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ROBT. WHETSTONE, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, POSTOFFICE - OAK RIDGE, LA.

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WILEY P. MANGHAM, Notary Public and Real Estate Agent. OFFICE AT THE BEACON OFFICE, Rayville, Richland Parish, La.

LIBERTAS ET NATALE SOLUM.

RAYVILLE, RICHLAND PARISH, LA., JULY 13, 1889.

NUMBER 28.

Weather-Crop Bulletin.

The rainfall during the past week was heavy, local, and well distributed...

A seasonal temperature prevailed in the northern portion of the State...

It is reported from the northern section that there has been too much rain...

Favorable reports are received from the Florida parishes...

In the sugar region it is reported that the cane is growing very rapidly...

Editor of The Item:—Can you tell me why so few of our voters are compelled to comply with the law regarding payment of the poll tax?

There is no law connecting the ballot with the payment of the poll tax.

A receipt of the kind suggested by "Voter" would have no greater legal effect if exhibited to the election commissioners than would a receipted grocery bill.

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The Richland Beacon.

VOL. XXI.

RAYVILLE, RICHLAND PARISH, LA., JULY 13, 1889.

NUMBER 28.

State Gleanings.

[Called from the La. Review]

ACADIA. Red clover thrives well in Acadia.

AVOYELLES. Marksville Bulletin: The interest in railroad building through this section has not abated one jot.

ASSUMPTION. The ladies of Paincourtville will give a grand fair in July.

ASCENSION. The New River schools are reported in a flourishing condition.

BOSSIER. Bossier Banner Bellevue: Last Saturday Judge T. N. Braden, of this place, gathered 71 pounds of Irish potatoes.

CADDO. Shreveport Times: The purses for the races during the fair in October being liberal, will attract many of the best horses in the country.

CALCASIEU. Jennings Reporter: Tuesday last, the citizens, under the direction of T. E. Wright, raised a liberty pole 100 ft. high.

CALDWELL. Caldwell Watchman: The continued heavy rains of last week, from which the little creeks in the hill portion of the parish were overflowed.

CLAIBORNE. The manufacture of wagons is a new enterprise started in Homer by Mr. W. W. Darmon.

CONCORDIA. The Sentinel has been presented with the first broom made by the

JEFFERSON. Gretna Courier: H. W. Fleddermann and Henry Peters, having resigned the parish school board the Governor, on Monday, appointed C. W. Rosner, Sr., and Z. T. Black to fill the vacancies.

LAFAYETTE. The Acadia Nurseries are in a fine condition. A correspondent from Duxton to the Lafayette Advertiser states that Mr. Whitfield the owner, has 800 Leconte pear trees, 500 Kelsey plum trees and a vast amount of nursery stock.

DE SOTO. Four young ladies formed the graduating class of the Mansfield college for 1889.

LAFORCHE. The Thibodaux Sentinel calls attention to the rapid and increasing progress of the place, and the many handsome residences and buildings erected during the present year.

LINCOLN. Farmers Union: Crops have improved wonderfully since the rain.

MORHOUSE. Morehouse Clarion (Bastrop): We hear upon all sides most unqualified satisfactory reports upon the condition of the crops.

EAST BATON ROUGE. Baton Rouge Advocate: There is a grand surprise in store for Baton Rouge. One of the largest enterprises ever started here is being organized.

EAST CARROLL. The police jury has ordered the construction of substantial bridges in four wards of the parish.

EAST FELICIANA. Southern Watchman (Clinton): Reliable information has been received here that, beyond a doubt, the road from Ethel to Clinton will be put in the same condition as the main line of the L. N. O. & T. railroad.

FRANKLIN. The Franklin Sun states that the preliminary surveys of the Fort Scott railroad company, have been completed from Vidalia to the State line.

IBERIA. Certain tracts of land will be disposed of at partition sale on July 27.

IBERVILLE. The Plaquemine Lumber and improvement company operate three mills and have on hand now seven million feet of lumber.

