men who had never been anything in politics but bold outspoken Democrats. These two organizations, nearly equally divided the party and the result of the election was such that neither could boast, whilst both equally regretted the sending of a partial delegation of Republicans to the Legislature. This being the case, how are these two factions to be brought together and made one united party? Is it by one constantly iterating and reiterating false charges and accusations against the other? Is it by keeping up a constant war of crimination and recrimination towards each other? Would this serve to settle differences of opinion between two individuals? We think not. Common experience teaches us it would only widen the breach and keep open wounds which otherwise might be healed, and after all what are parties but an aggregation of individuals? In our opinion there is but one way to close up this breach and that is by each side pursuing a conciliatory course towards the other; each forgiving and forgetting; each remembering that neither side can be held blameless for what accurred here in 1876, when the party split on local favorites and not on principles, for the leaders of the two factions vied with each other throughout the campaign in support alike of the National and State ticket and State Senator. If this course is pursued the party can soon be harmonized. If this is not done the party never can be united. We advise harmony and we intend to make an honest effort to harmonize the party and then when the time comes shall advocate with all our might the calling of a convention to make nominations for every office to be elected by the people. In this way and this way alone can St. Landry make her might felt alike in the councils of the party, and at the polls on election day. It is time this matter were beginning to receive the earnest consideration of the leaders as well as of the rank and file of the party in this parish. We don't want to see re-enacted again, the scenes which took place in the last State convention at Baton Rouge.

By reference to another column it will be seen that the bill granting State aid to the New Orleans Pacific road has passed the Legislature. This insures the early completion of the road and by next christmas the whistle of the iron horse will wake the echoes of our Atchafalaya swamps.

The road will cross Bayou Petit Prairie, at, or near Capt. Carmouches place, about nine miles from Opelousas on an air line. The intervening country is for the most part a heavy forest. It is penetrated by no large streams, and it would require but a small outlay of capital to build a branch road to this point. This would make Opelousas a considerable shipping point, and depot for the surrounding country. This is a matter of importance not anly to Opelousas, but to all the surrounding country West and South, and should begin to receive the attention of our land owners and business men generally. In the West the building of this branch would be at once undertaken and we see no reason to prevent our people taking steps in the matter at an early day. Instead of being out of the world as we now are, the completion of this short branch would put us in rail communication with New Orleans, New York, St. Louis, San Francisco Chicago and Galveston.

THE NEW ORLEANS PACIFIC RAILROAD.—A bill has passed both houses of the general assembly, and is now only awaiting the Governors signature to become a law, granting State aid to this road. This we regard as the most important act of the present Legislature. It ensures the speedy completion of the road and once completed we see no reason why New Orleans should not soon become one of the greatest commercial centres of the world. New Orleans now has deep water navigation to the gulf. This alone has already quadrepled her grain trade. The completion of this road to Marshall, Texas, will again bring back that immense trade diverted of late years to Galveston and St. Louis. St. Landry will necessarily be greatly benefitted by the early completion of this road. It will run through one of the richest and most productive regions of our great parish and will bring necessarily emigration and capital.

THE COL. AND NO. 7.—The Col. was in town this week, after an absence of a few months. On Mardi-Gras day he amused himself splendidly up to 11 o'clock at night; after this hour we saw him no more. He left for parts unknown. He was black from head to heel, his last words as he left was I am "going for water."

Read notice in another column of the President of Board of Police.

Some Facts About Silver.

[N. O. Democrat.]

Few persons seems to be aware of the fact that the old silver dollar—the "dollar of the daddies"—and the subsidiary silver coins of the United States, issued prior to April 1, 1853, were a full legal tender for all debts, public and private, without any distinction. These subsidiary coins consisted of the half-dollar, quarter-dollar, twenty-cent piece, dime and half-dime. Prior to April 1, 1853, $68,679,507 of half-dollars an enormous sum of smaller silver pieces had been coined in the mints of the United States. They are all invested to this day with unlimited legal tender power, and the government is compelled to receive them in payment of its customs dues at their nominal value.

