

The St. Landry Clarion.

"Here Shall The Press The People's Rights Maintain, Unawed by Influence and Unbribed by Gain."

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THE GOVERNOR HUNTS DEER.

His Excellency Spends Three Days After the
Fleet-Footed Denizens

OF THE FORESTS OF ST. LANDRY

Six-foot St. Landrian Says the Caddo States-
man Will Take No Odds From Roosevelt
When It Comes to the Chase.

Governor Blanchard, accompanied by Penitentiary Warden Reneaud, of Baton Rouge; Levee Commissioner Gordy Richard, of near Melville; School Director Dr. Joseph, of Melville; Mr. Frank Dimmick and Dr. Lawrence Daly, of Shuteston; Mr. Peterman, of Marksville; Major Oge, of Grand Coteau; and Messrs. Helmick and Cason, of near Melville, made a very successful hunt in Northern St. Landry last week.

Gov. Blanchard arrived in Melville Tuesday, the 27th, where he joined the party awaiting him, and proceeded to Swayze's Lake, on the Opelousas, Gulf & Northeastern Railroad, where camp was pitched that night. Swayze's Lake is famous for its plenitude of fish and game, and is one of nature's most picturesque and lovely countries, dotted with lakes and surrounded by dense forests where the deer roam in native freedom. But the graceful ruminants were not in their accustomed haunts on that day, and only one was jumped by the hounds, which, however, escaped after a run of some eight miles.

The party concluded to move to another place, where it was reported deer were in abundance, and camp was struck Wednesday morning, and a point twenty miles below Melville reached early that day, where it was found that two swamphens, who had been sent ahead, had killed two deer. One of these was immediately shipped by express to Mrs. Blanchard at Baton Rouge.

Thursday two more were killed, and the half dozen rounded off Friday. "Did the Governor killed any?" asked the Clarion man of Mr. Dimmick, on his return to Opelousas.

"No; His Excellency complained that those that passed him on the stand were all does and fawns, and of course it is against the law to shoot them," replied Mr. Dimmick.

"Maybe he don't know a deer from a wood rabbit," suggested the incredulous newspaper man.

"Don't you ever get that in your mind for the truth," quickly replied the Shuteston six-footer, "Governor Blanchard is as good a woodman—" "Woodman of the world, maybe," broke in the scribe.

"Not on your life," hotly put in Dimmick, "a woodman in the woods—a hunter, and a good one. Why, on the first day at Swayze's he straddled a pot-stomached pony and followed the dogs during the long drive of eight miles—and right up to the dogs, too—and you know the woods in that country are as thick and harassing as they can be, and it takes a woodman right to follow fleet dogs there, and don't you forget it. He's been there before, and it's bad luck that only the prohibited species passed him."

The party was arranged some time ago, and several from Opelousas were in it, including Mr. Thos. H. Lewis, Sheriff Swords and Assessor Doss-mann, but His Excellency came when court was in session, and it was impossible for these gentlemen to get off. Mr. Lewis, however, made the start Thursday evening, but as the party had left the place originally agreed upon, he missed them and returned home.

Governor Blanchard was highly delighted with his deer hunt in old St. Landry.

Rev. Teurlings, formerly pastor of the Washington Catholic church, but recently appointed by Archbishop Blenk to the Lafayette church, was enthusiastically received by his parishioners upon his arrival to assume his new duties. Rev. Schmidt, formerly assistant at Opelousas, was assigned to Washington.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE.

Sad Death of Jack Kibbe--Ladies' Progressive League
at Hammond--Monroe Hotel Goes on A
"White Basis"--Other News.

Elks held their annual memorial exercises throughout the State last Sunday.

A Presbyterian church was organized at Welsh, with a membership of twenty-six.

The custom of giving lagniappe will be abolished in New Orleans after January 1st.

The Elks of New Orleans distributed 1500 baskets to the poor on Thanksgiving.

Archbishop Blenk has declared that all Catholics are bound to favor high license for saloons.

Lafayette parish recently purchased two blood hounds, and sent them to the State penitentiary to be trained.

