

FREE PRESS.

ISAAC H. JULIAN, - - Editor
SAN MARCOS, TEXAS.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1886.

[ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SAN MARCOS, TEXAS, AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.]
All Communications for the Free Press should be sent in on Monday to insure insertion the same week, and all advertisements and business notices not later than Wednesday noon.

Positively no communication published unless the writer's real name accompanies it, not for publication unless desired; but for our own benefit and protection.

STATE DEMOCRATIC TICKET.
For Governor—L. S. ROSS.
Lieut. Governor—T. B. WHEELER.
Attorney-General—J. A. S. HOGG.
Associate Justice—R. B. GAINES.
Land Commissioner—R. M. HALL.
Comptroller—JOHN D. McCALL.
Treasurer—FRANK LUBBOCK.
Supt. Public Schools—O. H. COOPER.

For Congress 8th district,
L. W. MOORE,
of Enyette county.

For Senator 25th district,
W. H. BURGESS,
of Guadalupe county.

For Representatives 91st district,
GEO. T. McGEHEE,
of Hays county.
J. L. ELLISON,
of Caldwell county.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

FOR REPRESENTATIVE.
We are authorized to announce DR. W. M. MORRIS, of Winbury, as an independent Democratic candidate for Representative in the Legislature.

FOR SHERIFF.
We are authorized to announce GAITHER JAMES G. STOREY as a candidate for County Judge of Hays County.

FOR DISTRICT AND COUNTY CLERK.
We are authorized to announce JAMES G. BURLISON, as a candidate for re-election to the office of Clerk of the District and County Courts, in and for Hays County, Texas. Election November 24, 1886.

FOR TREASURER.
We are authorized to announce H. E. BARBER as a candidate for County and District Clerk of Hays County.

FOR ASSESSOR.
We are authorized to announce J. O. ROWE, of Dripping Springs, as a candidate for Assessor of Hays County.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER.
We are authorized to announce J. H. PATTERSON as a candidate for re-election to the office of County Commissioner of Hays County.

COUNTY SURVEYOR.
We are authorized to announce OTTO GROOS as a candidate for Surveyor of Hays County.

HIDE AND ANIMAL INSPECTOR.
We are authorized to announce W. T. ACKLIN, of DuPre, as a candidate for Hide and Animal Inspector for Hays county.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER.
We are authorized to announce JAMES L. OWEN as a candidate for County Commissioner, Precinct No. 1, of Hays county.

FOR CONSTABLE, PRECINCT NO. 1.
We are authorized to announce W. L. STEELE as a candidate for Constable, Precinct No. 1.

Free to Jan. 1, 1887.

As an inducement to new subscribers to the FREE PRESS, we will send a copy FREE to Jan. 1, to anyone who will pay Two Dollars now in advance for the year 1887. Hand in the names and money.

Most Liberal Clubbing Offers.

1. We will send the San Marcos FREE PRESS and the favorite Detroit Free Press, unsurpassed as a family and literary paper, for four months, both for only FIFTY CENTS—less than the price of our FREE PRESS alone for that time.

2. "Texas Farm and Ranch" will be sent one year free to all our present subscribers who owe and who pay up for what they owe and one year in advance, or to any new subscriber who pays for one year's subscription to the FREE PRESS in advance. Every farmer and stockman should take a good paper devoted to his calling, and "Texas Farm and Ranch" will be found to fill the bill. It is published semi-monthly at Dallas.

In addition to the above we will send, when requested, a copy of Kendall's Book on the Horse, price, 25 cents, free to each subscriber of the classes above designated.

Send all remittances to the
FREE PRESS OFFICE,
San Marcos, Texas.

James P. Newcomb is the republican nominee for congress in the San Antonio district.

The democrats of New York city have nominated Abram S. Hewitt as the candidate for Mayor.

The County Election.

The FREE PRESS has said but little thus far on this subject. As our readers know, it is not in the habit of going off "half-cooked" on any subject. The general subject, however, is one of great importance; so we will "break ground" sufficiently to indicate our views, and shall have more to say further on.

Our idea, to begin with, corresponds with the suggestion which good teachers of geography and history inculcate upon their pupils, viz: To begin with your own immediate locality before extending your researches to those more distant. So we believe the people of Hays county should look first to their own political affairs before being too much concerned over the condition of the nation, or even the state. Charity in this case certainly begins at home. Here there is the greatest need of reformation—we mean, the greatest need that concerns us. We have, in the main, an excellent population; sufficient, if well united, to control the elections of our town and county. But the lack of union is the great trouble. While the immoral and lawless influences are well united, and readily wield the ignorant element in our midst at their will, so as to secure to themselves the offices, overawe public sentiment—if necessary, by violence and bloodshed—the solid, sober, law-abiding, God-fearing portion of the people, whose interests and good name are vitally involved, living apart at their farms and places of business, have no such concert among themselves, and hence allow the vicious element too often to become the controlling factor in our local politics. This should no longer be. Let our sober, moral people unite and stand together as one man in defense of the best interests of society, and all will be well. We believe it was Jefferson who said that "Eternal vigilance is the price of Liberty." If good people will not look after their own interests and the well-being of the community, we know of nobody else who will. In vain may you multiply your churches and schools, inaugurate Chautauqu societies, and boast of yourselves as a model people; if you, by your supineness, allow the saloon and hoodlum elements to come to the front and bear rule over you.