The "dollar of the daddies" contained 412½ grains of silver, and the subsidiary coins their due proportion of this weight of silver—the half-dollar 206¼ grains, the quarter-dollar 103⅛, etc. But on the 1st of April, 1853, Congress, owing to the fact that, because of the increased value which silver had acquired, our subsidiary coins could not be kept in circulation, reduced the weight of these coins and provided that they should no longer be a legal tender for more than five dollars in any one payment.

No change, however, was made in the old silver dollar—"our dads' legal dollar." That coin of 412½ grains, nine-tenths fine, is still a coin of the standard value of the United States, and was and is a dollar with unlimited legal power. But its further coinage was prohibited by the act of February 12, 1873, and what the Bland bill aims at is the repeal of that act in so far as it demonetized that old silver dollar—"loved better than all."

WHAT CAN BE DONE?—A great many persons in this country out of employment are in the habit of asking what they can do to make a living—how they can go into business for themselves without capital—how they can go to farming without a farm to go on—and if they are offered land for only the cost of entering it how they are to get it, stock it and work it without horses, wagons, implements and a year's stock of provisions. Probably the best way to answer these questions is to cite facts, showing what can be done by what has been done. The Southern States have produced some fine examples of individual effort in the way of making a living under very adverse circumstances, and it will not be unprofitable to mention a few of them. The Newberry (S. C.) Herald says there are four widows in that vicinity who have each accomlished what many a man would hardly dream of doing. One while raising four children without assistance has managed to make a crop every year, keep out of debt and pay cash down for all she buys. Another has the proceeds of one cotton crop ahead and 3000 pounds of flour besides—all the product of her own farm. Another has labored heroically on her farm ever since the war and with the assistance of her children, six in number, made a living and bought additional land for which she paid $1400. Another has managed her own little farm since the war and managed it so well as to have reared several children, kept out of debt and saved some money which she loans out at interest. Hundreds of similar cases are to be found in the Southern States—and in the Northern States, too. When an American woman has a living to make she generally goes at it and succeeds. There are no female tramps, they all belong to the other sex.

HE CAME BACK.—A story is told of Gov. Duval, of Florida, which will never wear out. He was the son of a "poor white," in Virginia, a stern, strong taciturn man, the boy, a huge growth of fifteen. At the cabin fire, at bed time, according to the custom of putting on a back log, the old man said, between whiffs of his silent pipe:

"Tab, go out and bring in that gum back log and put it on the fire."

Tab went out and surveyed the log. He knew that it was no use explaining that it was too heavy, nor prudent for him to return without having it on his shoulder. His little sister passing, was surprised that he requested her to bring out the gun and power-horn, as a 'possum or coon might have passed, or the brother might have seen bear signs. She bought the gum and Tab started. He found the way through the woods into Kentucky. This was about 1791. After an absence of eighteen years he was elected to Congress. A man of immense size and strength, he started for Washington, going by the way of his old home, to see the folks, who had long since given him up for dead. Entering the little cabin door near bed time, he saw the identical gum log. He shouldered it, pulled the latch string; and with his load stood before the old man, who sat, pipe in mouth, as quiet as usual.

"Here is the gum back-log, father."

"Better late than ever—put it on the fire and go to bed," was the reply.

TOPPING COTTON.—"If a practice sometimes fails and sometimes succeeds, then we insist that the error is in the practice and not in the principle upon which the practice is conducted."

I grant that to be true in mechanics, but I deny that the failure to do good in topping cotton is chargeable to the topper. From over twenty years' close observation and practice I am thoroughly convinced that the good or bad results from topping cotton are wholly dependent upon the season after the topping is done. If the seasons after the cotton is topped are propitious for a rapid growth of the stalk it will cause the stalk to fling out succors, and thereby sometimes prove a serious injury by shading and rotting the bottom crop of bolls. On the other hand, should the season be very hot and dry after the topping, the fruit will hold on better, and therefore be benefitted by the topping. My experience is that two years out of every five the benefit derived from topping was not much more than to pay for time and labor of topping, and three out of every five was a loss instead of profit; hence, for the last ten years I have abandoned topping altogether. My experiments were tried from the middle of July to the latter part of August.—[Correspondent Southern Cultivator

Bottled lager is recommended for a morning drink. A new kind of corked-ale probably.

