

St. Landry Democrat

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OPELOUSAS:

Saturday, June 12, 1886.

A trip to the Belle Cheney springs, this warm weather, wouldn't be at all out of place, we think.

Whenever you want something to read call at John Jacobs' news stand, on Main street, and examine his stock of papers, periodicals, etc., of which he always keeps a good stock on hand.

The work of cleaning the bricks of the old courthouse still goes briskly on and will soon be over, and the structure of the new building commenced, the material for which will shortly arrive.

The Circuit Court, Judges Moore and Clegg presiding, began on Monday last, with a docket of fourteen cases, which is larger than those for the past two years.

The Cavalry ball, given last night at Perrodins' hall, was a grand success, both as regards pleasure and receipts. We did not learn what the exact proceeds amounted to, but heard that they reached near two hundred dollars.

Notwithstanding the dullness of business in town, Mr. P. S. Cummings, the wide-awake manager of Milmo & Stokes' Lumber yard, has been doing quite a lively business. Mr. C. also purchases cotton seed, bones, hides, etc., and since Wednesday of last week has shipped two car-loads of bones.

Gen. E. T. Lewis arrived in town last Saturday morning and addressed the people of town upon the questions of dividing the parish and removal of the court house. His object was to state to the people what position he had taken and exactly how the question stood in the Legislature.

Quite an interesting ceremony occurred at the Catholic church last Sunday, when the beautiful flag, made and presented to the Opelousas Guards by the ladies of Opelousas was blessed by Father Raymond. Miss Corine Meginley who had been chosen sponsor received the colors from Capt. Taylor, and in a few well chosen words, gracefully spoken, thanked the company for the honor conferred upon her.

Opelousas, like New Iberia, has but one brass band and that is colored. It is a strange thing that all attempts of late to organize a band have been ineffectual, and that the bands that have existed here were so short-lived. Nearly every town of any size in the State has a band and we see no good reason why Opelousas can't have one. We have two military companies and a social club, and to make the list complete we should have a brass band and a literary society. What say you young men?

A superstitious belief exists among a great many people that if it rains on the 8th of June it will rain continuously for forty days thereafter. We had a heavy shower on the 8th and also on the 9th, but the 10th and 11th were clear dry days and up to going to press the weather was all that could be desired. Had this belief proven true, the crops would have been seriously damaged. As a general thing the crops throughout the parish are excellent and the prospects for a large yield were never better than at present; the only danger is in having too much rain.

LAWN PARTY.—The ladies of the Baptist Church will give an entertainment on the lawn of the premises of Dr. D. G. Parker on Thursday evening, June 24th. The grounds will be illuminated brilliantly and out-door amusement will be furnished. With this will be music and entertainment in the parlor for those not preferring the open air. No admission will be charged; but refreshments will be furnished on the ground. The proceeds to be appropriated to the building fund of the church. The public is invited to attend.

The most remarkable hail story we have heard comes from Bartlett, Tenn. A reputable citizen of that place tells a Memphis Avalanche reporter that nineteen days after the fall of hail the negroes piled the stones and built fires on them to melt them so they might make a crop on the land.

Hanged.

Alfred Taylor, colored, who was tried and convicted at the March term of the District Court, for the crime of rape on Mrs. Latrenille, a white woman residing on the old Dr. Moore place near Moundville, about four miles from Washington, was hanged here at 1:45 P. M., last Friday, by Sheriff Dason. The scaffold was erected on the south side of the jail and enclosed by a high plank wall.

The crime was committed on Feb. 8th, 1886, and he was arrested only a week before the trial took place. The evidence adduced disclosed one of the most atrocious crimes on record, and the jury, which was composed of nine white and three colored men, returned a verdict of guilty as charged in the indictment. He was sentenced by the court and in the latter part of April Governor McEnery signed the death warrant, which was read to him in his cell on May 7th. He refused to listen to the advice of clergymen and others to prepare himself for the terrible ordeal which he was to suffer; manifesting a stoical indifference and indulging in revolting profanity until the morning of his execution when he heard the noise of the carpenters erecting the scaffold. He then, for the first time, seemed to realize the gravity of his situation and consented to hearken to the advice of the clergymen, who remained with him engaging in prayer and singing hymns until he ascended the scaffold. He protested his innocence to the last and said that he had to suffer for a crime he had never committed; that an uncle of his had committed the crime and had promised him before the trial that he would take his place if he was sent to the penitentiary. But as he was sentenced to die instead his uncle was not so willing, and he expiated the crime of which he was convicted.

