The Donaldsonville Chief.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Saturday, August 23, 1884.

It is rumored that Don Carlos has received advices from his adherents in North Spain that they are ready for the signal to begin a campaign against the Alfonzoists.

Judge O. P. Ellis, father of Congressman E. John Ellis of the Second District, died at his home in Amite City, Tangipahoa parish, the evening of the 11th inst., in the 78th year of his age.

The Shreveport *Democrat* will, on the first of September, issue a special edition of 25,000 copies "giving a full and carefully compiled history" of the business of that place during the past month.

Gov. McEnery has issued a proclamation ordering an election to be held throughout the State on Tuesday, the 4th of November, for Presidential Electors and Members of the Forty-Ninth Congress.

Hon. Geo. L. Smith, formerly Congressman from the Fourth District of this State and Collector of Customs at New Orleans, died at Hot Springs, Ark., on the 9th of July. He owned considerable property in Hot Springs and was an esteemed citizen.

A committee of ladies and orphans presented the steamer Clinton with a beautiful flag, in New Orleans, as an evidence of the appreciation they entertain of Capt. John J. Brown's kindness in treating the orphans to an excursion up the river every year.

M. Pasteurs's theory, that hydrophobia can be cured by the inoculation of the patient with the virus taken from rabid animals, has been examined by a government commission in Paris. The report of the commission establishes the correctness of the theory.

Col. Frank H. Hatch, one of the oldest and best known citizens of Jefferson parish, died there three weeks ago, in his 71st year. He held several important positions of public trust during his lifetime, among others that of Collector of Customs at New Orleans under President Buchanan.

On the 20th inst., Archbishop Ryan was installed with the usual ceremonies as the head of the Roman Catholic See of Philadelphia. The cathedral St. Peter and St. Paul, in which the impressive services were held, was jammed to its uttermost capacity, a great part of the vast audience standing.

The daily Houston *Post* is one of the ablest, spiciest and most interesting papers on our exchange list. The man, woman or child who can't find something in every number to amuse or instruct is either deficient in a knowlege of the English language or hasn't gumption enough to appreciate a good thing.

The Shreveport *Democrat* has been enlarged to twenty-eight columns, and with new press and type presents an improved appearance that is creditable alike to its management and to the city in which the journal is published. The Shreveport dailies will issue large special editions on the 1st of September giving the commercial transactions of the past year in exhaustive detail.

Mr. Ben. W. McCullough, the Assistant Passenger Agent of the Texas and Pacific railway, has been promoted to the more important position of General Passenger Agent, with headquarters at Galveston. The promotion is one that will be hailed with satisfaction by a legion of friends, as Mr. McCullough is one of the most genial, efficient and popular men in the railway service.

BASE BALL.—The Nolans, with a party of friends reached Plaquemine last Sunday evening. They there played the Viguets, the game resulting in a score of 26 to 9 in favor of our boys. Quite a large crowd, including many ladies, witnessed the game from the seats which have been erected by the Vignets in their new South End Park. Monday evening the Nolans took the train for Shreveport where they arrived in time to fix a game for Wednesday, which however, they were compelled to postpone on account of the weather. The intervening time seems to have been spent by the players on the respective sides in complimenting each other, for from the *Democrat*, whose editor is a base ball man we believe, we clip the following: "The Nolans look, every inch of them, base ball men, and no doubt the result of these games will be doubtful. Our citizens will remember their visit here last year, and how it put our boys on their mettle to defeat them. They have been strengthened greatly since, and have come again for the purpose of regaining the laurels lost last year and have come prepared. Their deportment while here was very exemplary indeed, which gives them an additional claim for good attendances." On Thursday evening the first game of the series was played, the score by innings being:

Shreveport,	2	0	0	2	1	3	2	0	1	—11
Nolans,	5	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	—8

Hollingsworth threw out seven to Burke's nine men and gave six men first base on called balls—Burke, five. The game of yesterday evening resulted in a still greater disaster to Donaldsonville, its nine scoring only eleven runs, while Shreveport made fifteen. The Nolans play the O. K's. this evening and it is not only hoped here but expected that they will be victorious. We have only the result of the second of the series games and can not comment on the playing, but in the first tussle Burke distinguished himself. Being pitted against a professional pitcher, the young man has tossed a better game than his opponent. Report has it that Messrs. Mullally, Mollaghney and Terragano will now cancel their engagement with the Shreveport nine for this season. The Nolans are expected home next Monday.