Laws of the State of Louisiana.

REGULAR SESSION OF 1878.

[No. 4.]

An act to amend and re-enact an act approved March 2d, 1876, entitled "An act" regulating the time of holding the regular terms of the District Court of the Eighth Judicial District, parish of Calcasieu.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened*, That an act regulating the time of holding the regular terms of the District Court of the Eighth Judicial District, parish of Calcasieu, approved March 2d, 1876, be amended and re-enacted so as to read as follows, to-wit: "That the regular terms of the District Court of the Eighth Judicial District of the State of Louisiana, in and for the parish of Calcasieu, shall commence on the first Mondays of April and October."

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act be and they are repealed, and that this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

(Signed) LOUIS BUSH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives
(Signed) LOUIS A. WILTZ,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved February 1st, 1878.
(Signed) FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
WILL A. STRONG,
Secretary of State.

[No. 17.]

An act to amend and re-enact section 474 of the Revised Statutes, "and to authorize copies from the record in cases of loss or destruction of originals, to be substituted for such originals in criminal and civil proceedings in courts."

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened*, That section four hundred and seventy-four of the Revised Statutes be amended and re-enacted so as to read as follows: "It shall be the duty of the clerks of court, within three days after the filing, to record in a well bound book the petition, answer and pleadings in all causes, together with any original document filed with the petition, answer or other pleadings on which the suit, other demand or defence may be founded, and within three months after final judgment to record in the same book orders of court, interlocutory judgments, and final judgments rendered herein; and in case of the loss, or destruction of the original of any such pleadings, documents or judgments, a duly certified copy of the same from the record made as herein provided may be received in evidence in any court in this State; and if such loss or destruction shall take place during the pendency of the suit of which such pleadings, documents, etc., shall form a part, then the suit may be continued and prosecuted to final judgment, upon the filing in the court having jurisdiction thereof, a duly certified copy of said pleadings, documents, etc., from said record so made, and in case of the loss destruction or abstraction of the original of any final judgment, order or decree of any court, it shall be competent for the judge of such court upon satisfactory proof made before him in chambers, of such loss, destruction or abstraction, to order, upon the application of any party in interest, that a duly certified copy from the record of such judgment, order or decree be substituted for such original, and the execution and enforcement thereof be proceeded with as upon the original of such judgment, order and decree, and that it shall be the duty of clerks of court of this State within ten days after the adjournment of any term or session of court, at or during which any bill of indictment, information or bail bond have been filed, to record in a carefully bound book kept for that purpose, all such bills of indictment, informations, and bail bonds, and in case of the loss, destruction or abstraction from such court of the original of any such recorded bill of indictment, information or bail bond, it shall be the duty of the judge of such court on proof of such loss destruction or abstraction, to order that certified copy from such record of said original be substituted for the original, and that the trial and further proceedings in such cause be had as on the originals of such lost, destroyed or abstracted indictment, information or bail bond."

(Signed) LOUIS BUSH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives
(Signed) LOUIS A. WILTZ,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved February 9th, 1878.
(Signed) FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
WILL A. STRONG,
Secretary of State.

[No. 25.]

An act to amend and re-enact section twenty-six hundred and sixty-seven (2667) of the Revised Statutes of 1870, and to repeal all laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened*, When two or more persons, some or all of whom are minors, hold property in common, and it is the wish of any one of them, or, of a minor represented by his tutor or tutrix, to effect a partition on the advice of a family meeting, duly convened according to law, to represent the minor or minors, said property may be sold at private sale for its appraised value, said appraisement to be made and the terms of said sale to be fixed by the family meeting, and said proceedings to be homologated by the Judge of Probates of the parish in which the said minor resides.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of this act be and the same are hereby repealed, and that this act take effect from and after its passage.

(Signed) LOUIS BUSH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives
(Signed) LOUIS A. WILTZ,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved February 16, 1878.
(Signed) FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
WILL. A. STRONG,
Secretary of State.

[No. 26.]

