

**IN THE SYNAGOGUE.**

**Rev. I. L. Leucht Discourses on the Subject of Woman's Perfect Equality.**

On Friday last the Rev. I. L. Leucht, pastor of the Synagogue Touro, addressed his congregation upon the subject of admitting women into the councils of Jewish congregations and permit them to help in governing the religious schools connected with the synagogues.

In reviewing the position of women in Israel in former years, he stated that she was not the slave nor the caged bird of the harem, nor the beautiful play toy of man. Her untranslatable name in Hebrew characterizes her as man's equal. The very Genesis of her existence places her on equal footing with man. The wife was never among us a being abandoned to the arbitrary caprice of man, but was an independent person, protected by the law of the State and shielded by the best instincts of society.

The Bible takes great care to inform us that God said to Abraham, being in great doubt as to what he should do with Hagar and Ismael, "Whatsoever Sarah tells Thee, listen to her voice."

The Hebrew woman entered into all the pleasures of society, took part in public gatherings without jeopardizing her respectability. Her special field of labor, however, was her home, and the education of the children her principal duty.

We find women as judges, prophets, poets, songstresses, excelling in prudence, valor, patriotism, etc.

Notwithstanding this, woman has never played any role in the government of the synagogue. There were two solid reasons for this, namely: The men of Israel had a warm heart for their faith, and secondly, the ceremonial law as practiced in the synagogue was not obligatory upon women. At the same time, I cannot find in all my investigations that the spirit of Judaism is anywhere against the innovation of permitting women to exercise her influence in the government of the synagogue.

Our history abounds in examples where women came to the reason when Israel was on the verge of destruction. The principle, so far as the fitness of women to govern and the sanction of Jewish law is concerned, was hereby amply established. At the same time I must admit that I know of no single instance in ancient or modern history of our synagogue that a woman was permitted to exercise executive powers in its domain. Nevertheless, it is now proposed to initiate woman as a governing element into the synagogue.

I propose to present my views of this question. No one will deny that the outlook of Judaism is not very bright. I have shown in previous discourses that our temples are deserted, and the Sabbaths neglected, and that as a consequence materialism is about to annihilate every vestige of Israel's former glory. What is to be done in this emergency? Shall we idly stand by and serve as grave diggers ready to bury Israel's dearest child? Or shall we try to find the elixir of life, reviving the dying child of our bosom, and carry it again triumphantly into our temples and homes.

I prefer the latter, and I am willing to submit to any remedy if it promises the desired end. It is not the first time that Israel has been at the brink of religious disintegration—and at all times the proper men offered and the best means were suggested for bringing Judah back to Jehovah. In this modern interregnum "woman" is urged, based upon the truth that often in our history women were true to God and His laws, when the men had forsaken them and had forgotten the privileged position accorded them.

I am of the opinion that the efficacy of the remedy is beyond doubt; this is not based upon a gallant impulse or a wild speculation—no, for the churches of the whole of Christendom find their main strength in women, and for a very excellent reason she represents idealism in our modern system of existence. In our days, man, so it seems, has but one aim, and that is, gain and gold; to this Moloch every possible sacrifice is offered.

The whole world is a pandemonium, a gigantic race after the material; this is felt in every sphere of life. Art has degenerated to a crude exhibition of vulgar nudity; literature is the playground of a realism that shocks and saddens every finer organized nature; it has undermined commercial honesty; it has robbed our homes of their warmth and their cheerfulness, and has swept from the soul of man that beautiful dew which is borrowed from its heavenly home. Are you, then, surprised to find that it has entered into our congregational life, dispeopling our synagogues and temples? I am not! For every instinct which is not material is trampled under foot. And here, friends, we understand what the Scripture meant when it says, at the very beginning of man's career, "I will make man a helpmate," to stand by him when he, made of earth returns even during his life to earth, she will take his soul and keep it pure and ideal until he finds himself again at the altar of his God, led back by the gentle influence of the custodian of his better self.

Her finer organization, her nobler instincts, her warmer affection, her pure sphere of life, her deeper hope and trust in the infinite, fit her far excellence for the guardianship of our ideal religious interests.

Our men have left us and our women remain the only visitors in God's temple, proving without a doubt the truth of my assertion. To this must be added the fact that nearly the whole education of our children in these days devolves upon the mothers.

The father hardly takes any interest in it; he leaves it to the guardian angel of his home.

Beside this the life of man is at all times under the influence of woman as mother and wife. If this be true why not permit woman to try her influence as a leader in our religious life; it is pretty well established that whatever she undertakes she does with a zeal and enthusiasm unsurpassed by man.

