

Donaldsonville Chief.

Published Every Saturday.

LINDEN E. BENTLEY,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Saturday, January 5, 1878.

Seed cane has kept well in West Baton Rouge parish, and the planters are vigorously preparing for another year's cropping.

Mr. Horace Vallas of the St. Charles Herald announces that he will retire from the management of that paper, and resume the publication of the Mirror.

Messrs. Sexton, Slosson, Daly and C. Dion, the celebrated billiard players, have in New Orleans, where they will engage in a championship tournament to open on the 10th instant.

A convention of cotton growers is to be held at Vicksburg early in February, to form an organization for the advancement and protection of the important industry.

Mrs. Ann E. Massey of New Orleans died in that city from nervous prostration superinduced by her narrow escape from death at the burning of the steamer Lotus No. 2. The lady had frequently expressed a presentiment that she would come to her death through fire.

The sugar planters of St. Mary parish will memorialize the General Assembly for legislation by which labor contracts may be regulated and enforced. Laborers wages in St. Mary for 1878 will be from \$13 to \$18 per month, two-thirds to be paid at the end of the month, the balance after the rolling season.

The New York Sun has been victorious in a libel suit instituted by Mr. Alonzo Bell, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, whose ground of complaint was the Sun's charge that he had entered his wife, under her maiden name, as a clerk in the department. Mr. Bell claimed \$100,000 damages, but the jury gave him a goose-egg.

President Hayes and wife celebrated their silver wedding on the 30th of December with a dinner and reception at the White House, but they announced previous to the occasion that no presents would be received. The present incumbent of the presidential chair seems determined to avoid the criticism entailed upon his predecessor by the practice of accepting gifts while in office.

There is a prospect of war between the British troops in South Africa and one of the powerful Caffre tribes inhabiting the region contiguous to the Transvaal Republic. Sir Bartle Frere, Governor of Cape Colony, declares the situation critical and dangerous, and reinforcements have been sent him by the home government.

A pelican was killed in Franklin parish, two weeks ago, by a wanton sportsman who was evidently hard-up for something to shoot at. The Franklin Sun says of the bird: "From the immensity of its pouch we judge it would be an excellent bird for the transportation of food into a besieged city or fortification. The pouch will hold rations for a dozen men. We give this idea gratis to the War Department."

The General Assembly will begin its regular session at New Orleans on Monday next. The Senate chamber and Representative hall have been repainted and elegantly furnished, and present a delightful contrast to their dingy appearance during the late regime. There is much good work to be done at the coming session, both in the way of remodeling and abolishing old laws and amending defective new ones rushed through without proper deliberation during the closing days of the troubled session of 1877.

A FEW MILES OF RAILROAD IRON AND CROSS-TIES WANTED.

The Lake Charles Echo of last week says: "Thos. Klempeter, engineer, informs us that he and engineer Barr inspected the railroad road-bed eastwardly to a point about forty miles east of Vermilionville, and found it in much better condition than they anticipated." It is a crying shame that the commercial interests of New Orleans should be suffering and declining for want of railroad construction with the prolific agricultural and stock-raising regions of the great State of Texas, when all that is necessary to secure this desideratum is a few miles of grading and the laying of a few tons of railroad iron. The extension of our New Orleans and Texas road to the Sabine, opposite the town of Orange, Texas, would open connection with the road running from that point towards Houston, and develop a trade that would prove remunerative from the start, and soon make the New Orleans and Texas the best-paying railway in the South.

In fact, the simple closing of the little gap of a dozen miles between the western terminus of our Donaldsonville section of the New Orleans and Texas, and the eastern bank of the Grand river, would place the line speedily upon a substantial paying basis. This extension would provide connection with steamboats plying the Teche, Atchafalaya and various other streams throughout the Attakapas region, thus insuring cheap and rapid communication between that productive section and the New Orleans market. The benefits of such a consummation are obvious, but unfortunately we can not entertain much hope of their fruition in the near future, as the lack of capital in the South, and the financial depression existing throughout the North, evidenced by the numerous failures daily recorded in the press telegrams, demonstrate that the men who have money to invest are few and far between, and they will naturally be very cautious in their ventures until there is promise of better times and a sounder financial status ahead.

