

Tri-Weekly Capitolian

LEON JASTREMSKI,
Editor and Business Manager.

BATON ROUGE, JULY 3, 1880.

FOR PRESIDENT.

W. S. HANCOCK,
Of Pennsylvania.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT.

WILLIAM H. ENGLISH,
Of Indiana.

FOR CONGRESS.

HON. E. W. ROBERTSON,
Of East Baton Rouge.

BATON ROUGE A SEAPORT—WHY NOT?

New Orleans Democrat.

Our sprightly contemporary, the Baton Rouge CAPITOLIAN, indulges in some speculations as to the future of the charming city of Baton Rouge, and, among other possibilities, discusses that of its becoming a seaport. On this point it says:

The idea that Baton Rouge might at no very distant day become a formidable rival to New Orleans as a seaport will doubtless excite the mirth of our contemporaries of the Crescent City. For the fun of the thing, however, we'll draw a picture of the highland metropolis of the future:

In the first place, an ocean steamer can reach our town in nine or ten hours after passing New Orleans; and find no impediment in the way of sand bars or any thing else at any stage of water. She can get as near the bank at Baton Rouge as at New Orleans.

There is nothing to prevent grain elevators and cotton compresses from being erected here, and on the most solid ground imaginable.

Then the enormous wharves exacted at New Orleans can be reduced to a mere fraction at this place.

It must be borne in mind, too, that every bale of cotton that is carried to New Orleans via the Mississippi river has to pass Baton Rouge before it is landed at the former place, where it is refpacked.

The fact is that Baton Rouge with its wonderfully healthful site, is situated at the foot of the cotton belt.

This is no subject for ridicule, and we regret to find Brother Jastremski crediting us beforehand with a disposition to sneer. We are quite aware that since the consummation of the work of the jetties, the banks of the Mississippi river from New Orleans up to Baton Rouge, or even above, constitute little more than the protection for a deep water land-locked harbor.

Anywhere along this great reach of river front is a possible seaport. Wherever there is the energy, the enterprise and the capital to provide proper facilities, there may be warehouses, presses, elevators, wharves, etc., and there the argosies of the world may find safe and spacious moorings. Far from laughing at this picture of the CAPITOLIAN'S, we recognize in it every essential element of reality. Some time may elapse before a serious rivalry to New Orleans can be set on foot, but there is no inherent obstacle to such rivalry, as we well know.

Baton Rouge is a delightful, happily-located town. It has every natural qualification for a large commercial depot, and needs only a development of its resources. Should this development be undertaken upon an adequate scale, we quite agree that any disposition to disparage the ambition of Baton Rouge would speedily be checked. There is no such disposition, however, and we regret that the CAPITOLIAN saw fit to take it for granted in advance and to include a corresponding disparagement of New Orleans in its remarks.

To one count in the CAPITOLIAN'S proposition we must beg to enter an objection. It says:

Mobile, with an air line railway traversing the pine land region, thus avoiding the marshes of the Rigoles, could strike the Mississippi river at Baton Rouge, just 130 miles above New Orleans, and there receive the freights borne by the Western barges and steamers, and connect also with the system of railways of Western Louisiana leading to Texas and the Red river valley.

This, with due respect to the CAPITOLIAN, is going altogether too far. Why, pray, should freights, seeking ocean transportation, leave the Mississippi river at Baton Rouge to go to Mobile, which is not half as much of a sea-port as Baton Rouge is. Vessels can be loaded at the Baton Rouge levee—vessels drawing twenty feet—and steam straight to Liverpool without breaking cargo; but what vessel of that draft or anything like it can load at Mobile? To load the average ocean steamship from Mobile freights have to be lightered fifteen

or twenty miles, with all the attendant delay and expense and inconvenience. Our Baton Rouge friend is greatly underestimating the advantages of his own locality when he suggests sending produce from there to Mobile for shipment, and he still further underrates the intelligence of shippers if he supposes that, with their goods at Baton Rouge and with deep water thence to any part of the world, any sane men would send their property to splash about in that hopeless puddle which environs Mobile.

Otherwise we quite agree with Brother Jastremski that Baton Rouge has great possibilities—almost unlimited possibilities—before it. The advantages now possessed by New Orleans will hardly be overcome quite at once, nor, indeed, do we think that the progress and aggrandizement of Baton Rouge depend in any way upon the downfall and disintegration of New Orleans. We have some grave obstacles to overcome here. One of them the CAPITOLIAN points out in our foolish and suicidal system of wharfage and port dues; but we hope to conquer all these in time, and to continue to grow and prosper, no matter how formidable may be the increase of Baton Rouge.

FOR HANCOCK AND ENGLISH.