We speak the words of truth and soberness, as you all know. Then let us have deeds to correspond. Unite, and unmistakably show your hand; support the best men for office, and you will soon witness a wondrous change. Candidates will be found paying court to the best instead of the worst elements of society, thus securing that grand prize—a good, honest, moral local government.

[We copy the above from an editorial in the FREE PRESS of Jan. 28th as quite pertinent to the present time.]

Captain James G. Storey.

It is not our purpose to give an extended biographical notice of the above named gentleman, who is now brought into conspicuity by his candidacy for County Judge, but merely to note a few points in his career for the benefit of the newer class of our citizens.

Captain Storey is a native of Georgia, and first came to Texas in the winter of 1845, settling in Gonzales county. In 1849, while a resident of Caldwell county, he attended school in San Marcos. He took up his residence in this county in 1853. He was elected clerk of the courts, and served five years as such before the war. When the war came he entered the service and did his duty faithfully as a soldier and officer. After the war he was appointed presiding justice of the county by Gov. Hamilton, and afterwards elected by the people, but was removed from office after the removal of Governor Throckmorton. With the exception of a term as Representative in the Legislature, we believe he has since remained in private life, in which he has ever manifested the best traits of a good citizen. The capability and honesty which have ever characterized him in public offices affords the best guarantee, should he be elected, of an acceptable administration by him of the duties of the important office of County Judge.

The Orange Tribune raises the question whether there has not been a depression of the Gulf coast within the last twenty years. Down to 1867 the tide was never known to invade the streets of Sabine Pass. The numerous and increasing storms on the coast this season seem to favor the idea. The Tribune suggests that the War and Navy Departments investigate the question. If the theory is correct the outlook for Galveston is anything but comforting.

Yellow fever is again reported as prevailing at Biloxi, Miss. Gov. Ireland has quarantined against it.

Misapplication of Public School Funds.

"To the Law and to the Testimony."

This passage of Scripture remains applicable to all questions where there is an acknowledged rule or standard for their settlement. In accordance therewith, we refer to the Report of the Finance Committee and the law adduced by them for the settlement of the question raised by Judge Kone in last week's Cresset, as to the truth of the editorial paragraph in our last entitled "Needs Looking After." A careful perusal of said Report will show that we gave the "substantial facts" of the matter, as we then stated. We mean of course that portion of the Report which speaks of the misappropriation of the school funds, or failure to invest according to law said funds. What are the facts as stated in said Report? Why, first, that the county owes to the permanent school fund the sum of \$1,441.70, which has been borrowed and used by the county for the purpose of paying a debt of the county, viz: the interest accruing on county bonds; and, second, that there is now in the hands of the County Treasurer the further sum of \$1,282.97 in cash belonging to said permanent school fund, which has not been invested in bonds as directed by law, making altogether \$2,724.67, none of which has been applied thus far as the law directs. The only mistake we made was as to the amount, and as we took no notes of our brief and casual conversation with Messrs. Green and Giesen, it seems we misunderstood them on that point. In all else the report sustains us. It shows that this large sum of \$2,724.67 should have been invested in interest-bearing State or United States bonds, and of course the loan to the county of a part of it and the retaining idle in the county treasury of the remainder were plain violations of the law. In proof we quote from the law itself as referred to by the committee, being a clause of Section 6, Article 3703, Revised Statutes. After providing for the disposal of the school lands by the several counties, it closes thus:

"Said lands and the proceeds thereof, when sold, shall be held by said counties alone as a trust for the benefit of public schools therein; said proceeds to be invested in bonds of the State of Texas or of the United States, and only the interest thereon to be used and expended annually."

From the above it will be apparent that the law has not been tracked in several important respects. There is a constitutional provision that "no law [even] shall ever be enacted appropriating any part of the permanent or available school fund to any other purpose whatever." And the clause we have quoted above in full expressly provides that the proceeds of the sales of school lands "shall be held by said counties alone as a trust for the benefit of public schools therein; said proceeds to be invested in BONDS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS OR OF THE UNITED STATES, and ONLY THE INTEREST THEREON TO BE USED AND EXPENDED ANNUALLY."

It is manifest from the above that \$1,441.70 of the permanent school fund has been applied by our county authorities having charge of the same contrary to law, and that \$1,282.97 have not been loaned out as the law directs. It is clear the first named sum will have to be paid back, and ultimately raised by taxation.

Mark, we do not impugn the motives of Judge Kone and our County Commissioners; they no doubt meant well. But we submit whether public officials should not set the example of a strict compliance with the plain letter of the law.

We will only add that we do not think Treasurer Patterson can be justly blamed for the above state of facts. It was not reasonably to have been expected that he would act contrary to the directions of the County Judge and Commissioners.