ALLEGED CANNIBALISM.

Late issues of the New York *Times* have contained startling and greatly overdrawn disclosures pertaining to the alleged cannibalism of the Greely survivors. While, at first blush, the acts as charged would arouse a thrill of horror and condemnation, cooler reasonings must plead that there are circumstances and occasions when such deeds are not only allowable but excusable. While it is beyond dispute that the body of Lieut. Kisslinbury was stripped of all surplus flesh, there still remains the doubt whether it was used by his unfortunate companions to sustain their own feeble existence, or simply as bait by which fish and shrimp were caught. We, who are clothed with a comfortable allowance of adipose tissue, and hedged in by plentitude of blessings, are not fit judges of men exposed to such trials and temptations as were the Greely survivors. Alone in the ghostly silence of the frozen north, hemmed in by pitiless ice peaks, waiting for and fearing the swift coming of the dread Angel of Death, which oven then had cast its dark shadow over the haggard faces of those starving men, what wonder that the images these weakened brains conjured of warmth and cheer, of waiting loved ones and glowing hearthstones, gave them strength and fortitude to try by *any* means to prolong their lives. The reports of the *Times* should be forgotten in the thought that this little band of men is the remnant of a large force which left wives and sweethearts and prattling little ones, happy homes and cheerful firesides, all that makes life worth living, purely to benefit the researches of science and discovery, and now returns decimated, yet bringing the proud distinction of having penetrated further North than explorers of any other nation and wrested from England at peril of health and strength, life and limb, the supremacy in this respect which she has so long enjoyed.

POLITICAL PARAGRAPHS.

The Republicans and Independents of Florida have fused.

The *Free Press* has "heard of only two Cleveland and Hendricks men in Morgan City and neither of them is a registered voter." The *City Item* rises to inquire who will claim the post-office when Cleveland is elected? And echo answers, Who? When?

Hon. Chas. J. Boatner of Ouachita is making a vigorous canvass for the Democratic Congressional nomination in the Fifth District, and it looks as if Gen. Floyd King will be laid upon the shelf at last.

We believe that Indiana is the most doubtful of the doubtful States and that Blaine and Logan will carry New York.

Hon. Murphy J. Foster of St. Mary parish is urged as an available Democratic candidate for Congress in the Third District. Judge F. S. Goode of Terrebonne is also spoken of in the same connection.

It is stated that Mr. Blaine's letter of acceptance has been more generally read than any similar document ever before written.

Hon. John R. Lynch, the colored temporary chairman of the Republican National convention, has been unanimously nominated for Congress by the Republicans of the Second Mississippi District.

Cleveland and Hendricks have been formally notified of their nomination and have signified their acceptance. They have written their letters on the subject.

It is probable that Hon. Carleton Hunt will be renominated for Congress from the First District of this State, and Hon. Newton C. Blanchard has no opposition so far in the Fifth District. Hon. E. J. Ellis of the Second District is understood not to be a candidate for reelection, and State Senator R. C. Davey is an aspirant for the place. The Third District is more than likely to return Mr. Kellogg. Gen. King will perhaps be defeated in the Fifth, and Mr. Lewis has two popular competitors in the Sixth—Col. T. G. Sparks of Pointe Coupée and Col. W. A. Robertson of St. Landry.

Ex-Congressman Murch, the noted Maine Greenbacker who defeated Eugene Hale in 1878, has declared for Blaine and Logan.

The drift of popular sentiment towards Blaine and away from Cleveland is too apparent to be ignored, and the current will no doubt increase in volume and strength every day. The defection of the Independent Republicans—Free Traders they should be called—is more than counterbalanced by the acquisitions from the Irish-American and laboring classes generally, who appreciate the benefits of Protection and have no desire to be reduced to the level of the poorly paid working people of free trade England.