A movement for a \$35,000 school building is well on foot at Gueydan. The population of the town is under 12,000.

R. A. Murf, a prominent citizen living near Crowley, committed suicide by blowing his brains out with a pistol.

Bookmakers are said to have lost a hundred thousand dollars the first week of the winter racing in New Orleans.

Frank Gotch, the champion wrestler of America, was defeated by Fred Beell, of Wisconsin, at New Orleans last Friday.

The population of the Louisiana State penitentiary, at the close of the month of November, numbered exactly seventeen hundred.

It is proposed for the town of Natchitoches to buy the parish courthouse and convert it into a city hall, the parish to build a new edifice.

The Baton Rouge Sugar Refinery has gone into the hands of a receiver, with liabilities of \$12,000. Poor crops for the season are blamed.

A party of English spinners made a tour of Louisiana last week, with the object of inspecting cotton farms on which they propose to raise their own cotton.

The Pioneer, at Napoleonville, is responsible for the statement that Donaldsonville, Napoleonville and Thibodaux will soon be connected by an electric railway.

The ladies of Hammond have organized an Improvement League, with the object in view of helping the men folk boom the country. No wonder Hammond is prosperous.

Curley Brown, the man who was recently convicted of conducting a pool room in the guise of a broker's office in New Orleans, paid his fine and was released from jail.

A Baton Rouge paper started the agitation for a new State capitol, and this has been joined in by other papers in the State, who advocate at the same time a change of capital.

A Bank, with a capital stock of \$30,000, has been organized at Bogalusa, the new town where walks were paved and contract for sewerage given out before a house was built.

Disgusted with the worry over the unreliability of negro servants, the manager of the Hotel Monroe, at Monroe, La., discharged them all and installed exclusively white servants, from chef down.

Police Officer Otis Poirier, of Baton Rouge, had both legs broken over the ankle Sunday, in jumping from his buggy, his horse having become unmanageable. It is feared amputation will be necessary.

The Lafayette Gazette says that the Baton Rouge-Lafayette branch of the Southern Pacific will not be completed until next September, but that trains will be running on both ends to the swamp within four months.

The National Guard of Louisiana will have three rifle ranges under the appropriation recently made for this purpose by the National government.

These ranges will be located at Alexandria, on the encampment ground; at Lake Charles, and at New Orleans, where there is at present an old range, which, however, was recently found to be out-of-date, not having been designed for modern arms.

Rice men of Louisiana have decided to send a committee to Washington to seek construction of the pure food laws to permit the use of various substances for polishing, and prevent its being labelled "artificially polished."

The Lafayette Gazette complains that the waters of Bayou Tortue are being poisoned by chemicals from refineries, and that the finest fishing grounds in the United States are being threatened with contamination.

Daniel Lowden, aged 74 years, committed suicide by cutting his throat from ear to ear with a razor in Alexandria last Saturday. Ill health is assigned as the cause. The deed was committed at the residence of his son-in-law, Isadore Vandewen.

N. C. Collins, who was under bond in the sum of \$2,000 for participation in a get-rich-quick concern, failed to appear in the Federal Court in New Orleans when his trial was called, and his surety, Dominick C. O'Malley, had to pay the bond.

Harry Thomas, a negro, was arrested in Shreveport, charged with peonage. This is supposed to be the first case wherein a negro was charged with this offense in Louisiana. It is alleged that he held a negro woman and her child in involuntary servitude.

The Livingston Times informs us that over four hundred families of Hungarians will arrive in Livingston and Tangipahoa parishes before January 1st, and purchase homes and locate permanently in that section. They will establish a Hungarian newspaper.

Simeon Belden, one of the Confederate soldiers who joined the Republican party after the war and held the office of Attorney-General and later that of Speaker of the House of Representatives of Louisiana during the Republican regime, died in New Orleans last Monday at the age of 76. He was a native of Natchitoches parish, but had been a practicing lawyer in New Orleans since his retirement from office.