The remains of Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase were recently removed from Washington to Spring Grove cemetery, near his old home, Cincinnati, with distinguished funeral honors. Gov. Hoadley and others delivered addresses commemorative of the life and character of the great Governor, Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Chief Justice.

Our friend, Dr. Leroy L. Beach, a former employee of the FREE PRESS, now editor of the Labor Echo, Houston, we notice is a candidate for Representative in the Legislature. The Doctor is a worthy gentleman of ability and strict integrity, and if elected will make a useful and efficient member.

The latest storm on the coast spent its greatest fury on Sabine Pass and points adjacent. It proved the most disastrous ever known there, over two hundred lives having been lost. The scene is described as most fearful and heart-rending.

Thos. J. Cluverius, for the murder of Fannie Lillian Madison, was sentenced at Biloxi, Miss. Gov. Ireland, to hang on the 10th of December.

Report of Finance Committee.

To His Honor, Judge Tschannler:

We, a committee appointed in accordance with Article 980, Revised Statutes State of Texas, respectfully represent that four years have elapsed since a committee of this character has officiated, (an evident laxity somewhere).

The occasional appointment of such committees gives to them an inquisitorial character, and just pending a county election the opinion prevails in some quarters that the investigation is made with a view to influencing some special interests.

There has been dereliction in such investigations. They should have at least been annual, if not an incident of the proceedings of each term of the District Court. We therefore beg your Honor's permission to say that we heartily approve of the action (incumbent on you under the law) that you have taken, and respectfully suggest to your Honor and the Honorable Grand Jury that such investigation should be in the future a matter of duty at each recurring term of the Court.

We have carefully investigated all matters for the last fiscal year, and thereby establish data upon which subsequent committees may base their reports.

We have found as follows:—In the offices of County Judge, Sheriff, County Treasurer and County Clerk all monies have been accounted for, but the accounts have not been kept in that systematic manner provided for and contemplated by the law.

We respectfully suggest that these accounts date from the next fiscal year and thereafter be regularly kept in the manner prescribed by law.

We find the financial condition of the county as follows:

The county is indebted to Court House bonds, redeemable at the pleasure of the county, bearing 6 per cent. interest per annum, due the State of Texas \$26,000 00
Bonds bearing 8 per cent. interest per annum, due Louisiana Savings Bank, St. Louis, 3,000 00
Jail Bonds due the State, 6 per cent. interest per annum, payable annually in April of each year, 11,750 00

The interest on all these bonds has been paid promptly as it matured.

The county also owes to the permanent school fund the amount of \$1,441.70, which has been borrowed from this fund during the years of 1883 and 1884, and has been used for the purpose of paying interest accruing on county bonds. We find in the hands of the County Treasurer the sum of \$1,282.97 in cash belonging to the permanent school fund, and we recommend that this amount, with the above amount of \$1,441.70 due by the county, should be invested into interest-bearing State or U. S. Bonds, as the law provides (Art. 3703), and that the county should pay a reasonable rate of interest on the school money it has used.

We hereto append the reports of the County Judge, Treasurer, Collector and Assessor, showing the following balances of county funds in their hands:

In the hands of Treasurer:
General Fund.....\$953 31
Lunatic and Pauper Fund.....711 40
Repair Fund.....538 60
County Fund.....42 16
Court House and Jail Fund.....4,886 24
Road and Bridge Fund.....50 22

Total.....\$4,181 93

In the hands of Collector of Taxes.....\$427 29

Available School Fund cash on hand.....\$1,328 11

Respectfully submitted,

Ed. J. L. GREEN,
Ed. P. RAYNOLDS,
WM. GISEN.

San Marcos, Texas, Sept. 14, 1886.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 14th day of September, 1886.

[L. S.] JAS. G. BURLISON,
Clerk C. C. Hays Co.

Mrs. S. O. Harris, wife of the editor of the Orange Tribune, and a most estimable lady, died on the 8th inst. We sympathize with Brother Harris.

The merits of San Antonio politics are something "no fellow can find out." It is doubtful if the intelligent voters on the ground know any more about the subject than the rest of mankind.

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J. V. HUTCHINS,

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STAPLE AND FANCY

DRY GOODS,

CLOTHING, BOOTS, SHOES,

HATS, GROCERIES, CROCK-

ERY, ETC., ETC.,

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TENNESSEE AND SCHUTLER

WAGONS.

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and am better prepared for business than ever before. The ladies will find the best stock of

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Notions, Etc., Etc., ever before exhibited in San Marcos.

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My stock will be found to consist of goods made by the best manufacturers in the country, and I confidently trust for comfort, durability, and style, Ziegler's, Clement, W. and Hess' goods have no equal.

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My stock of Men's and

CLOTHING, HATS,

Is large and I will be able to

—

I respectfully solicit the trade of

other, SATISFACTION AS TO PRICES, QUALITY.

I take this occasion to thank you for your past liberal patronage, and shall endeavor by fair dealing and merit to continue it.

Very Respectfully,
J. V. HUTCHINS,

September

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WM. H. NANCE, SAN MARCOS, TEXAS.
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ATTORNEY AT LAW,

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Everybody are invited to call and inspect my stock, I promise to make it to their advantage to do so.

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