From this standpoint I claim, that if we permit her a ruling hand in our affairs, she will exercise an influence over her husband and children, which, under all circumstances, must tend to our good and the glory of our cause. When we see but one way, woman perceives a thousand to reach her end, and, therefore, she should have representation in our councils as a matter of absolute justice.

At the same time, we dare not forget that the progress of woman upon all fields of labor is beyond the comprehension of many of us. Woman has learned, or must learn, to stand by her own resources—she cannot lean always upon the shoulders of some one else, the realities of life impel her to battle with its difficulties. Therefore, every congregation must take into consideration the problem whether or not women can become legal members of a Jewish congregation. We have the kindness of accepting the rights of widows, but we refuse them the rights of members. Is there a sensible reason why women, single or married, should not have the privilege of joining us? Woman would cheerfully give us, besides her means, her work, her enthusiasm, her influence and her great moral support.

Our women would soon learn to appreciate the great trust imposed on them; and with all the cunning and saunson of their sex would bring back to us their sons and their husbands and once more we could maintain that all Israel is but one.

Dr. Leucht announced that we will answer the question of woman's fitness and readiness to enter this field of labor in the discourse of next Friday evening.

The address of Secretary Howard to the spinners of Fall River, Mass., says that wages have been reduced 50 per cent. since 1874; that the price paid for spinning work on a pair of mules of 1200 spindles will be 30 cents per 1000 skeins, as against 33 cents paid for the same work in Oldham, England; and that, while sixty-six hours of labor are exacted in Fall River, only fifty-six are required from English spinners, and thus does "protection" protect American labor.—N. O. States.

**The State's Levee Policy.**

The signals of alarm which have already been sounded from above indicate that the levee policy of the State administration is inadequate for the proper performance of the work required to be done, and that a failure which, under the circumstances would be peculiarly disastrous, stares the Governor in the face. If the reports of danger received from East Carroll, Madison, Pointe Coupee and other parishes be not exaggerated, the people along the upper river banks will be more indebted for their safety to the sudden cold snap that has checked, temporarily, the onrush of water than to the precautions which have been taken and the protective work which has been done by the local operators.

Act No. 85, of the last session, approved July 10, 1884, placed the work in the hands of two contractors, S. L. James and John McGinty, with whom the Governor and State Board of Engineers were authorized to contract for the construction of all the levees ordered by the Engineers at the following prices: For not exceeding 5 feet high, 15 cents per cubic yard; from 5 to 7 feet, 18 cents; from 7 to 10 feet, 20 cents; 10 to 14 feet, 22 cents, and for levees exceeding 14 feet high, 24 cents. The work is to be approved by at least two or three citizens which the act authorizes the presidents of the police juries of the several parishes to appoint as "local inspectors," and the Board of Engineers is forbidden to allow bills for any work done which is not first so approved by the local inspectors and duly accepted by the State engineers.

In limiting the levee work to two men, and imposing upon the Governor and engineers the necessity of accepting them as the sole contractors, the Legislature not only took upon itself a grave responsibility, but likewise imposed one upon the Governor. The latter, however, seems to have accepted it with alacrity, as he promptly approved the act. In this manner was created a levee monopoly, to be enjoyed ostensibly by two men, to whom the riparian planters can alone look for the protection of their property.

The result is not by any means satisfactory. Of the 1,263,000 cubic yards which the Board of Engineers has ordered, only 277,000 yards have been certified as built—about twenty per cent. All the rest being in an unfinished condition, leaves the State in about as unfortunate a fix as though nothing at all had been done. In some places, according to the reports, a rise of but a very few feet more will enable the waters to pour over the embankment; the workmen will be driven off, and there will be nothing for it but to await the fall of the river next summer.—City Item.

**THE INTER-STATE COMMERCE BILL.**—The Inter-State Commerce bill which has occupied the attention of Congress so much heretofore is up again, and judging from the tone of the speeches made on it there is a prospect of it going over as unfinished business when Congress adjourns next summer. It is among the bills that are utilized to hang up an unlimited number of speeches, and for this reason it is a convenient thing to have around. Whenever a member's constituents begin to growl about not seeing his name in the proceedings he calls up this bill and makes a speech on it to empty benches; but it is published in full, which renews his lease of political life.

This is the treatment of that important subject accorded to it by the practical politicians, who see in it only an opportunity to make capital by giving it a perfunctory support. Some day, however, the people will show a temper on the regulation of railways and the prevention of discriminations, which will recognize the difference between pretending to support a reform and going to work earnestly to effect it. The Congressmen will then do something besides making speeches on railway regulation, or they will retire to private life.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

The St. Landry Democrat and Demorest's Monthly Magazine, one year \$3.25.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

**NO SURPRISE!**

**THE GOVERNMENT ENDORSES The American Agriculturist.**

(From the Tenth Census, vol. 8, just published.) **THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST** is especially worthy of mention, because of the remarkable success that has attended the unique and untiring efforts of its proprietors to increase and extend its circulation. Its contents are duplicated every month for a German edition which also circulates widely. This tribute is a pleasing incident in the marvelous career of this recognized leading agricultural journal of the world.