The Democratic State convention of Texas, at Houston on the 20th inst., nominated John Ireland for Governor and Barnett Gibbs for Lieutenant Governor. Gibbs, at present State Senator from Dallas, it is said, is the youngest man ever nominated for Lieut. Governor of that State.

In a recent speech Ben. Butler expressed the opinion that Jeff. Davis had been constitutionally right in the late war, and stated that he, Butler, had followed the banner of Democracy unwillingly because it was the banner of slavery.

Cleveland has an opponent in Gen. Dan. Sickles, a former supporter of Gen. Hancock and a staunch believer in the New York "Boss."

"There is too much apathy among the people to please the leaders of either political party.—*N. O. City Item.*

Roscoe Conkling declines entering the campaign.

Just received at Gondrans Blue Store—a new and large stock of Fall dry goods.

The left hind foot of a graveyard rabbit has been sent to Gov. Cleveland as a talisman in the coming election by the *Daily Mail* of Eufaula, Ala., It has been handsomely mounted in silver with appropriate inscriptions. The facetious editor of the paper says that this shall be known as the "rabbit foot campaign" and cries confusion to the bolters and conspirators in all parties. The foot was obtained of "Jim Hemphill, Texas," who alleges that the rabbit was shot by him on the grave of Jesse James. Cleveland has acknowledged the gift in a letter of thanks, expressing himself as being "ready to confess that such a thing with such a history ought to accomplish results."

Col. Thos. G. Sparks is being supported by the *Point Coupée Banner* for nomination to Congress from the sixth Congressional District.

A Dignified Response to an Undignified Article—Still Sticking to the Subject—A Challenge but no Fighting.

TO THE EDITOR:

Seek out a communication in one of your late issues signed "A. Z."—not "Shrimp," for we are *different* persons—and look it over. I think it will be impossible for you to find in it one single undignified expression or one word, the use of which might lend even to the foundation of a charge upon me that I had wished to cause a belief in *intentional wrong* on the part of the Police Jury in the sale of the lots therein spoken of. I essayed to show legally that the sale was without authority and unnecessary, but it seems that I have touched the spleen bag of your neighbor and caused the oozing therefrom of an editorial entitled "A Sad Case." The article, dealing in petty personal epithets, is worth noticing for two reasons: 1st. To question its legitimacy and 2nd. because through it I may attain a portion of the end for which my communication was written, the other portion without any aid I have reached. In order to obviate again being stigmatized an "ass" and, possibly a hoodlum, sneak thief or pick pocket (to which I find myself liable, because bold enough to enter public print,) I say right here that it is *my wish and rule* to deal only in language that one gentleman might use in seeking a dignified argument with another, and to the author of "A Sad Case" I say come on, but if he wishes to meet and speak with *me*, he must do so in a manner which I can recognize, or he will be treated as he deserves—with silent contempt.

1st. I have always understood that "legitimate editorialship" was a brave, august, proud goddess, a female Mentor, who refused to demean herself by the utterance of aught that was not typical of her grandeur and who, with her pen—"mightier than the sword"—commanded respect for her dignified deportment." Could the editorial be the offspring of such a one? Plainly not. Then it should have been stillborn. If it has been placed in the paper by or with the previous consent of its Board of Directors, which I doubt, I say to them, that in the mind of the public they are condemned, and advise, in order the *Democrat* may henceforth show a decisive and lofty character as a public spirited journal, it were better they put a foot on editorials using uncalled for *private stigmas upon persons who are dealing with public matters.*

2nd. If there was any necessity for the sale of the property, I ask the writer of the article to state it in answer to the questions asked, "If wrong, set me right." Let it be done in a bold, manly manner, argument for argument. For instance he might have said, your attention is called to the acts of 1842, for the authority to sell—I have learned since writing of their existence, you see. His ridicule has been a misfortune to the *Democrat*, and has harmed none but himself, it has not had effect enough to throw me off my guard, nor to cause me to lose my temper. And believing that from the style of the article, I have recognized the author, and knowing him as one who is, if he will be, worthy of crossing pens with me, I challenge him to answer in a proper way what necessity there was for the Police Jury to sell the so-called "School House Square," and remind him that *dignity* always, as he knows, gets the better of pettiness. A. Z.