ST. MARTIN. St. Martin Reveille: T. L. Broussard, a member of Co. 8th Louisiana Regiment, C. S. Army, is taking steps to have the remains of the brave Lieutenant L. E. Leblanc brought from Virginia to St. Martin to be deposited in the family vault.

ST. LANDRY. Opelousas Courier: The recent local showers, although light, have enabled our farmers to go on planting cotton and rice and put out sweet potato vines.

ST. MARY. St. Mary's Courier: Several showers, although light, have enabled our farmers to go on planting cotton and rice and put out sweet potato vines.

ST. JAMES. St. James Courier: Several showers during the last weeks, have changed the aspect of the crops entirely, and our planters are now pleased and satisfied.

ST. TAMMANY. St. Tammany Farmer: Grand preparations are being made for the ball fight at Abits Springs on the 4th of July.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST. A lodge of the Knights of Honor has been instituted in St. John the Baptist with 19 charter members.

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son, a colored man of Mandeville, to be post master at Covington has aroused the indignation of the town.

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A Romantic Story.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—On board the Fowler, which left here yesterday, were a young bride and groom on their way to their home in Jackson county, Tenn., a couple to whom much interest is attracted in that section.

They were married in Nashville Friday and their union is one of the occasional turns in the wheel of fortune which shows on its shining rim unlooked-for blessings.

Several years ago the bride's father and mother, who had been living in Jackson county, where they lived for a few years, their married life not being a very happy one they separated, the mother going back to her old home in Jackson county, where after a time she procured a divorce and married again.

The father left Illinois and settled in Massachusetts, where he engaged in business, and in the course of a few years he had accumulated a considerable amount of property. His business associate was a gentleman named Cleveland, to whom he told the story of his past life.

He related to him his unhappy marriage, the separation between him and his wife, and of his having an only child, a daughter, who had remained with her mother. About a year ago he made his will, in which he left his entire estate to his daughter, if she could be found, and in a short while thereafter he died.

His partner and friend, Cleveland, engaged an attorney, who after some delay, succeeded in locating her in Jackson county of this State, where he found the girl living on a farm a few miles below Gainsboro. When he arrived he found her in true country girl style at the wash tub, in the plainest of garments, and perfectly contented with her condition, getting the usual allowance of twenty-five cents a day.

The attorney told her of his mission, and had no little trouble in apprising her of the amazing truth of the situation. She could not realize that she was to be put in possession of so immense a sum as \$100,000. The attorney at last persuaded her to go with him to reclaim her fortune after fully establishing her identity. She went to Massachusetts. There they had no trouble in arranging matters. She was immediately put in possession of the personal property, consisting of \$9000 and bankable notes to the amount of \$91,000. Her father's real estate was found to be worth \$90,000, and steps were commenced at once to put her in possession of that also. Having secured matters satisfactorily they left for Tennessee and arrived in Nashville a few days ago.

Another interesting feature of the story is that a young man named Shores, who lived in the same neighborhood, had for some time been playing the devoted to the girl before he dreamed of her good fortune, and they had become engaged to marry. Knowing the time of the girl's return to Nashville from her Northern trip, he secured a friend, whose expenses he paid, and went to Nashville, where the two were married Friday. They took passage on the steamer Fowler the same day for their up-country home. The young man is about twenty-five years old, very much behind the world in manners and dress, but honest and clever. The girl is of the same type, was modestly clad in a simple calico dress, and seemed to wear her new fortunes very easily.—Times-Democrat.

John P. Richardson is said to have made a contract with the Mason Cotton Harvester Company, of Charleston, for a number of their machines, and thinks they will pick the staple at a cost of fifteen cents per hundred pounds, whereas, the cost of picking by hand is from fifty cents to \$1.25 per hundred. He thinks he can save \$30,000 a year by the use of the machines.—Caucasian.