An act to punish the unlawful detention, or removal, multilation or destruction of public records, documents, books or writings and their non-delivery by any outgoing to any incoming officer, or other authorized person.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened*, That every officer of this State and of the parishes, cities and towns thereof, upon the expiration of his term, his resignation of, or removal from his office, shall deliver up, without delay, to his successor or to a person duly authorized to receive the same, all the books, records, documents and writings appertaining to his office.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted etc.*, That every officer of this State, and of parishes, cities and towns thereof, who withholds or detains from his successor or other person entitled by law thereto, any of the books, records, documents or writings appertaining to his office, or shall mutilate, destroy or take away the same from the building or office where they have been usually kept, shall, on conviction thereof, be imprisoned in the Penitentiary not less than one, nor more than ten years. The provisions of this section shall apply to any person, or persons, who shall have in his or her or their possession such books, records, documents or writings, and shall refuse to deliver the same to the proper authority, or who shall wilfully mutilate, destroy, withhold or detain the same, or aid in the mutilation, destruction or detention of the same.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted etc.*, That this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

(Signed) LOUIS BUSH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives
(Signed) LOUIS A. WILTZ,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved February 16, 1878.
(Signed) FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
WILL. A. STRONG,
Secretary of State.

[No. 30.]

An act to provide for appeals in criminal cases; to fix the return day of such appeals, and to limit the time within which such appeals may be granted, and to provide for the trial of such cases, by preference, in the Supreme Court.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened*, That in all criminal cases, in which appeals are allowable under the constitution, the party desiring to appeal shall file his motion, either verbally or in writing, in open court. This motion for appeal must be filed in the courts other than those of the First Judicial District during the term at which the sentence shall have been rendered, and in the courts of the First Judicial District within ten days after the sentence shall have been rendered.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That all such appeals shall be suspensive, and no bond shall be required from the appellant.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That no appeal shall be granted in such cases after the time herein specified shall have elapsed.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That all such appeals shall be made returnable to the Supreme Court within ten days after granting the order of appeal, whenever the said Court may be in session on the return day, and that all such cases shall be tried and determined, by preference; *provided* that should the Supreme Court have adjourned *sine die* at the place of return, the clerk of the said Court shall at once forward the record and briefs filed with it to the place where the Supreme Court next meets, addressed to the clerk of the said Court, and the case shall be then and there tried; and *provided further*, that the Judge of the Court, whence the appeal is taken, may when necessary fix a different place for the return of the appeal, when in his opinion such a change will conduce to a speedy determination of the appeal.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with this act, be and the same are hereby repealed, and that this act shall take effect from and after the first day of March, 1878.

(Signed) LOUIS BUSH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives
(Signed) LOUIS A. WILTZ,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved February 19, 1878.
(Signed) FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
WILL A. STRONG,
Secretary of State.

A lady writing to the New York Times says: "Without giving any receipts for making soap, I wish to tell all the hard worked farmers' wives how much labor they may save by not using such vast quantities of this article. For nearly five years I have used it only for washing dishes and other kitchen purposes. My family has ranged from three to twenty-five. I have used cistern water, limestone water, as hard as possible, and hard water composed of other ingredients besides lime. I find with all these my plan works equally well. Have your water quite hot, and add a very little milk to it. This softens the water, gives the dishes a fine gloss, and preserves the hands; it removes grease, even that from beef, and yet no grease is found floating on the water, as when soap is used. The stone vessels I always set on the stove with a little water in them when the victuals are taken from them; thus they are hot when I am ready to wash them, and the grease is easily removed. I find that tinware keeps bright longer when cleaned in this way than by using soap or by scouring."

A strict Turk is obliged not only to wash his head, face, neck, ears and feet, but also his teeth at each of the five daily calls to prayer, so he very soon wears out his tooth brush, and those articles are generally sold in packets of a dozen. They are made of olive stocks about ten inches long and half an inch in diameter. At one end for about half an inch they are split in all directions, so as to form brush closely resembling a stenceling brush. It is easy to see that they are not calculated to endure hard wear. The less particular Turks use ordinary European tooth brushes, but as even the most lax among them look on the pig and all belonging to him as vile and unclean, they would as soon think of defining their mouths with a Russian bristle tooth brush as of eating a pork chop or a rasher of bacon. The shopkeeper, therefore, swears by the heads and souls of his father and mother that the hair of which his tooth brushes are made grew on the back of the camel, the cow or the horse.