Letter from Wide-Awake.

The Political Situation—An Independent and a Lover of Shrimp—The Crops and Money Matters.

PARISH OF ASCENSION, Aug. 21, 1884.

DEAR CHIEF:

The air is full of political vapor and its fumes have spread over the length and breadth of the land. The rustic and peaceful citizen, after years of hard toil, has awakened with invigorated warmth to the situation. He has set his mental faculties to their required strain, endeavoring to pierce, by reasoning power, the dense mist that arises—politically speaking—before him. Digestive medicine then is necessary in order to properly purge the question, and I prescribe that tonic under the title *Independent*, which I recommend to those suffering from a chronic incapability of judging the issue fairly. It is plainly evident that an extremist is a bigoted being and therefore not capable of discussing either side with justice. I am digressing from the point no doubt, but subjects are like chemical bodies, they give rise to various compositions and to be properly and minutely explained, they require the knowledge of a chemist to analyze and separate each composite part. We have before us two men of great ability, viz: Blaine of Maine and Cleveland of New York, who have been chosen as the leaders of the two great parties respectively, to run for the highest office within the gift of the people: the Presidency of the United States. Well, after carefully studying the platforms of both sides what do we find? The answer is plain and outspoken on the Republican side, but shrouded in darkness on the side of their opponents. The Republicans offer protection to American industries and have proved by their recent vote on the tariff bill that they will stand by their record, and on the other hand the Democrats make an indirect offer in favor of protection but can show no record in the past by which we could draw conclusions for the future and consequently base our hopes. The most suspicious point in the tariff plank of the Democratic platform is that Watterson, Morrison *et als.*, of free trade fame are perfectly satisfied about it and likewise their opposites. There is where the shoe pinches, or in other words, where the danger lies concealed. Hence what has Louisiana to expect from such a service? This unfortunate State has already been severely strangled by the grip of free trade acts, not doctrine, and what little life remains will have been completely squeezed out should the Democrats be elevated to power. Cleveland has proved himself a capable Executive, but I doubt if his veto power could be relied on if the Democrats saw fit to pass a free trade measure through Congress. He would necessarily have to follow the irresistible current of his party. The Republicans will have done their duty if they faithfully adhere to their cardinal principles.

Your correspondent "Shrimp" is certainly a philosopher and I think he has raked some unknown pretty severely over the coals. Apparently "Shrimp" roams in shallow water, but the river is pretty low now and the water clear, hence, from its transparency, "Shrimp" can see a good distance without being seen. "He is a close observer and sees quite through the deeds of men" or say, politicians any how. The unknown then could well reiterate the words of the immortal Cæsar and say unto him; "Would he were fatter, but I fear him not, though if my name were liable to fear I do not know the man I should so soon avoid as that spare Shrimp"—or Cassius. As a rule I like shrimp and eat them with a relish, and as your correspondent is one of that family let us hope that he shall never be bagged by the Ascension *Democrat*, though if he, she or it was I think it would offer poor nourishment to the gastronomic tastes of the unknown. "Shrimp," you have done well, yes, exceedingly well, so let us wish for a continuance of the hostilities in your next, or when you have further cause.

The crops are backward and have suffered for want of rain. It is to be hoped we will get a good shower soon, otherwise the cane will cut very short for the mill. There will be a decrease in the yield of corn. Mr. J. C. Cofield has just added to his sugar-house a pair of supplemental rollers which will increase the quantity of cane juice at least ten per cent. His sugar-house now is capable of turning out as fine a grade of sugar as can be made anywhere in the world. Judging from the present outlook and considering the price of sugar, there will certainly be a financial crash and a good many plantations will go under after the crops will have been harvested. Those who have to depend on mercantile advances will be the principal losers. Let us hope for the best.

Yours truly, WIDE-AWAKE.