The first dirt was broken on the Kansas City, Watkins & Gulf Railroad, at Lake Charles, last week, and fully 500 people witnessed the occasion. Kennedy & Stone, of Kansas City, have contracted to grade thirty miles of this road northward from Lake Charles, in the direction of Alexandria, within six months.—Gazette.

Give the dog and pigs some of the early rice as a change of diet. Chop it up and feed it gradually.

Weather-Crop Bulletin.

The rainfall during the past week was heavy, local, and well distributed except in the southern parishes where the distribution was very irregular.

The average for the cotton growing portion of the State was 2.13 inches and for the sugar and rice section 2.12 inches—computed from the foregoing amounts reported by observers: Shreveport 2.00, Minden 1.85, Liberty Hill 3.02, Grand Cane 1.50, Coahuila 1.48, Winnfield 2.68, Natchitoches 2.51, Monroe 2.73, Rayville 2.63, Vicksburg 2.02, St. Joseph 1.78, Trinity 2.10, Vidalia 1.59, Alexandria 4.38, Marksville 0.58, Cheneyville 1.15, Leesville 1.51, Amite 4.61, Hammond 0.97, Plaquemine 0.67, Sugar Experiment Station 3.35, Mount Airy 1.93, New Orleans 3.04, Grand Coteau 2.50, Lafayette 2.11, Lake Charles 4.00, Shell Beach 2.55, Abbeville 4.53, New Iberia 1.71, Jeanerette 3.03, Mandeville 1.41.

A seasonal temperature prevailed in the northern portion of the State and daily deficiency of one degree in the southern portion. There was generally less than an average percentage of sunshine in the northern parishes, cloudy and showery weather prevailing to a marked degree. There was an average of five days on which rain fell during the week. In the southern section there was a greater amount of sunshine with an average of three rainy days.

It is reported from the northern section that there has been too much rain and that the cotton crop, although presenting a very good appearance, is becoming grassy. With the almost daily showers it was next to impossible to keep the fields clean of grass. There is also danger of cotton worms becoming general if the rains continue. Thus far Bienville and Catahoula parishes alone report the appearance of worms. Several correspondents report the corn crop made and an excellent yield. From Vernon parish in the west central portion of the State, it is reported that the hill crops, consisting about 8.9 of the parish are in splendid condition, but too much rain for the low lands.

Favorable reports are received from the Florida parishes: Crops growing finely; in Tangipahoa the gardeners are setting out their strawberry plants and putting in their fall crops. In the sugar region it is reported that the cane is growing very rapidly and is now looking very promising with prospects for a good yield. Planters are busy laying by their crops. There has been an excess of rain and a cessation for a few days would be very beneficial to the sugar interests, giving the cane the benefit of sunshine and stopping the growth of grass. There is an improvement noted in the rice crop, and farmers are yet planting rice in Calcasieu parish.

R. E. KESKAM, Signal Corps, Director.

The Ballot and the Poll Tax.

Editor of The Item:—Can you tell me why so few of our voters are compelled to comply with the law regarding payment of the poll tax? Also, could it not be made imperative for every voter to have his poll tax receipt attached to his registration papers, and stamped "voted" and dated, so as to prevent repeating? Please quote the law and see if it cannot be enforced. VOTER.

There is no law connecting the ballot with the payment of the poll tax. A receipt of the kind suggested by "Voter" would have no greater legal effect if exhibited to the election commissioners than would a receipted grocery bill. The act of 1880 made employers responsible to the tax collectors for the poll tax of their hands if employed a sufficient length of time, but this proved ineffective and was repealed. A proposal to make payment a requisite of the right to vote, was discussed eight or nine years ago, but the politicians, without consulting legal advice, decided that such a law would be palpably unconstitutional, and the idea was abandoned. The poll tax, like any other debt, can be enforced by civil suit, if the debtor has seizable property.—N. O. Item.

Suppose he has not the seizable property. How are you to enforce the tax?

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