

Great excitement prevails throughout the country at the outrage at El Paso Texas, perpetrated by the Mexicans upon a body of Rangers (Texas State troops). It appears that the Rangers number some 25 or 30 and are barricaded in a Mexican dirt hut with walls two feet thick. The Mexicans number 300 to 400. They demand the surrender by the Americans of Judge Howard, to be beheaded, upon the refusal of which demand they threatened to massacre the whole body of Rangers. The utmost excitement prevails and the Governor of Texas has telegraphed the President for immediate assistance and the members of Congress from Texas have taken their departure for home, in view of the state of affairs existing. U. S. troops have been dispatched from the nearest posts to the scene of trouble, under orders to make forced marches, but it is feared they will arrive too late. Gen. Thomas Vincent, Asst. Adjutant General of the United States Army has been dispatched to the scene of conflict. The forces now en route to El Paso consist of ten companies of the Ninth Cavalry, and one company of Infantry. The whole force numbers a little over 300 men and will be amply sufficient if they arrive in time. The Rangers refuse to surrender Judge Howard, but their ammunition is almost exhausted and the Mexicans were undermining the dirt house at last accounts.

LATEST.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The following telegrams were received at the War Department this morning: CHICAGO, Dec. 19. Adjutant General United States Army:

The following dispatch from Gen. Pope, received late last night, is respectfully forwarded.

P. H. SHELDON

Capt. Blair telegraphed at 9 p. m., to-day, from El Paso, that all is over at San Elizario. The Rangers surrendered yesterday morning. Howard, Atkinson and McBride were shot. All of the Rangers were liberated to-day. They are now here. The mob has dispersed.

Blair is instructed as soon as his company reaches him to move down to San Elizario. There seems but little doubt that all the force that has been ordered out will have to be used to arrest the ringleaders and participants in this outrage. Under orders received I shall instruct the troops to assist the sheriff in performing his duty. I regret that the small number of troops in New Mexico and their wide dispersion at numerous points made it physically impossible, in view of the shortness of the time since the Governor of Texas made his demand upon the President, to place a sufficient force at San Elizario in time to prevent the outrage upon the laws of Texas.

From the best information we have, the officer in charge at El Paso and persons comprising the mob were entirely Mexican born citizens of Texas. There does not appear to have been any help from the Mexican side of the river.

JOHN POPE.

Brevet Maj. Gen. Commanding. The above information is, of course, gratifying to the officers at the War Department and the Secretary of War, but they fear that all is not over yet. When the sheriff, assisted by the United States troops, begins making arrests of the ringleaders, there is no telling what new row may spring up.

The Secretary of War received last night from Gov. Hubbard a dispatch saying that a large number of those engaged in the row were Mexicans.

MASONIC INSTALLATION.—The following officers elected for the ensuing year, for Feliciana Lodge No. 21, F. A. M., were duly installed, on the evening of December 15, 1877:

- J. G. Plottinger, W. M.
D. Stocking, S. W.
A. B. Briant, J. W.
A. S. Wooster, Treas.
I. Pollatsek, Secty.
A. G. Bakewell, Chaplain.
J. C. Bushnell, S. D.
W. H. Magearle, J. D.
H. W. Tempel, Tyler
R. C. Lopez, Stewards.

LOUISIANA IMMIGRATION ASSOCIATION.

NEW ORLEANS, DECEMBER 7TH, 1877. At a meeting of this Association, at Exposition Hall, last night, the following circular letter was adopted and the corresponding Committee ordered to send the same to the Police Juries, the newspapers and prominent men of every Parish:

TO THE PEOPLE OF LOUISIANA: At a regular meeting of the Louisiana Immigration Association, held on the 31st day of October, 1877, the following resolution was adopted, to-wit:

Whereas, the necessities of our State should arouse all the energies of her people to promote and encourage immigration, and bring within her borders honest and industrious citizens.

Resolved, That, in order to bring about unity of purpose and action throughout the State, we recommend to and urge upon the people in each and every parish to organize at once societies or associations to encourage immigration; and that when said societies or associations are organized, that they are earnestly requested to put themselves in communication with the association.

Resolved, That a convention representing all the parishes in the State be and is hereby called, to be held in the city of New Orleans, on the second Monday of January, 1878, to take into consideration the most active and feasible means that will bring to our State good and reliable classes of immigrants.

Resolved, That the representation in said convention shall be as follows: For each parish, except Orleans, two delegates for every member of the House of Representatives from said parish, and for the parish of Orleans, three to be appointed by the Chamber of Commerce, three by the Cotton Exchange, three by the Merchants' Exchange, seven by the Mayor of the city of New Orleans, and five by the President of this Association.