Joseph Kibbe, familiarly known as "Little Jack," a popular young man of Abbeville, accidentally shot and killed himself while hunting last Sunday. He went alone to hunt ducks on the ranch of his brother-in-law, and when he did not return to the ranch house for dinner, some of the hands went out to look for him, and found his dead body lying in a path-way, his gun with one barrel discharged by his side, and a terrible wound in his left chest over the heart. He was twenty-four years old.

Gen. Rivera has postponed his plans to organize a new party in Cuba. While he does not give this as a reason, it is supposed that the Island is yet in such an uncertain condition that really nothing solid can be attempted, no matter of what nature. The negro question is now looming up like a dark cloud, threatening to precipitate the Queen of the Antilles into another revolution, were not the United States there to prevent it. The negroes are demanding office and recognition of Gov. Magoon, and complaining that they are not being treated with the consideration that their numbers and standing in that country should insure them. Indeed, the little Island is in a pickle, and it is now considered almost inevitable that there will have to be general housecleaning and new start made by the United States, with the growing possibility of it being added to modern America's possessions. We can more deeply sympathize with Spain now, and feel kinder sorry we gave her a drubbing for spanking the spotted Kid.

"THE VILLAGE IN THE PRAIRIE."

More Evidence of the Marvelous Development
of St. Landry Towns.

SALE OF LOTS IN VILLE PLATTE

Corner Lots Sell For Nearly as Much as Entire
Plat Would Have Brought Three
Years Ago.

That the awakening of St. Landry is genuine and general is more and more made evident every day.

Sections and towns a few years past counted among the "things that breathed not," to-day are among those "of beauty and of life."

The railroads have acted like an electric battery, distributing life and energy through every fibre of the body of this great parish, heretofore, before the railroads' advent, dormant and backward because its greatness could not reach out and make itself known to the world; its resources and advantages smothered in a little world of its own.

Ville Platte, eighteen miles from Opelousas, "wasn't worth the picking" four years ago, if we believe some of its leading business men. Property there was worthless, except to those who owned it and lived on it and maintained themselves by the commerce afforded within its own confines, and the immediate adjoining territory. How could it be otherwise? No railroad, no navigable water, nothing but "its own fat."

Things are different now. The Louisiana East & West made a survey through that section, passing through Ville Platte. At once, on mere prospects, things began to "look up." The road began building, and with it the town of Ville Platte.

New residences and business places began going up. Surrounded by as fertile and staunch a country as is to be found anywhere, where corn and cotton and cane and rice and fruit and trucks grow "like blades of grass in the autumn," it was beyond question that with railroad facilities Ville Platte was bound to thrive and grow. Then came the contemplated line of the Southern Pacific Railroad, from Mamou, through Ville Platte and to Opelousas. And now Ville Platte may be said to be on the threshold of marked prosperity, never dreamed of by its citizens. Twenty-two new buildings have gone up in the past few months! A new two-story hotel is now in process of erection, and a large livery stable has just been completed. Streets have been opened and fields cut into town lots. And all this before a locomotive whistle has been heard in the town. But the roads are assured; one is building and will reach the town by Christmas.

A few years ago a certain tract of seven arpents of land, situated in the corporate limits of the town but not in its present business radius, could have been bought for \$300. In fact there was no sale for it, and it laid there idle, the stamping grounds of stray cows and horses. The Louisiana East & West ran its right-of-way within three blocks of this tract, and last Saturday, at a succession sale of the Stagg heirs, who owned those seven arpents in conjunction with the Hinckley heirs, twenty-eight hundred dollars was realized for it! It was cut up in town lots, 42x150, and the corner lots brought nearly as much as the entire tract could have been bought for three years ago.

Ville Platte was incorporated in 1857, we are told. In those days it was not required to have a fixed population in order to secure a charter. There were but few stores there—the Dardeaus, the Coreills and the Reeds comprising the population. It has maintained a population of about two hundred ever since, going down to 150 at one time. It has now about twelve stores, all doing a good business, and we learn that its citizens will soon organize a Progressive League and go after industries. As we said before, Ville Platte is in the midst of one of the richest sections of the parish.

FARMER'S VICTORY OVER SPECULATOR.