An organ grinder with his organ draped in mourning for the dead king, presented a touching spectacle and his silent grief was respected—until he began to grind out "Mulligan Guards."

Oil has been struck in the Black Hills. For the benefit of gentlemen who have been interviewed by the natives of that region, we hope it is hair oil.

Washington has a penny restaurent. It is said that a man can get a pretty fair meal, but he must not expect to draw any very valuable prizes in his hash.

Silver and Gold.

GOV. HENDRICK'S VIEWS ON THE EFFECT OF THE PASSAGE OF THE SILVER BILL

[From Hendrick's speech at Indianapolis.]

Since the inauguration of President Hayes I have regarded the repeal of the resumption act as hopeless. He was pledged to resumption; every vote for him was for resumption. If John Sherman, at the head of the Treasury, holds the position, he will enforce the strictest and hardest execution of the law, and it is understood that any bill to repeal the clause will now be vetoed. I have heretofore said that, in my belief, the resumption law has been the source of the greatest calamity to the business interests and prosperity of the country. It has had the effect of causing men to hoard greenbacks and the banks to withhold and withdraw circulation in the fear of being crushed by forced redemption in gold. A favorable foreign trade has promoted a return to specie payment, and if balances shall continue in our favor, I expect to see our paper money at par with gold at an early day.

Will the restoration of silver money mitigate the evils of contraction caused by the resumption law? That is now the hope of the business men of Indiana. It is not as cheap money that the people demand its restoration, but as a legal tender and coin contemplated by the constitution. When restored it will become again a standard and measure of value. Before its demonetization silver was at par with gold, and when restored I think it will rise again to the same level. I need hardly say to you that the value of any class or description of property greatly depends upon the important uses to which it may be applied. Silver was money. They stripped it of that its most important use, and now say it is worth 8 per cent less than before, and, therefore, it cannot be good money. Is that a fair argument as a material for the manufacturer of ware? Silver will have only the value which that use can give it; but when stamped with the quality of money and made a legal tender for the payment of all classes of indebtedness. It becomes the active agent of trade and commerce, measures value and discharges debts, and in such use becomes correspondingly more important to society and more valuable. Were gold stripped of the quality of money, what would be the effect upon its value? I do not believe the pennyweight of gold in the beautiful wine-cup is as useful to society nor as valuable as the same weight of gold in the stamped coin, which does its busy work in channels of trade, and the demonetization of gold would demonstrate that fact. I have heretofore said that silver has become an important product of this country, inasmuch as the world recognizes it as a money medium of exchange. I cannot see why we should not utilize our large product of that metal to the greatest extent that may be found practicable. Its value as money to this country is too great to be thrown away. Should experience prove that because of the increased production of silver there will be a permanent and important difference between silver and gold Congress is clothed with ample power to provide the proper and adequate remedy.

It is objected to the restoration of silver money that it will be in bad faith towards the public creditors. If I thought that possible I would not favor restoration, however important to our interests I might esteem it. My judgment, however, is so entirely satisfied that I have no anxiety upon that question. The question is settled by the fair reading of the public credit act of 1869, and the refunding act of 1870. At the date of the former act it was lawful to pay the 5-20 bonds in treasury notes; but it was contended that because of the circumstances attending the creation of the debt it would not be proper so to construe the laws and that payment ought not to be made in paper. To remove doubt and settle all controversy the act was passed. It pledged the faith of the United States to payment in coin. I opposed the measures in the Senate and said that its effect would be to make the law to read that the debt shall be paid in coin. The bill passed and became a law. Thereupon the debt became payable only in coin, not in gold coin alone but in silver coin as well, for the silver dollar was then a part of the coin of the country, as it was honored in law and commerce as gold.