THE EASTERN SITUATION.

At the instance of Turkey, England applied to Russia to learn the temper of that country relative to entering upon negotiations for peace through the mediation of her British Majesty's government. Russia's reply is that the Porte must apply direct to St. Petersburg; and the hint is cast out that no power can assume to be a mediator without the consent of both belligerents—mediation under other circumstances becomes intervention. This decided rebuff to England's advances has produced a sensation in that country, but the Cabinet ministers are still hopeful of paving the way to the conclusion of peace between the contending Eastern powers. Talk of English participation in the war has again become general, but the tone of the public utterances of leading officials and newspapers is moderate and pacific, demonstrating that it will require much greater provocation and more serious menace of British interests than yet exists to justify the plunging of the nation into the horrors of war.

Encouraged by her recent brilliant successes in the field, Russia seems determined to exact from her adversary terms that will insure a lasting peace, and while she is willing the protocol when arranged shall be submitted to the European powers for ratification or rejection, she especially desires that the primary negotiations, at least, shall be conducted by the belligerents themselves, free from interference on the part of other governments. The attitudes of Germany, Austria and Italy encourage Russia to maintain this position.

The experience of Mr. Leon Sarpy, a sugar planter of the parish of St. Charles, is somewhat singular, we believe. The St. Charles Herald reports that for some time after the November freezes Mr. Sarpy ground his standing cane and made sugar, but when he commenced on windrowed cane he found it worthless, stopped grinding, and carted it to the rear of his plantation, dumping it in the fields. The fact that windrowed cane was found unfit for grinding is not exceptional, but that cane standing in the fields should retain its saccharine qualities longer than that in windrow, seems to us in contravention of the usual order of things, and at variance with the theory held by a majority of planters. We should be pleased to have the views of some of our experienced cultivators of cane upon this point.

The East Feliciana Patriot-Democrat calls a halt in the business of bulldozing, which it seems is still carried on by a few of the freebooters who attached themselves to the organization of legitimate bulldozers for illegitimate purposes. Our contemporary remarks:

Although we upheld the legitimate bulldozer in all that was done by him during the trying ordeal through which our section passed during the memorable years of 1875 and 6, nevertheless we are now free to utter our emphatic protest against the interruption of hands employed by, and domiciled upon the places of our fellow citizens. The capitalist who invests in land, and puts laborers upon it for its cultivation, should and must be protected in his rights and interests. We have now a good government—one of our own selection—and deeds of violence are uncalled for and consequently should cease.

The CHIEF has persistently maintained that in the pernicious precedent, liable to be followed and abused by lawless and vicious characters, lay the main danger of the forcible plan adopted by the white people of the Feliciana to free themselves from the rule of an obnoxious local government. The above paragraph, taken from the special organ and advocate of the bulldozers proper, shows that the evil which we predicted is impending. Having accomplished the objects sought to be attained by the prosecution of their chosen political policy, the citizens of Feliciana now owe it to themselves and the good name of the State to counteract, with unanimity and determination, the bad effects of that policy. It will require earnest and vigorous endeavor to do this effectually, but we are confident that it can and will be done.

Mr. Cornelius O'Donnell, the regular Democratic nominee, was elected last Saturday as State Senator from the tenth and eleventh wards of New Orleans, to fill the vacancy resulting from the resignation of Senator Eustis. The total vote cast was only 821, a little over one-half the voting population of the district. Mr. Jno. G. Fleming announced himself as an independent candidate two or three days prior to the election and polled 271 votes. Mr. O'Donnell is a workman, and was put forward as the special representative of the laboring classes.