Commencement Exercises.

of the Opelousas Female Institute, Mrs. M. M. Hayes, Principal, will be held at Perrodins Hall, on the evenings of the 16th and 17th inst. Exercises begin at eight P. M. Patrons and friends of the Institute are invited to attend. Alumnae address will be delivered by Hon. E. D. Estillette, and diplomas awarded on the evening of the 17th inst.

Commencement sermon by Rev. J. D. Jackson, at the Methodist church on Sunday 13th inst. at 11 A. M.

CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR.—Auditor Steele is talked about in a quiet kind of a way, for his genial manners have won him hosts of friends, and he has certainly performed the duties of his onerous and responsible position with fidelity and success. Lieut. Gov. Knoblock has a strong backing, though many would regret to see him retired from his present position, which he fills so well. Speaker Ogden is urged for the place by others, who think that his long and valuable services to the Democratic party deserve recognition by promotion. Capt. Wells of Richland, has been mentioned, but the place assigned him by common consent is the role, hitherto so difficult, of "beating King" in the Fifth district. If Hunter, of Rapides, were a little older, he might make a good dark horse, for he has made a decided impression on public events by diligent and faithful service. But if we were to have our way in selecting from the House, Williams of Morehouse would be our choice on the score of affability and looks.

Anyway, his signal services in preparing the ways and means under the unprecedented difficulties of our situation will command notice for a place on the State ticket, when the convention meets. Foster of St. Mary is talked about in the Senate, and he would make a good looking and capable Governor. He has done noble service, and may be his people will want to stick him up stairs. These are not all the probable and possible Governors we have heard talked about, but we have exhausted our adjectives of approving description, and we will have to take a rest.—Extract Baton Rouge Truth.

Some years ago the public took great interest in a new motive power known as the Keely motor. Since then nothing has been heard of it, further than an occasional statement in the papers that Mr. Keely was still at work upon invention. Recently, however, it was announced that the invention would be exhibited in Philadelphia. But when the time arrived, it was said that the machine was not quite completed, but would soon be placed before the public. This promise was partially redeemed last week by a private exhibition, which is said to be satisfactory to the capitalists and scientists present.—Ex-

The remark of President Jackson, that "no party can carry out any distinctive policy that employs its opponents as agents," is as true to-day as it was when uttered by Old Hickory. There was no nonsense or piling sentimental about A. J. When he thought a policy was right, "by the eternal," he carried it out. One can easily fancy what influence the Mugwump would have upon him.—Shreveport Journal.

State News.

The residence and smoke-house of Mr. G. H. Calvin, a farmer of Union parish, residing about twelve miles from Farmersville, was destroyed by fire on 29th ult. A piano, two bedsteads and some bedding was all that was saved. Loss is estimated at \$3000 to \$5000.

Tallulah, Madison parish is to have a new court house that will not cost the parish a cent. The railroad company will furnish the funds.

At Baton Rouge, on the 28th ult., a dandy by the name of Johnson attempted to assassinate Mr. Wm. Thielman, while he was sitting in his store by shooting him with a shot gun. Johnson, while engaged in fight the day before with a negro boy at Mr. Thielman's store, attempted to stab the boy when Mr. Thielman interfered. He had been discharged by Mr. Thielman about a week previously, and these are supposed to have been the causes of the attempt.

About two weeks since a part of the body of a man was found in Old River, Natchitoches parish by a railroad hand and a boy who were out fishing. Subsequent developments have led to the arrest and imprisonment of a man named Palmer.