We dare say that never before in the history of our country have the nominees of a convention received so genuine a greeting as those of Cincinnati. In city and hamlet—North and South—the news that the gallant Hancock had carried the Democratic convention in an irresistible outburst of enthusiastic love and admiration has excited demonstrations which always accompany a triumphal march to a brilliant victory.

It would be an insult to the honor of the American people to doubt for a moment that Pennsylvania's heroic soldier statesman, her *chevalier sans peur et sans reproche*, will sweep from the arena an opponent whose name has been furnished by base official transactions, and, above all, by committing the great crime of giving his vote in the Electoral Commission of 1877, to deprive President-elect Tilden of his rightful authority.

The opportunity is now presented to brand one of the perjured arbiters with the seal of the popular condemnation aroused by the heinous deed. It could not be the voice of God that would elevate Garfield to the chair occupied by George Washington.

On the one hand, stands Hancock, one of the bravest of Union Generals of the army of the Potomac; a prominent figure among the corps commanders; distinguished for his loyalty to his government and its starry banner; a warrior worthy of crossing his stainless sword with that of our own Robert E. Lee. Hancock, the magnanimous foe, whose great heart swept over the wrongs inflicted by Garfield's party upon his vanquished countrymen of the South; the standard-bearer of the glorious Democracy. For him the war ended at Appomattox in April, 1865, when he sheathed his sword to offer the Olive Branch of Peace at New Orleans, where his good name has become a household word and a rallying cry.

On the other hand, who will sing praises to Garfield and his second, Chester Arthur, for whom President Hayes, Garfield's creature, could not stoop so low as to even do honor.

It cannot be; it must not be that Garfield should receive the Presidency as a reward earned by the violation of a sacred oath to respect the will of the people, and do but simple justice in presence of facts.

Let there be a forward movement all along the line till our chosen leaders, Hancock and English, are declared elected by an overwhelming majority.

The Natchitoches Register, the new paper recently established at Natchitoches by Mr. J. E. Hewitt, is one of the neatest and best printed papers in the State, while its editorials evidence an accomplished and spirited writer. The tone of the paper is strictly Democratic, and under the management of Mr. Hewitt, whose name stands high in North Louisiana Democratic circles, will "hew to the line, let the clips fall where they may." We welcome the new journal to our exchange table, and hope the people of that historic little city will patronize it in a manner commensurate with its merits.

If you wish to enjoy good health and spirits, drink Courd's Endweiser bottled beer.

The finest tonic in the world is the Home Bitters.

ST. JOHN'S DAY AT CLINTON.

A PLEASURABLE EXCURSION.

Through the courtesy of some friends, members of Olive Lodge No. 52, F. and A. M., of Clinton, we had received an invitation some two weeks ago, to attend the grand ball, given in honor of St. John's Day, on the 24th inst. The necessary arrangements having been made to facilitate the coming of members of the Order from this city and West Baton Rouge, we determined to seize that good opportunity to pay a visit to our charming neighboring town.

At 2 a. m., we embarked on board the tugboat, generously furnished by Messrs. Wood and Wilney, in company with some twenty other excursionists. The moon was shining brightly and a cool breeze was breaking the surface of the waters as the swift little vessel was steaming up the broad Mississippi. Every man was looking out for himself. Old soldier like, we ascended to the pilot house on the hurricane deck, hoping to find some secluded corner whereat to enjoy a quiet nap. Alas, Col. R. had already preceded us and had unceremoniously taken possession of the Pilot's couch, under the plea of sickness. Pretty soon Judge W. arrived, followed by an officer of the law, whose good clothes were covered by a long white duster. With us they viewed the Colonel in his snug nest. He seemed to be too comfortably fixed to be allowed to remain alone in his glory, so he was informed that he would not be permitted to rest in peace, while others had to take "pot luck." While the situation was being discussed at length, and the lucky fellow was begging for mercy, two ladies came up, when of course the Colonel had to get up and come forward the pilot house to take a seat alongside of us, where he could admire the poetry of the scene, to his heart's content. A cup of coffee was passed around to all hands, and the *Gesellschaft*, (association) was quieted. In the midst of a pleasant conversation the whistle blow for Lobdell's Store for the purpose of taking aboard Blazing Star Lodge of West Baton Rouge. There was some trouble in approaching the shore, so that Messrs. L. K. L.C. and two others had to walk the plank while they held on tightly to the end of an umbrella extended them from the boat.

Some of our excursionists had carried valises, trunks even, though for a single day's journey, whereas we had but an umbrella to care for. Col. R. after a while opened a carpet sack, from which he took out a vial of perfume for the handkerchief, for the use of the "ladies' men" of the party, and a flask of "red eye" for the others. Of course we wouldn't indulge, but some did, who soon went asleep on the bench till daylight, when Capt. S. took compassion of the group and passed around his lunch basket, the contents of which were demolished in the most approved style. The effect was magical, everybody woke up in the best humor conceivable. We soon effected a landing at Slaughter's, at the foot of the Port Hudson Plateau where some years ago Gen. Gardner's gallant command, behind earthworks, kept at bay Banks' army, for many weeks. All around the historical site can be seen the traces of the fortifications behind which stood the heroic garrison, who after repelling every assault of the enemy, surrendered only when hunger made it imperative so to do. At 8, we took the cars for Clinton. All along the route we gazed at green fields bearing splendid crops, also the pretty landscapes that greeted our eye at every turn.