It is apparent to every one that there is scarcely a more important question to enlist the attention of Louisiana's people at this time than the question of immigration.

The objects of this State Convention are to suggest and recommend some mode of organization for the consideration of the Legislature for the purpose of inaugurating and carrying on practically a system of immigration, and invite the efforts of our people in the improvement of our State, and bring into use the many thousands of acres of lands now fully cultivated. We have the climate, the soil and the products, which certainly offer inducements, when fully made known to the stranger, to come and settle amongst us. The progress to be made and ultimate results are to be attained by the hearty co-operation of our best people in a united effort, rather than by individual efforts, to bring the many good and industrious farmers, laborers, mechanics and artisans to Louisiana.

We confidently hope that all through the country parishes, in pursuance of the above resolution, delegations of representative men will be chosen as early as practicable to attend the State Convention, in New Orleans, on the second Monday of January (14th day), A. D. 1878. And it is requested that the names of the delegates selected, with their post office address, will be forwarded to the Secretary of this Association at once.

C. W. BESANCON.

Cor. Secretary, ex-officio Chairman. C. J. BERRY, JOHN McEMERY, OSCAR CHOPIN, MONTFORT T. JONES, Committee.

TOBIAS LIBIN, Pres. La. Immigration Association.

THE FUNCTION OF A NEWSPAPER.

There has grown up a sort of common law of obligation, recognized mutually by the press and by the people, by which the people expect that the press, as distributors of useful intelligence, shall inform them as well what is to be avoided as what is to be sought; as well who is to be suspected as who is to be confided in. And a newspaper, as a garnerer and distributor of news, is a public monitor, and it is its duty to admonish the people against frauds and shams, and impostures and dishonesties. It is to be a beacon as well as a guide; and whenever a public newspaper, through its diversified appliances for the collection and distribution of information, discovers anywhere in public life and in public avocations, whether it be a lawyer, or a clergyman, or a physician, a man who, instead of securing the public welfare by honorable methods and practices, simply prowls about in the back-yard of his profession, and uses the means and instrumentalities which honor able title gives him to pander to his own lust or avarice, or any other vile passion, and that paper fails to send out some admonitory voice, and sound some signal of warning, it is recreant to every principle of duty and responsibility, and should be stigmatized by the public it pretends to represent and to serve.

A newspaper, however, has no right, in its endeavors to minister to the public, to sacrifice public character. The public too has a stake in the good name of its citizens, and he who defames a good citizen does it at his own peril. The public press should inculcate the sentiment that he who maliciously or wilfully or wantonly or carelessly even, and falsely, charges a man with a crime, is a foe to society, and an enemy to the law. The law recognizes this, and always has, so that from the earliest history of civilization, and in the rudest stages of civility, we have found that the law furnished protection to every man in the full and complete enjoyment of a well-earned reputation.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF WEST FELICIANA.

ST. FRANCISVILLE, LA., Dec. 15, 1877. School Board met, Present: Jas. P. Bowman, President; Jefferson Carter, Duncan Stewart, George Washington, F. V. D. Hazaman, Jas. H. Stephens, C. Goodman. A quorum being present, the board proceeded to business.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted. Jas. P. Bowman, the committee appointed to confer with Messrs. Wickliffe & Fisher, reported progress.

Resolved, That the committee on the two school houses in St. Francisville, be continued, and the advertisement inserted until the 1st Saturday in January, 1878.

Resolved, That the letter from Jno. L. Kingsbury be spread upon the minutes of this Board, and that the donation be received and the thanks of this Board returned to the generous "Traveler"

RED RIVER LANDING, LA. } Dec. 11th, 1877. } Jno. F. Irvine, Esq.,

DEAR SIR.—Enclosed you will find \$15 00 donated by a "Traveler" for the Public School fund. Please see that the amount is properly applied and advise me. This amount is for your parish. Respectfully, Jno. L. KINGSBURY.

Resolved, That the report of Duncan Stewart on the condition of Berch Grove School house be received.

Resolved, That the reply of the President of the Board to the letter of Robt. M. Lusher State Supt. and the reply of the supt. thereto, be spread on the minutes.