Patriot-Democrat: Jake Jackson, colored, convicted last February in the District Court, and sentenced to three months labor on the public roads, and assigned by the Police Jury to the work of throwing up and leveling the sidewalk around the Court House square, has nearly reached the end of his term of public bondage. Under the supervision of Capt. J. A. Norwood, Jake has done his parish some valuable service, and is a living exemplification, of how much better, for all concerned, it is for the parish to derive some benefit from the labor of the lawbreaker, than for him to be either shut up in idle imprisonment in the jail or to be turned over to the tender mercies of Major S. L. James' guards.

The Morgan Railroad charges 60c. a barrel on one or one hundred barrels of flour from New Orleans to Lafayette, La., a distance of 144 miles, and only 40c. from New Orleans to Washington, La., a town thirty miles farther from the Crescent City on the same road. One Lafayette mercantile house generally sells over a thousand barrels of flour annually, and several sell each from a hundred to five hundred barrels. This trade, which ought to go to New Orleans, is diverted. The railroad has gone so far, says the Lafayette Advertiser, as to contract with a steambot running from Morgan City into the Vermillion River, not to come within eight miles of Lafayette.

The dry, hot weather of the past week has done incalculable injury to crops throughout this section. The oat crop has no doubt been the greatest sufferer. The corn crop has been considerably cut off and the probability now is that hardly a sufficiency will be made to supply the necessity of the people, if in fact, so much is made.—Ruston Caligraph.

A case of charbon has developed on a mule belonging to a farmer in Iberia parish.

Peter Choice, an old negro, was arrested and jailed in Bossier parish on the 2d inst., by deputy Sheriff R. E. Wyche, for the murder of Marshall Fields, also colored, in Harrison county, Texas, six years ago.

It may not be generally known that Mr. Oliver Biernie, some months ago, sold to his daughter, Mrs. Nannie Von Ahlfeldt, all of his property in this State, for the sum of \$1,000,000.—Ascension Democrat.

On the Foster Maples place seven miles from Shreveport, on the 27th, ult., a colored woman, Lou Montgomey, killed her husband, Horace Montgomery. She cut off his head with an ax while he was asleep.

The Louisiana State press association meets at Monroe Monday, August 2d.

The Farmersville Gazette is responsible for the statement that a negro in that place dug up \$16,000 which during the war a farmer had buried in his yard.

A triangular duel took place in West Lake Charles between Messrs. Duran, Hammond and Senechal, and all were wounded, the latter seriously.

A part of the E. bound train on the V. S. & P. was wrecked on Sunday. The engine was destroyed by fire, and the brave engineer was horribly scalded from the effects of which he died next morning.—Carroll Banner.

Criminal expenses cost too much money in Louisiana. There is no question for argument on that point. It is plain as the noonday sun.—Thibodaux Sentinel.

Affirming a G. B.

Farewell, farewell to thee,
 I've seen my fondest hope decay,
 My dreams were once for thee,
 But alas! I lost them from thy stray.

Farewell to thee though it fill my heart
 With pain,
 To lose the woman I've loved so well,
 But I must now from thee refrain
 And leave thee with thy lover to dwell.

I will not be angry with thee,
 Though thou shouldst doubt my love,
 But will ever think of thee,
 Though others win thy love.

WHITEVILLE GEM.

A Double Life.

The application of Peter Elchebarne, of San Jose, for letters of administration on the estate of Charlotte Parkhurst, in Santa Cruz county, has made public a remarkable story of a woman's dual life. Early in the Spring of 1848 the people of Sandusky, Ohio were startled by the discovery that Miss Charlotte Parkhurst, only daughter of Frank Parkhurst, a prominent citizen, had eloped with the town postmaster during the night. The distracted father searched for his Lottie for months without success, and finally concluded that she had come to an untimely death. A few years after this the California gold fever was at its height. Railroads were unknown. Stages were the only means at hand for transporting miners to different points in the gold fields, and experienced drivers were in demand. Their perilous exploits with mustang teams were told in cabin and by the fire. None of these bold pioneer stage drivers were often mentioned than was young Charley Parkhurst. To know one-eyed Charley, as he was called from the fact of having lost an eye in a fight with highwaymen, was to respect and admire him for quiet, courageous character.