Indeed the name of Florida parishes is not misapplied in relation to East Baton Rouge and the Felicianas. Undulating and fertile lands well timbered with pine, magnolia, oak and other useful trees, await the advent of the immigrant to reward him for his industry. The day cannot be far distant when thriving farmers will become the neighbors of those who are already reaping the fruits of their labors throughout that beautiful country.

We reached the Clinton depot at 10½ a. m., where our Masonic excursionists were received by their brethren, headed by a brass band. After an interchange of civilities a procession was formed and the march taken up to the hotel, where it was disbanded. Later on, the Masons repaired to a charming spot, in a virgin grove adjacent to the town, where a stand had been erected. In the presence of fully 1500 ladies and gentlemen from the surrounding country and Clinton, Prof. Fay, the State Superintendent of Public Education delivered a very able and eloquent address, which was received with very flattering applause.

The discourse was followed by a bounteous repast, after which the orderly assemblage returned to town, where the news of Hancock's nomination was exciting enthusiastic expressions and demonstrations of joy from every group. On the strength of the glad-some event "King Budweiser" was extensively toasted at the saloons. Luck would have it that we were among some of the most patriotic Clintonians who were anything but slow in extending courtesies, so that we found it expedient after a bit, to retreat while it was yet time to do so in tolerable good order. We then took a stroll to see what there was to be seen. Our ex-colleague in the Constitutional Convention Col. Stone had assigned us splendid quarters in a fine mansion where he had stored some fragrant mint and its attendant condiments, which he placed at our and the disposal of friends. We were duly installed as the lords of the manor during our stay.

At about nine o'clock we made our *entree* into the spacious Masonic Hall where the most pleasing spectacle greeted our vision. Moving in accord with the strains of their excellent local brass band, elegantly dressed ladies and gentlemen filled the neatly arranged ball room. The scene was one hardly to be surpassed even in the Crescent City, famed for the beauty and grace of its women. There were belles on every side, charming in manners and captivating in appearance. Through the courtesy of friends we were introduced to a number of as lovable representatives of the fair sex, as it has ever been our good fortune to meet anywhere. Unable to resist the temptation we were soon one of the active stockholders in the dance. During an intermission an interesting and spirited contest took place among the admirers of two of the handsomest ladies present, Misses C. and B., who were duly nominated and voted for in a competition for the ownership of a fine cake that brought the large amount of \$127.00. Miss C. was the fortunate winner.

So great were the attractions that we held the fort till the ball ended, when we retired, a completely fascinated mortal. Cupid's darts had inflicted the most cruel wounds in our heart. Indeed, we would forever remember that Masonic ball in that lovely burg.

It may be that the very friendly courtesies extended us have caused us to see Clinton *couleur de rose*, but we do sincerely believe that a lovelier town cannot be found in all Louisiana. Situated as it is, on undulating ground, with broad shady streets, lined with cosy and elegant residences in the centre of broad yards and *porticoes*, one cannot look for a happier country home than there. It is truly astonishing to meet in an interior place so cultivated and refined a population. It is sure enough an oasis of civilization in the beautiful woodland of the Floridas.

It does seem to us that there ought to be real happiness in that favored community. The secret of it all is that Clinton has always afforded excellent institutions of learning. No wonder that it furnishes so many intelligent ladies and talented men.

No town in the State, of its size, has produced as many orators and distinguished professional men as Clinton. We unhesitatingly make this acknowledgement, while we indulge the hope that, ere long, a railroad will unite the Capital City in closer bonds with its hospitable neighbor.

Were we to express our grateful thanks by naming those who extended us friendly courtesies during our short sojourn, we would fill many more lines. We will, therefore, say to them, that the CAPITOLIAN will ever be the staunch friend of Clinton and its gallant people.

To make a long story short, we will conclude by stating that the entire *Gesellschaft* was as well pleased with their trip as we were.

HON. E. W. ROBERTSON.

Believing that our Congressional district has need of a representative who is thoroughly familiar with its every interest, and one who will apply his energy and intelligence in urging measures, some of which are of the highest importance, notably the construction of the Mississippi levees by the National Government, we place to-day at the head of our columns, as our choice, the present honorable incumbent, Col. E. W. Robertson, one of the old line Democrats of the State, whose experience in Congress has placed him in a position to render valuable services in the near future, in addition to those he has already performed. It should not be forgotten that Col. Robertson

fought his way to his seat against a contestant in 1876; that he was complimented by being named at once by the Speaker as Chairman of the Levee Committee, beyond question the most important one to the vital interests of the Mississippi valley.