BAYOU SARA, WEST FELICIANA, LA., October, 14th, 1877. } Hon. R. M. Lusher, Supt. Public Education:

DEAR SIR:—Your letter of Sept. 19th, addressed to Charles L. Fisher, Esq., Treasurer of the school funds of the Parish was duly laid before the School Board at its last meeting. The Board considering that the implied censure of its course required an official answer, by resolution instructed me to reply. The Board cannot but think that in the multiplicity of your duties you have confused this with other parishes, which have been less prompt and used less exertion to inform you of the exact condition of their school affairs. Permit me to remind you that every effort has been made by the Board to thoroughly post you in all matters relative to the schools and the difficulties which would be encountered before the schools could be convened. If you remember, a copy in full of the Treasurer's accounts for the last two terms was forwarded to the chairman of the investigating committee in New Orleans, to which your attention was called, showing only a warrant, for \$1134 to credit with suits and claims against the amount of some \$1500. Also that the Treasurer, Mr. Fisher, wrote you regarding the state of affairs to which you replied "that you appreciated the crippled condition of the parish and regretted that the school funds now in the Treasury of the State did not afford you an opportunity of coming to the relief of the parish." Since that time \$800 have been apportioned divided among 12 wards; the Board does not consider that amount as in any degree a relief to the crippled condition of the parish, and can adopt no plan by which 12 or more school houses as required by law can be built, rented or repaired, furnished or put in working condition with that sum of money. The Board is forbidden to exceed its revenue and the amount of revenue received at this time is \$800. The President of the Board in a communication to you some two months since, endeavored also to explain the condition of school matters, and hoped that he had shown the impossibility at that time of commencing the schools without the necessary buildings and without funds. The Board does not consider that there has been any "omission" in reopening of the Public Schools when there were no means at command to do so. Fully realizing the value of Public Education and as evidenced by acceptance of the office, willing to give the necessary time and attention to its advancement, the Board still declines to attempt to carry on the Public Schools upon a credit basis or in any way to accumulate a debt which there is no assurance will be paid. When means are in hand to convene the schools or when apportionments are made showing a reasonable probability of sustaining them, the Board will feel at liberty to commence its labors. Unaware of any neglect of duty, but consulting its interpretation of the public interests, the Board cannot understand how the apportionment due the parish, and necessary to convene the schools can be withheld without it. Any suggestions from you to meet the existing difficulties will be willingly entertained by the Board.

Very Respectfully yours, JAS. P. BOWMAN, President of the Board.

OFFICE OF STATE Supt. PUB. EDUCATION. NEW ORLEANS, LA., Oct. 26, 1877. JAS. P. BOWMAN, Esq.,

President of the Parish Board of Public School Directors, West Feliciana Parish.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of October 14th, has been perused with care.

The undersigned disclaims any intention of imputing blame to your Board in connection with its management of the

School interests of your Parish, and cheerfully accepts your repeated explanation as accounting fully for the non-existence, heretofore, of public schools therein. Warmth of expression may, however, be allowed in behalf of the education of hundreds of children who are vegetating in ignorance; and on this ground I would crave some indulgence toward this office.

School houses which are owned by the Parish should certainly be repaired by the Police Jury; those which are rented, or which may have been donated for the accommodation of schools, might, I would suggest, be put in order with a portion of the \$1,124 60, apportioned Dec., 1876, unless, indeed, your Treasurer has been enjoined, by legal process, from paying out that amount. (Your Board will, I trust, defeat the enforcement of claims for fictitious services, or not drawn out and certified in strict conformity to law.)

If the buildings can thus be put in order, I would then respectfully suggest that your Board, or its Committee, summon candidates for teacherships before it, and examine them in conformity to the rules of the State Board of Education, (Supplement to page 54 of digest), so that you may have competent teachers in readiness to open the schools as early as possible.

Towards the support of such schools, one, or even two, in each of the school districts, you will have in the Treasurer's hands, of the revenue of 1877:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. 1st. The June apportionment, \$833 39. 2nd. The September do.... 416 02. Total \$1,249 41.

Deducting for Secretary, Treasurer and incidentals, say... \$149 41. You have a Teachers' fund of \$1,100 00 which will probably suffice for even 24 teachers for about two months from November, 15th, 1877. The December apportionment will probably amount to about \$1,600 00 providing teacher's salaries for about three months. There will follow the March apportionment to strengthen your Board's efforts to keep the schools in continuous operation for at least seven months, from the 1st December, 1877.

If desks cannot be supplied for your schools, an ordinary pine table in the centre of a room, or two or more such tables, or benches around the room, with a few black boards or impressions of liquid slating on the walls or partitions, will serve to start your schools with, and improvements can be made gradually therein.