Tiring of stage driving, Parkhurst sought more congenial pursuits, and was made time station agent for the stage company when coaches plied between this city and Watsonville. At one time he was put in possession of and held a disputed tract of land, now valued at \$20,000, when the struggle over the property was so bitter that only a brave, determined man was believed equal to the task of holding it. After an eventful career in California, Parkhurst was found dead in bed at Watsonville on December 29, 1879. Then the startling fact was revealed that Charles Parkhurst was a woman. Subsequently investigations established beyond doubt the identity of the famous Jehu with Charlotte Parkhurst, the eloping belle of Sandusky. A singular circumstance is that until now, after the lapse of over six years, no effort has been made, either by public officers or friends of the woman, to settle up the estate. She left no deed, and the exact value or description of her property seems yet to be shrouded in mystery.

Patents Granted.

Patents granted to citizens of the Southern States during the past week, and reported expressly for the "Democrat" by C. A. Snow & Co. Patent lawyers, Opp. U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

J. C. Albrecht, Columbus, Ga. Spark arrester.

J. M. Cox, Camilla, Ga. Cotton gin.

H. Cremer, Newport, Ky. Extension ladder.

M. A. Dees, Moss Point, Miss. Locomotive brake.

W. H. Estes, Canton, Miss. Cotton chopper, scraper and cultivator combined.

W. B. Farrar, Greensboro. Tobacco curing barn.

J. J. Kennedy, Jackson, Tenn. Car coupling.

J. Floyd, & E. J. McCrossin, Lynchburg, Va. Cigarette machine.

E. D. Johnson, Milton, Fla. Saw mill dog.

W. A. Ligon, Sonora, Ky. Carving implement.

N. Marnell, Savannah, Ga. Dumping car.

M. R. Vinson, Hope, Ark. Plow.

J. R. Wharry, Moundville, W. Va. Wagon bed stay.

Z. T. Reno, New Orleans La. Slide valve.

C. K. McGehee, Liberty, Miss. Boiler feeder.

J. B. McRae, Mount Holly, Ark. Clamp.

W. Mitchell, Richmond, Va. Method of strengthening drawers.

S. C. Murray, Silver Spring, Tenn. Car coupling.

G. W. Fulmer, Water Valley, Miss. Car axle journal bearing.

G. R. Hayes, Cambridge, Md. Corn planter.

R. Hemingray, Covington, Ky. Fastener for jar tops.

D. C. Boyce, W. Va. Loading apparatus.

F. Brotherhood, Charleston, S. C. Drying phosphate rock.

J. A. Brown, Chester, S. C. Car coupling.

E. Chol, Thibodaux, La. Burglar alarm.

We have been presented by our old friend Hippolite Fontenot of Bayou Boeuf, with a cotton bloom which was plucked from his field on the 3d inst. We have also been favored by our former townsman Horace Andrus, now working the Hudspeth place on Lower Bayou Boeuf, with a cotton bloom which was gathered from a plant in his field on the 7th inst. These are the first cotton blooms we have seen, or heard of, this season.—Washington Argus.

Gen. Sigel, the newly appointed pension agent at New York, was visited by two Germans the other day who insisted on receiving government pensions. Being asked if they were veterans they said they were—they served under Von Moltke in the Franco-German war. They asserted vehemently that he had the power, as pension agent, to give his fellow-countrymen pensions.

Citizens of Opelousas and the Proposed New Parish.

OPELOUSAS, LA., JUNE 1, 1886.
 Editor Picayune—The undersigned citizens of Opelousas notice in your issue of June 1 a telegraphic report of the proceedings of a mass meeting held at Rayne, in this parish, May 31 ult., in which it is charged that nineteen prominent citizens of Opelousas had, in behalf of their town, pledged their hearty and unequivocal support of an act to be introduced in the General Assembly for the creation of a new parish, and further charging that the citizens of Opelousas have violated said pledge in sending a committee to Baton Rouge to oppose the passage of the act to create the parish of Acadia.