**WHAT IT IS TO-DAY.**

Six months ago the American Agriculturist entered upon a new career of prosperity, and to-day it is far superior to any similar periodical ever produced in this or any other country. Richer in editorial strength; richer in engravings; printed on finer paper, and presenting in every issue 100 columns of original reading matter from the ablest writers and nearly 100 illustrations. Dr. George Thurber, for nearly a quarter of a century the editor-in-chief of the American Agriculturist, Joseph Harris, Byron D. Halsted, Col. M. C. Weld, and Andrew S. Fuller, the other long time editors, together with the other writers who have made the American Agriculturist what it is to-day, are still at their posts.

**What Free ???**

Every subscriber whose subscription is immediately forwarded us with the price, \$1.50 per year, and 15 cents extra for postage on Cyclopaedia—making \$1.65 in all—will receive the American Agriculturist for Dec. 1884, and all of 1885, and will be presented with the American Agriculturist Family Cyclopaedia (just out) 700 pages, and over 1000 Engravings. Strongly bound in cloth black and gold.

This entirely new volume is a remarkable storehouse and book of reference for every department of human knowledge, including an agricultural supplement by Dr. Thurber. Send three 2-cent stamps for mailing you specimen copy American Agriculturist, an elegant forty-page Premium List, with 200 illustrations, and specimen pages of our cyclopaedia. Canvasers wanted everywhere. Address—

**PUBLISHERS AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST,** DAVID W. JUDD, Pres. SAM. L. BURNHAM, Sec. 751 Broadway, New York.

**OPELOUSAS FEMALE INSTITUTE,**

Opelousas, St. Landry Par. La.

THIS INSTITUTE will resume duties Monday, September 24, 1885, under the immediate supervision of Mrs. M. M. Hayes and Mrs. M. A. Davis, with competent assistants. The scholastic year consists of forty weeks.

**TERMS OF TUITION.**

Preparatory Department, per month	\$ 2 50
Academic " " "	3 00
Music, with use of piano " " "	6 00
Boarding, including washing, lights and fuel, per month	10 00
Embroidery, wax flowers, painting, drawing, each, extra	10 00
Incidental fee	1 00

The government of this school is strict but parental; no hard tasks or restrictions are imposed but every student must comply with the rules, and must prepare up to the measure of her ability, the lessons assigned. Our course of study and mode of instruction are designed to train the mind to the habits of correct thinking and thorough investigation. No student will be allowed to enter higher classes without thorough preparation. Parents and guardians may rest assured that the manners, health and morals of their children and wards shall receive due attention.

No deduction for absence, unless in case of protracted illness. The location of this town is healthy and easy of access. The boarding department is under the immediate charge of Mrs. Hayes. Boarders will provide themselves with blankets and towels. For particulars, address **MRS. M. M. HAYES,** Principal. July 28-

**Barber Shop.**

**E. A. BODEMULLER,** Bellevue Street, bet. Court and Main, OPELOUSAS, LA.

A FIRST CLASS Barber Shop with all the improved apparatus, toilet articles, etc., will be kept open and in operation during the usual business hours. Mr. B. is determined not to be excelled, guaranteeing **Good Work or no Money.** July 22

**W. S. FRAZEE,**

**Attorney and Counsellor at Law,** OFFICE WITH LEWIS & BRO., OPELOUSAS, LA.

Will practice their profession in the Courts of Southwest Louisiana and the Supreme Court and Federal Courts. Notarial Deeds of all kinds executed here and in all parts of the parish. July 22

**OPELOUSAS TIN SHOP,**

Next to Pulford's Saddler Shop MAIN STREET, OPELOUSAS.

All kinds of tin, sheet iron and copper work done, at cheap prices and at short notice. Gut-tering a specialty. WM. LIGHTLEY. may 6-2m-city

**W. W. DUSON,**

**REAL ESTATE AGENT,** RAYNE, LA.

**ATTENDS TO SELLING LANDS,** Purchasing lands, Homesteading lands, Perfecting titles to lands, Searching Records for lands, And paying taxes for non-residents. (14-11)

**FOR RENT!**

THE Lalanne Property, on the corner of Court and North streets, Opelousas, embracing store house and rooms for residence. Apply to **D. LALANNE,** Washington, La. dec 20-11

**FOR SALE OR RENT.**

A PROPERTY built for a hotel and furnished, near the railroad depot in Opelousas. **H. L. GARLAND,** dec 20-3m



**PRICKLY ASH BITTERS**  
The majority of the ills of the human body arise from a derangement of the Liver, affecting both the stomach and bowels. In order to effect a cure, it is necessary to remove the cause. Irregular and sluggish action of the Bowels, Headache, Sickiness at the Stomach, Pain in the Back and Loins, etc., indicate that the Liver is at fault, and that nature requires assistance to enable this organ to throw off impurities.