Wonderful Change In Marketing of the South's
Staple in the Past Three Years--New Orleans
Essentially A Spot Market.

For three years the cotton trade the world over has been amazed because the price of actual cotton at New Orleans, the principal primary market, is relatively higher than at New York and Liverpool, but only in the very recent past has the real reason for this reversal of the logical order of things cottonwise been generally understood, and the awakening has added much potential force to the farmer's power as a price maker.

A very few years ago the producer of cotton, burdened with mortgages and debts of all kinds, accepted, generally without question or protest, the price offered by his merchant or city factor, and most of the money so realized was quickly absorbed by usurious interest rates and overcharge for plantation supplies.

This condition of affairs gave the balance of power to the consumer, and in the natural course of events the speculator came to set the pace, which buyer and seller alike followed for many years. Thus the middlemen, or exporter, the man upon whom the spinner relied to round up his supplies, and on whom the country merchant counted as a constant customer, sold cotton ahead which he did not possess in the confident knowledge that when the time came to sell his future "hedged" and buy in his "spots" for delivery to the spinner the transaction would mean clear profit to him in addition to his regular commission, because he himself and his allies were the price dictators.

This was the actual condition of affairs up to three years ago. But a salient force had been at work during two or three years prior to that time. Big demand and comparatively high prices had really brought partial prosperity to many farmers, and many a mortgage had been lifted, and not a few farmers had begun to carry over cash balances from one year to another. Then came the memorable speculative bull campaign of the New Orleans operators in 1904 which left many millions of dollars in the pockets of Southern folk, money which was promptly utilized in throwing off the old yoke.

Co-incident with this occurrence, the farmers began to learn as individuals the advantage of holding their cotton when the market was declining, and by experience found that the boasted independence of the buyer was a sham and a fraud because the mills could not operate without raw cotton supplies, and could not indefinitely extend the date of delivery in order to assist the men whose contracts they held.

This knowledge instantly revolutionized the cotton business, and before the spinner and the exporter realized just what had taken place, two cotton crops had been sold at a valuation enhanced by more than \$100,000,000 over the aggregate value old standards would have brought.

Thus within three years experience along practical line has taught the farmer how to market his cotton to the best possible advantage when the price is advancing. The new method of marketing, which means tens of millions of additional profit to the farmer every year, is worked out in this way:

The spinner buys cotton for forward delivery, just as he has done all along. The exporter sells it to him. But the farmer who sells to the exporter's buyer refuses to accept the price offered, and demands an additional ten, or even fifty, points; or maybe decides that the market is too low and says he wants to wait awhile. Before long the exporter's contract becomes due, and he wires his coun-

try buyer to pay the price asked and to hurry up the shipment. In which event, the relatively higher price the exporter pays for his spots over his "hedged" means a dead loss to him. Next time the exporter sells forward shipments to the spinner, he adds on a few points to protect himself against the farmer. But the farmer repeats his former programme, for the method is progressive, and takes the extra points and a few more besides away from the buyer. After a while the premium demanded by the farmer grows so great, that in self-defense the "hedged" exporter begins to work for an advance in the future market in order to equalize the price of futures and spots. This done, he is enabled to sell out his futures and buy in his spots without loss. The thing works like an endless chain, because except when prices fully meet the farmer's ideas, he demands and gets a few points more than the market price practically every time he sells a bale of cotton. The mills have sold for future delivery all the yarn they can spin during a year to come, and must have the cotton. The exporter can not default in his raw cotton deliveries, for that would mean financial suicide. The bear speculator can not depress spot values and the "hedged" spot short can not permit him depress futures because he knows the farmer would promptly advance the premium at which he is holding spot cotton over futures.

New Orleans is essentially a spot market, and its future contract, based as it is upon natural conditions of supply and demand, reflects this revolution in conditions recounted above; whereas, the New York contract, which is so framed that "dogtail" and other unspinnable cotton may be delivered by the "short" at a profit, favors the speculator always, consequently never reflects conditions existing in the actual cotton market. And this is the reason why cotton values at New Orleans have ranged well above those at New York ever since the farmer began "bargaining" with the buyer some three years ago. Every time Liverpool merchants attempt to buy cotton in the South, that market rises about 100 points above New Orleans, where it belongs. Between times, New York speculators, finding they can not depress New Orleans except at heavy loss, turn their attention to Liverpool with temporary effect.