Our Conservative party was and still is pledged to the maintenance of an equitable system of public education in the State at large. You will, therefore, I sincerely trust, pardon me for now urging you to open your schools, if possible, on or about the 15th of November.

With sincere respect for each and every member of your Board, and for your energetic Treasurer, I am, in haste, but very truly yours,

ROBT. M. LUSHER, State Superintendent.

P. S. 1st. You have, I trust, received my circular in reference to Text Books. 2nd. If your Police Jury will do nothing, be pleased to send me an estimate of the needed repairs, &c., and I will move the State Board, if possible, to suspend, for your Parish, Rule 38, page 54 of Digest.

Resolved, That Resolutions establishing a school at the Brick Church be reconsidered, and the school be located at "Prospect."

Resolved, That the Resolution establishing a colored School on the Lake Place of Mrs. A. A. Cheatham be reconsidered and the School be located at Mrs. Sarah Row's place.

Resolved, That the President appointed an examining committee. The President appointed F. V. D. Hagaman, Duncan Stewart and C. Goodman. On motion the President was added to the committee.

Resolved, That the salary of teachers of primary schools be fixed at \$25 per month.

Resolved, That Jas. H. Stephens and C. Goodman be appointed a committee to revise the Assessor's enumeration and correct the same.

Resolved, That the Committee of Examination meet at the Court House Dec. 28, 1877, for the purpose of examining applicants for teachership in the primary schools. On motion the Board adjourned.

C. GOODMAN, Sec.

Reader, if you have the chills and fever go and buy a bottle of Dr Hartner's Fever and Ague Specific. (it will cost you only 75 cents). We assure you that it will cure you. For sale by all druggists.

A SUGGESTION.

What do you read these long winter nights? Send immediately for THE SUNNY SOUTH and read its splendid new stories, poems, essays, sketches, religious and secular news, scientific and humorous articles: work out its puzzles, mathematical problems, and games of chess, or amuse yourself with its columns. Every family in the South should take it without delay. It is our Southern family paper and presents a greater variety of reading matter than any other journal. The price is only \$3 a year, or two subscriptions for \$5. See advertisement in another column. Address J. H. Seals or SUNNY SOUTH, Atlanta, Ga.

Judicial Advertisements.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

State of Louisiana, Parish of West Feliciana, Parish Court, Pierson & Heys vs. Jas. P. Bowman, Number 1290. By virtue of and in obedience to a writ of fi. fa. issued in the above styled suit from said Hon. Court, and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale in front of the Court House in St. Francisville, on Saturday, the 13th day of January, A. D. 1878, at the hour of 11 o'clock a. m. of said day the following described property to-wit:

A certain tract of land known as the Hazlewood plantation, situated in the Parish of West Feliciana, and about four miles from the Court House on the lower Jackson road, containing five hundred arpents together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, being the same property acquired by defendant from Mrs. Clara A. Stocomb on the 14th of February, 1877.

Terms of sale—Cash with the benefit of appraisement. JNO. J. BARROW, Sheriff. Dec. 15, 1877.

PARTITION SALE.

State of Louisiana, Parish of West Feliciana, Miss Alice C. Wade vs. J. J. Wade & als. By virtue of and in obedience to a commission issued in the above styled suit and to me directed from the Hon. 7th Judicial Dist. Court, I will offer for sale to the highest bidder at the Court House, in St. Francisville, on Saturday the 31st day of January, 1878, at the hour of 11 o'clock a. m. of said day, the following described property to-wit:

A certain tract of land or plantation situated in this parish containing 1633 acres more or less, and known as the Ellerslie plantation, and being composed of the Ellerslie tract and the Blount tract formerly owned by Mrs. O. K. Wade, together with all the buildings, machinery and improvements thereon or thereto belonging.

Terms of Sale—Cash on the spot. JNO. J. BARROW, Sheriff. Dec. 1, 1877.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

State of Louisiana, Parish of West Feliciana, Parish Court, No. 1250. T. T. Lawson vs. G. W. Edwards. By virtue of and in obedience to a writ of fi. fa. issued in the above styled suit, from said Honorable Court, and to me directed, I have seized and will offer for sale to the highest bidder, in front of the Court House, in St. Francisville, on Saturday, the 22nd day of December, A. D. 1877, at the hour of 11 o'clock a. m. of said day, the following described property to-wit:

Two bay mares. Terms of sale—Cash with the benefit of appraisement. JNO. J. BARROW, Sheriff. Dec. 20, 1877.

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Oct. 13, 77.