Prickly Ash Bitters are especially compounded for this purpose. They are mild in their action and effective as a cure; are pleasant to the taste and taken easily by both children and adults. Taken according to directions, they are a safe and pleasant cure for Dyspepsia, General Debility, Habitual Constipation, Diseased Kidneys, etc., etc. As a Blood Purifier they are superior to any other medicine; cleansing the system thoroughly, and imparting new life and energy to the invalid. It is a medicine and not an intoxicating beverage.

ASK YOUR DRUGGIST FOR PRICKLY ASH BITTERS, and take no other. PRICE, \$1.00 per Bottle. PRICKLY ASH BITTERS CO., SOLE PROPRIETORS St. Louis and Kansas City, Mo.

**AN EXTRAORDINARY FAMILY COMBINATION.**

The St. Landry Democrat

Demorest's Illustrated Monthly Magazine.

WITH TWELVE CUT PAPER PATTERNS OF YOUR OWN SELECTION AND OF ANY SIZE.

BOTH PUBLICATIONS, ONE YEAR,

FOR

\$3.50 (THREE FIFTY).

**DEMOREST'S THE BEST**

Of all the Magazines.

Illustrated with Original Steel Engravings, Photographures and Oil Pictures. Commencing with the November number, 1884, each Magazine will contain a COUPON ORDER, entitling the holder to the selection of ANY PATTERN illustrated in that number, and in ANY SIZE.

DEMOREST'S MONTHLY is justly entitled the World's Model Magazine. The Largest in Form, the Largest in Circulation, and the best TWO Dollar Family Magazine issued. 1885 will be the Twenty-first year of its publication; it is now improved so extensively as to place it in the front rank of Family Periodicals, and equal to any magazine. It contains 64 pages, large quarto, 8 1/2 x 11 1/2 inches, elegantly printed and fully illustrated, each number having steel engravings, oil picture, or art subjects, published by W. Jennings Demorest, New York.

AND BY SPECIAL AGREEMENT COMBINED WITH THE

St. Landry Democrat at \$3.50 Per Year

**HARTER'S IRON TONIC**  
THE ONLY TRUE  
WILL PURIFY THE BLOOD, regulate the LIVER and KIDNEYS, and RESTORE THE HEALTH and VIGOR of YOUTH. Dyspepsia, Want of Appetite, Indigestion, Lack of Strength, and Tired Feeling absolutely cured. Bones, muscles and nerves receive their new force. Enlivens the mind and supplies Brain Power. Suffering from complete debility, peculiar to their sex will find in DR. HARTE'S IRON TONIC a safe and speedy cure. Gives a clear, healthy complexion. Frequent attempts at counterfeiting only add to the popularity of the original. Do not experiment—get the ORIGINAL AND BEST. Send your address to The Harter Med. Co. (St. Louis, Mo., for our "DRUG BOOK," Full of strange and useful information, free.)

**LADIES** Suffering from complete debility, peculiar to their sex will find in DR. HARTE'S IRON TONIC a safe and speedy cure. Gives a clear, healthy complexion. Frequent attempts at counterfeiting only add to the popularity of the original. Do not experiment—get the ORIGINAL AND BEST. Send your address to The Harter Med. Co. (St. Louis, Mo., for our "DRUG BOOK," Full of strange and useful information, free.)

**SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN**

ESTABLISHED 1845. The most popular Weekly newspaper devoted to science, mechanics, engineering, discoveries, inventions and patents ever published. Every number illustrated with splendid engravings. This publication, furnishes most valuable encyclopaedia of information which no person should be without. The popularity of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN is such that its circulation nearly equals that of all other papers of its class combined. Price, \$3.20 a year. Discount to Clubs. Sold by all newsdealers. MUNN & CO., Publishers, No. 361 Broadway, N. Y.

**PATENTS.** Seven Years' experience before the Patent Office, and have prepared more than One Hundred Thousand applications for patents in the United States and foreign countries. Caveats, Trade-Marks, Copyrights, Assignments, and all other papers for securing to inventors their rights in the United States, Canada, England, France, Germany and other foreign countries, prepared at short notice and on reasonable terms. Information as to obtaining patents cheerfully given without charge. Hand-books of information sent free. Address MUNN & CO., Office SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, 361 Broadway, New York.