The cotton market can not get along without the speculator, who occupies the same relation to the spot dealer that an insurance company holds towards the house owner, and who is entitled to a fair profit for the risks he runs. But with the spinner at one end, prosperous and able to pay eleven and even twelve cents for raw cotton, and the farmer at the other end, prosperous, wise to the game, and able to demand and collect such prices, the speculator can not obtain any more than an equitable share of the profits.

Proof of this is found in the fact that in the aggregate speculators have actually lost money by their operations during the past year, and are readjusting their affairs to meet the changed conditions brought about by the intelligent attitude of Southern farmers generally.

The Southern States can not suppress speculation in cotton at New York and Liverpool (bear markets naturally), therefore beneficial prohibitive legislation in the Southern States will be extremely difficult to devise. But with the farmers in every country of every cotton growing State sitting on the lid, as it were, price control will probably soon cease to bother the man who does most of the work, and heretofore has received the smaller portion of the profits.

THE CARENCRO REGULATORS.

Judge Pugh Admits the Accused to Three
Hundred Dollars Bond.

NEGRO SHOT AT WHITE CAPS

Whitewashing is Condemned by Element Who
Themselves Whipped Negroes When Latter
Were Offensive to Community.

Judge Pugh held a preliminary examination in the case of the men charged with the killing of the negro Antoine Dominique, at Carencro, last week. The preliminary was held in Lafayette, and a crowd of several hundred men from the Carencro section attended it, all evidently sympathizing with the accused.

It is said that the men are sturdy, honest, peaceable farmers of that section, and it seems the general opinion that they are not guilty. The evidence was not of such a character as to point to them as the perpetrators of the crime, but His Honor thought it advisable to hold them under bond to await developments, as odds and ends cropped out that can be taken as circumstantial evidence against them.

The Clarion learns that "regulating" negroes around Carencro has been a favorite pastime with some people there for some time past, but the punishment inflicted heretofore has been confined to sound castigations. There was a time when the negroes of that section were insolent and troublesome, but it is said that now this can not be charged to them; that they have become good darkies and really merit not the cat-o'-nine-tails, which is recognized as a superb negro civilizer, often saving him more severe punishment by "gentling" him in time.

Thus it is that the better class of citizens, recognizing that there is no more necessity for whipping niggers, condemn those who continue the practice as mere "sport"—always the great danger that stands in the way of the citizens of a community taking the law in their own hands. The rough element now think that because good citizens took these measures when it was necessary for the good of the community, they are licensed to do the same thing even if there is no occasion for it.

On the night of the killing of the negro Dominique a crowd of about sixty men had chastised several negroes, when he came along. He got a whipping, and ran and left his horse and buggy on the spot. He went home and armed himself and returned, and a fight took place, in which the negro shot as well as the regulators, or whitecaps. He was found dead, with two pistols nearby.

The men arrested and released under a \$300 bond each are: Therence Guidroz, Antoine Conque, Henri Breaux and his son Gabriel, Pierre Guilbeau and Hypolite Stelly.

Everything is quite at Carencro, and no further trouble is expected.

Carencro is just over the line dividing Lafayette and St. Landry, on the Lafayette side, and none of the parties implicated are from this parish.

A gigantic sugar trust, which bespeaks trouble for the small planters, has been formed in this State. It is composed of large planters like the Godchauxs, McCalls, Williams, Oxnard, etc., and the concern will be named the Louisiana Sugar Company, with a capital of \$20,000,000. A monster refinery will be erected in New Orleans to a cost of \$1,500,000. This will place the sugar industry of this State into one gigantic concern, with what effect remains to be seen.

The small planters in the Sugar Bowl section of the State are apprehensive, but the combiners throw out assurances that they only intend mutual protection, and that the move will redound to the interest of the sugar industry of Louisiana.