He has labored unceasingly to secure effective protection against the flood of the Mississippi for the inhabitants of the rich alluvial lands lying along its shores. We know that Col. Robertson has served the people well in the past.

We are not for him simply because he is able, patriotic, energetic, and faithful to the interest of his people, but because it would not be right, at this juncture, nor wise either, to displace a useful representative to honor some other gentleman by sending him to the Congressional School for a term or two, pending which the great undertaking that Col. Robertson has been so prominent in furthering would remain in suspense.

We feel assured that the people of the district, appreciating Col. Robertson's services, will give him the opportunity of attaching his name to the success of the most important measure affecting the interests of the Mississippi valley.

Baton Rouge a Seaport—Why Not?

Under the above caption, our New Orleans contemporary, the Democrat, makes some very interesting comments which we reproduce in another column. While it admits the possibility that Baton Rouge may, in the future, rise to the dignity of a seaport, it gives Mobile a side-wipe with regard to the insufficient depth of water in the passes leading to her harbor. The Democrat constructed our reference to the contemplated Mobile and Baton Rouge Railway as a project to divert the produce of the West to Mobile for shipment to foreign ports. Such was not our meaning. We clearly alluded to the fact that the latter city would find it convenient to receive Western freights at Baton Rouge, a point situated 130 miles above New Orleans and save thereby considerable time and expense.

Leaving it to the future to bring about the consummation spoken of, we do point, as a nearer one, to the establishment of cotton factories in our city, where all the staple of the Mississippi Valley could be landed at small cost, and where, too, the operatives could be located in comfortable homes, erected on our highlands, producing vegetables, which for size and quality, cannot be surpassed anywhere. In fact, of late years, Baton Rouge has been shipping onions, cabbages and potatoes grown in the neighborhood, which commanded the highest price in the Western markets. All the facilities for obtaining lumber, wood fuel or coal exist in our city in a degree which cannot be excelled in the Southwest. Reference to the census will show that the death rate here is one and a half per cent, a ratio evidencing a healthfulness truly wonderful.

Indeed, we claim that the Capital City of Louisiana is a favored spot, which capitalists and men of enterprise cannot long overlook.

We join the Sabine Southron in this well timed sentiment: "For crimination and recrimination in our party let us substitute unity and organization. Let the past bury the past, and let us work together in the future as one man for our own good and success next fall."

We return thanks to the New Orleans Times, for the following compliment. Coming from such a high and intelligent source, we cannot but acknowledge our appreciation: "The Louisiana CAPITOLIAN joins the list of papers in favor of a State Press Association. And by the way, the CAPITOLIAN has come to the front as a most excellent paper, worthy of the support and patronage of every wide-awake and intelligent man, not only in its own, but the other parishes."

Home Bitters are endorsed by a legion of physicians and chemists.

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Will please take notice that the undersigned has received the Agency for this Celebrated Gutter, and is prepared to furnish and put it up on short notice. It has FIFTY SIX INCHES WITHOUT A SEAM, which does away with broken seams that occur in pigged guttering. This improvement makes it the strongest and Best Gutter Ever Made.

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M. J. WILLIAMS.

July 1.

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WE HAVE ON HAND FOR SALE A TWO HUNDRED pound lot of SECOND HAND REVIVER TYPE, in splendid condition, that will be sold at 50 cents per pound, if taken in bulk. The story published in this issue, entitled "A Drama by the Sea," are specimens of its face—Extra quads and caps.

A 50-POUND LOT OF PICA, Nearly New.

We have also a lot of second hand JOB TYPE in excellent condition, some of it having been used but a short time. This type is of the Bruce manufacture, which guarantees its soundness and durability. Address, W. A. LESUEUR, Baton Rouge, La.

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Everything warranted as represented, and sold as low as the same class of goods can be sold anywhere.

JOHN JOHNSON, Third street, Baton Rouge.

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Another lot of fine Sugar Cured HAMS just landed here per steamer James Howard, and for sale low for prompt cash, at the Family Grocery of June 24

JOSHUA BEAL.

FOR SALE!

Chance for a Bargain.

TWO GOOD MULES, for Cash or approved security. Will exchange for good Horse. Apply at this office. June 24 st.

Kinslow Kerosene!

Another lot of this most handsome and excellent Oil, at Family Grocery of June 24

JOSHUA BEAL.

Lemons, Lemons.

RECEIVED YESTERDAY, per steamer Wilson, 3 Boxes Extra Large, Fancy Lemons. Fine Fruit, and Cheap at 30 cents per dozen. June 18

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IMPERIAL TEA, Excellent Quality.

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