The people of Opelousas did not send a committee to Baton Rouge to oppose the creation of a new parish, nor have the citizens of Opelousas violated any pledges made by them.

The committee was sent to Baton Rouge to oppose the act for the removal of the courthouse from their town, notice of which was given by Mr. Kavanaugh in the Senate.

The committee took with them many printed copies of the memorial of the St. Landry Bar referring exclusively to that subject.

Members of that committee, having learned of the projected lines of the new parish, actively opposed, not the new parish but the lines proposed, seeing that the result would be turning St. Landry into a Republican parish—a result which can easily be demonstrated by the election returns, deducting the 1500 Democratic votes admitted by the Rayne people to be within the new parish.

The people of Rayne were uniformly and distinctly told by the citizens of Opelousas, who visited Rayne as a committee of nineteen, to be careful not to draw their lines so as to make St. Landry a Republican parish, and not to come too near to the town of Opelousas. They have drawn the lines so as to make St. Landry a Republican parish and place Opelousas on the borders of St. Landry—both of which things the Rayne people were cautioned against.

There has been no agreement between the citizens of Opelousas and Rayne as to the division line of the new parish. The promoters of the scheme have adopted such lines as suited themselves without considering the interest of the Democratic party or those of the town of Opelousas—and it goes without saying that Opelousas people gave no consent or pledge to turn their parish over to the Republicans and emasculate their own town.

The people of Rayne can run the lines of the new parish without hurt to the Democratic party or the town of Opelousas, and when this is done all opposition to the new parish will cease, so far as Opelousas is concerned.

The undersigned are all the accessible Democratic members of the Committee of Nineteen that visited Rayne: Gilbert L. Dupre, Chas. W. DuRoy, E. S. Andrus, Gus E. Fontenot, Laurent Dupre, B. F. Meginley, Jos. Bloch, R. Mornhuvieg, E. Latreite, Solomon Loeb, F. F. Perrodin, Wm. M. Thompson.

The evening Chronicle says, "during the present session of the Legislature, as an important measure to be adopted, would be one making a suitable appropriation for the purpose of supplying parochial authorities with abstracts from the Land Office, showing what Government lands have been entered in the different parishes."

One hundred dollars looks like a pretty steep price for a two months old calf, but Dr. H. P. Guilbeau, of Breaux Bridge, don't think so, for that is just the price he paid, the other day, for one of that age, with a pedigree ever so long.—St. Martinville Messenger.

Northerners are bewailing the fact that the South is gathering a large portion of the trade which is lost through strikes and lockouts at the North. It is mean to grieve at a neighbor's luck.—States.

Proceedings of the Board of Police, Town of Opelousas.

MONDAY, MAY 31st, 1886.
 The Board met pursuant to call, Present: H. E. Estorge, President, L. B. Sandoz, C. M. Thompson, M. Green, V. Lastrapes and Geo. Pulford.

On motion of Mr. Thompson, Resolved, That whereas there being no other bid for the town printing except that of the St. Landry Democrat and that bid being the same that paper made to the last Board, that the St. Landry Democrat be awarded the contract to do the town printing.

On motion of Mr. Sandoz, Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the town attorney in regard to the ordinance relative to market dues. The President appointed Messrs. Sandoz, Pulford and Lastrapes as the committee.

On motion of Mr. Pulford, Resolved, That the lot bought by C. M. Thompson for the use of the town and from which the town has been using the earth to work the streets, that the President of the Board be and is hereby authorized to have the titles of the same put in the town, on paying the purchase price thereof.

On motion of Mr. Sandoz, Resolved, That the town treasurer be required to furnish an additional bond of two thousand dollars for the special tax.

The following claims were approved and ordered paid on the usual warrants.

C. M. Thompson, Justice of the Peace fees \$62.70
 L. E. Little, surveying and taking a town map 35.00
 Dr. Laveade, medical services to a pauper 8.00
 A. Simon, Justice of the Peace fees 2.00
 A. Giron, constable fees 4.50
 Dr. J. Ray, witness fees 1.00
 On motion the Board adjourned subject to call.

Attest: H. E. ESTORGE, President.
 C. MAYO, Clerk.