Fred. R. Wright, the good-natured and slightly colored ex-Tax Collector of Terrebonne parish, who has for some weeks been in retirement on account of an alleged deficit of some \$12,000 in his official accounts, has re-appeared in his accustomed haunts—District Court having adjourned. It was asserted by Fred's friends that he was rusticated in Canada, but the Progress shrewdly guesses that the Canada where he spent his leisure moments during the Grand Jury's sitting, is not a thousand miles from the Lutetia plantation, on Bayou Terrebonne.

The order of things which may be looked for under the new dispensation is significantly indicated by the result of a special election held for Representative in the parish of Caddo on the 2nd inst. Notwithstanding a Republican majority of from 500 to 1200 votes is usually cast in the parish, Mr. W. H. Wise, the Democratic nominee for Representative, has been elected by 300 majority over R. J. Looney, an independent candidate who was secretly endorsed by the Republican parish committee.

Hon. Geo. G. Vest of Missouri is now on a visit to this section. It is hoped that he may be induced to address our people on the political issues of the day while here.—Shreveport Times.

Come now, this is rather too early in the political year to be harrying the patriotic citizen with the fumes of the spread-eagle orator. Shoot the speech and pull down your Vest!

"German Syrup."

No other medicine in the world was ever given such a test of its curative qualities as Boschee's German Syrup. In three years two million four hundred thousand small bottles of this medicine were distributed free of charge by Druggists in this country to those afflicted with Consumption, Asthma, Croup, severe Coughs, pneumonia and other diseases of the Throat and Lungs, giving the American people undeniable proof that German Syrup will cure them. The result has been that Druggists in every town and village in the United States are recommending it to their customers. Go to your Druggist, and ask what he knows about it. Sample Bottles 10 cents. Regular size 75 cents. Three doses will relieve any case.

Among the Dead Failures.

Of the past, how many bogus nostrums may be numbered! Beginning their careers with a tremendous flourish of trumpets, blazoned for a time in the public prints and on flaming posters, soon, but not soon, were they relegated to the limbo of things lost on earth. But Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is a living and thriving remedy. It goes on, curing and curing. Neither underhand or open competition affect it. On the contrary, contrast with inferior rival preparations only increases its popularity. It has been repeatedly imitated, but without success. Counterfeits of it have been surreptitiously introduced, but have fallen flat. Everywhere it entrenches itself into the confidence of the people, and well it may, for it is a thoroughly reliable invigorant of the feeble, banishes dyspepsia and constipation, braces the nerves, cures rheumatic ailments and kidney complaints, and eradicates and prevents intermittent and remittent fevers.

Phrenology.
The public are being educated to a better knowledge of Phrenology by the efforts that are constantly being made by the publishers of the Phrenological Journal, that staunch old monthly which has been published now in New York for forty years, and during all this time has lost none of its vigor, and has attained a much wider circulation than its technical name would indicate. The publishers announce now a great reduction in price—from three dollars to two dollars a year—and in connection with this a Phrenological Bust as premium to each subscriber. This bust is a model symbolical head, made nearly life-size, of plaster of Paris, so labeled as to show the exact location of all the Phrenological Organs. It is a handsome ornament, well adapted for the mantle-piece, center-table, library, or office. With the aid of this and the key which accompanies it, together with the series of articles commenced in the January No. of the Phrenological Journal on Practical Phrenology, each person may become quite familiar with the location of the different phrenological organs. It is sent by express, carefully packed, to every subscriber of the Journal, in addition to two dollars, the subscription price, twenty-five cents extra for boxing and packing, or No. 2, a smaller size, will be sent by mail, post-paid, on the same terms. Readers who desire a more complete description, together with prospectus of the Phrenological Journal, should send address on a postal card, or accept the publisher's offer, and send ten cents—half price—for a sample number of the Journal to S. E. Wells & Co., Publishers, 737 Broadway, New York.

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LADIES' FANCY WEAR,

NOTIONS,

PERFUMERIES,

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Comparison of Goods and Prices with those of other dealers always challenged and invited, and the determination

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