Next came the law of July 14, 1870, to refund the national debt. That act provided for the issue of new bonds to the amount of $1,500,000,000, bearing 4 4½ and 5 per cent interest. The bonds so to be issued were to be exchanged for the outstanding 4-20 bonds "par for par," or sold for coin, and the proceeds were to be used in redeeming the 5-20 bonds. In the first section of the law it was provided that the new bonds should be made "redeemable in coin at the present standard value." That law, gentlemen, had no uncertain meaning. The new bonds were to be substituted for all outstanding 5-20 bonds. They were to be sold for coin, and it was to be made a part of their language that they shall be "redeemed in coin of the present standard value."

My views on this subject were recently considered of sufficient importance by a distinguished citizen of New York to call for a review and answer by himself. He had unquestionably given the phraseology of the laws relating to the bonds a closer study than I had, for it was in the line of his business and his profits. I had examined these laws with no professional or business purpose, but only as a citizen interested in the financial policy of the country. He found it useful to his argument to show, if possible, that the law under which the public debt was being refunded required the bond to be paid in gold. He used this language: "Yet I am supported by the opinion of illustrious lawyers in the land that gold payments of the debt are required and assured by the refunding act of 1870 itself, which indeed mentions generally coin in its first section; but then its fifty section to carry out the act, excludes silver and specially commands the Secretary of the Treasury receive only gold coin as the coin of deposit and payment." I am sure it will astonish you after hearing the passage read, to learn that the fifth section has nothing whatever to do with the provisions and sales of the new bonds. It provides for this and no more—that the Secretary of the Treasury might for two years receive gold on deposit and issue gold certificates bearing a low rate of interest, and that the deposit might be withdrawn at any time after thirty days upon ten days' notice, and 25 per cent should be retained in the Treasury to pay the certificates and the residue used to redeem the five-twenty bonds that it was criticised by this gentleman for using the words "gold and coin" as synonymous in a public speech, yet to maintain his argument he asked it to be believed that coin and gold coin are loosely used in the same sense in different sections of one of the most important laws of the United States. Gold certificates were to issue only upon gold deposits; but in the second section the bonds were to sell for coin, and in the first section they were to be redeemable in coin of the present standard value. The solemn assurance given by that law to the public creditor was that the bonds issued under it should be redeemed in gold and silver at the weight and fineness then fixed by law. Upon this subject I have no new opinion to express.

In my letter accepting the St. Louis nomination for Vice President I said gold and silver are the real standards of value. Indeed, I would rejoice if our supply of the precious metals was sufficient for the wants of our trade and commerce, but we all know that it is insufficient, and we also have a paper currency, and therefore I have opposed the policy of a forced resumption of specie payments, based upon contraction, by withdrawing the Treasury notes from circulation. The Treasury note has been a safe currency, and the people have had confidence in it, and have not asked for its redemption. Whilst it is a safe currency, it is also a cheap currency in the sense that it does not represent any interest-bearing obligation of the government. In that respect, and in the respect that it is a legal tender, it is a better currency than the national bank note. Because of these views I have urged the repeal not only of the resumption clause, but also of the provisions that sought to substitute bank notes for the outstanding Treasury notes. No higher duty rests on the legislators of this country than the prompt and final settlement of financial questions upon a right and permanent basis. From the farm and the shop and the market place there comes the earnest appeal for final decision, that as far as may be finance may be taken from politics, so that under a stable adjustment confidence and prosperity may return to every interest.

A Darkey's Discourse.

My 'scourse dis mornin' will be from de fust varse of the twenty-fust chapter of de Rebelations.

And I saw a new heaven and a new yeth, for de fust heaven and de fust yeth was passed away, and dar was no mo' to see.

When I think, brudders and sisters, of de recent risin' up of the workin' men of de country and 'mandin' livin' prices for dere labor, I feels swell in my bosom de knowledge of what may come at any time, not specially mentioned in de good book—for I saw a new heaven and a new yeth, for the fust heaven and the fust yeth was passed away. De time am comin' for which we've prayed. De white folks' trials and tribulations have begun, and de new heaven and de new yeth is neah. If could 'press upon de minds of de listenin' congregashun de fact dat dar salvation and dar future 'pended on dar turnin' from dar ebil ways and lookin' for de Sabior, I would be willin' to leab dis land befo' my time, and walk de golden streets of de New Jerusalem, whar water-melons and catfish are never seen; but a niggah will be a niggah. When de new yeth comes and de white folks stand whar we now stand, den we can sing 'Der'll be no more sorrow dere.' We'll own de railroads; we'll own de steamboats; we'll ib in the front part of de house and de white folks in de kitchen. We'll run the banks and de postoffices, whar (bress de Lord) we can get letters ebery day, and not be pendent on postmasters dat gin you one ebery three or four months while de white folks gets 'em ebery day; we'll run de hotels and get de best of beefsteaks 'stead of liver and shank bones—For I saw a new heaven and a new yeth. Things is gwine to turn round. De bottom is gwine to be top and de top is gwine to be bottom. Bress de lamb. De great day am comin', and it only 'mains for you cullud folks to be standin' and awaitin'. Keep on yo' armor of faith. Gird up yo' loins with strength. Take de staff of righteousness in yo' hand and put on de slippers of holiness and march up de hill of Zion to de new Jerusalem whar, restin' in de shade of de trees wid white folks keepin' de flies off'n you, you can shout and sing forever—For I saw a new heaven and a new yeth. De time 'proaches, my hearers. We may not all lib to see de new yeth, but if we die in de faith we may see de new heaven. I now 'peals to you sinners in dis room, whose hearts is hardened and whose neck is stiffened to make one mo' effort to shake off de burden of sin befo it is too late; one mo' effort to put on de robes; one mo' effort to sing de new song; one mo' effort to pray de new prar; so dat when called 'pon to quit de miseries and de trials and de goodnesses of dis life yo' feet will be planted on de rock and not in de miah; and glories of de new heaven will descend, like fallin' snow, and wrap you in an embrace as soft as chillun's arms—

I wish to 'nounce a festival for next Saturday night; and would also say dat if some of the niggahs heab would change der clothes and not come into dis house smellin' of de kitchen it would be mo' 'cepternate. After de hat is passed and a song sung, de congregashelum will pass out and de elders will 'main for business. For I saw a new heaven and a new yeth, for the de fust heaven and de fust yeth had passed away, and dar was no mo' to see.

LIGHTNING.—A worthy couple during a thunder-storm were discussing the cause and effect of the course of nature.

"Who invented lightning?" inquired the lady.

"Benjamin Franklin," promptly replied the husband.

At this astonishing intelligence the lady paused awhile, as if reflecting upon the achievements of the inventor, and finally manifested her appreciation thereof by the exclamation, "Cussed fool, wasn't he?"

Miss Von Hillern says she "hates awfully to have women kiss her." Sorry we can't agree with you, Bertha.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Notice of Town Election.

The qualified electors of the town of Opelousas are hereby notified that an election of seven members of the Board of Police of said town will be held at Opelousas on Monday April 1st, 1878. The polls will be opened at 9 o'clock A. M., on said day and closed at 5 o'clock P. M., and supervised by three commissioners of electors to be appointed by me, according to the amended charter of said town.

JAMES RAY,
President Board of Police town of Opelousas.
mch 9-4t

Found!

December, 1877, in Bellevue, near Capt. Montgomery's place, a large plain 18 karat gold wedding ring, with four initial letters and the word "*Married to——Nov.*, 1864." The owner is requested to call on the undersigned, prove property, pay charges and get the same.

CHAS. N. EALER.

JUDICIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

PARISH COURT, PARISH OF ST. LANDRY,
No. 1953.

PETER JACOBS VS. EMILE A. CARMOUCHE

By virtue of a writ of fieri facias issued out of the honorable Parish Court, in and for the parish of St. Landry, in the above entitled suit, and to me directed, I will proceed to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the Courthouse of said parish, in the town of Opelousas, on SATURDAY, the 23d day of March, 1878, at 11 o'clock A. M., the following described property, to-wit:

A certain engine on the plantation and in the possession of Alphonce Gordeau, on Petit Prairie.

Terms—Cash.

C. C. DUSON,
mch 9 Sheriff of the Parish of St. Landry.