ST. LANDRY DEMOCRAT.

M. D. KAVANAGH, Editor.

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The gentlemen above named are our agents and as such requested to solicit subscriptions.

M. D. KAVANAGH,
Editor.

OPELOUSAS, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1878.

The tax payers meeting last Saturday was a failure. The meeting dispersed to meet at Grand Coteau to-day.

The Washington Enterprise, intimates that the proprietor of the ST. LANDRY DEMOCRAT has put a head on the Opelousas Journal.—[Lake Charles Echo.

What a pity some enterprising fellow don't put a head on the Echo and make a newspaper out of it.

We had the pleasure of a visit from our young friend, John A. Poe, of Calcasieu a few days ago. He reports that the saw mills of Calcasieu, so long tied up, by seizure of logs, by the government, are beginning to resume operations again. We are glad to hear this. The people of that parish have been, to say the least of it, harshly dealt with by the government.

MUSICAL INFORMATION.—Ninety thousand copies have already been sold of Will L. Thompson's famous song "Gathering Shells from the Sea Shore." It is thought that "Drifting with the Tide," this author's last composition, will even eclipse "Gathering Shells" in popularity. Any music dealer will mail either of these beautiful pieces to your address on receipt of price, 40 cents. Published by W. L. THOMPSON & Co.,
East Liverpool, Ohio.

Steamboat disasters in our trade, during the last few years have been of frequent occurrence. Capt. Pickett's boat, the Fleta, sunk near Plaquemine in 1875. Next Capt. Broad's boat, the Big Sandy, went down in the Mississippi, near Baton Rouge. A few months ago the Lessie Taylor exploded her donkey boiler at the levee in New Orleans. Thoroughly renovated, she reentered our trade, made one trip, and now lies a wreck in the bottom of the Atchafalaya. One thing noticeable, though, in all these disasters, is that only about half a dozen lives were lost, though we believe all three boats went down when it was pitch dark. We hope our steamboat captains better luck for the future.

Efforts are being made in the Legislature to amend the charter of our town, so as to make the constable elective by the people, instead of by the town council, as is now the case. We emphatically protest against this. The effect of such an amendment would be to make the constable entirely independent of the town council. He could do as he pleased, and there would be no adequate remedy. Now, he holds his office at the pleasure of the council, and if he fails, or neglects to discharge his duty he can be dismissed and another appointed. We are opposed to change. We believe in letting well enough alone. We believe the council should have full control of the constable. He is merely their executive officer. He should be elected by them, and they should hold over his head, the sword Damocles constantly.

Our parish is about the most law abiding community in the State. We have a population of over 40,000, scattered over an immense territory. The whites and blacks are nearly equal in number. They seem to get along harmoniously together. Notwithstanding this large population, it will soon be a year since a murder was committed in St. Landry; and in that case the murderer was promptly arrested, tried, convicted and sent to the penitentiary for life. If we could only find an antidote for petty larceny, our criminal courts would soon have nothing to do. The jury for our October term of Court, certainly handled thieves without gloves and gave them fair warning, either to reform or leave; but the misfortune is we have only two terms of court per annum, and the effect is lost when convicts are sent off to work on rail roads, levees, &c. In our opinion the bill now on its passage through the lower house of the legislature, compelling this class of convicts to labor on the public roads, will go far towards supplying the needed antidote, and in a few years make petty thieves as scarce in our midst as murderers.

The trial of Gen. Anderson, terminated on Thursday evening. After being out twenty-five minutes, the jury returned a verdict of guilty, with recommendation to mercy. Judge Whitaker then announced he would pass sentence on Tuesday and remanded the prisoner to the parish prison. The sentence will necessarily be imprisonment at hard labor in the penitentiary. The trial has been a remarkable one; has excited great interest in the public mind; and seems to have been conducted with marked ability by the counsel alike for the prosecution, and the defense.

Gov. Wells is securely housed in the parish prison. His bond has been fixed at ten thousand dollars. We suppose he will soon be tried. That he will be convicted, seems to be a foregone conclusion; as we see by the New Orleans papers that Littlefield has been summoned from Massachusets as a witness and in fact has already reached the city. With his testimony, in addition to that elicited on Anderson's trial, we see no hopes for him.

St. Landry Democrat.

VOLUME 1. OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1878. NUMBER 5.

Parish Taxes---Parish Expenses.

The bill introduced into the Senate in the early days of the present session by Senator Robertson, entitled, "'An act to amend and re-enact act No. 34 of 1870, entitled 'An act to redistrict and permanently to define the boundaries of the Police Jury wards of the parish of St. Landry, and the number of members to be elected in said parish, approved March 19th, 1856;" allowing the Police Jury to levy and assess a tax for certain purposes, and restricting their power except by consent of the voters, to an annual tax of fourteen and half a mills, was vetoed by Gov. Nicholls on the 6th.

The veto is based principally on the fact that the body of the act, fails to correspond with the title.

A short time since, we gave a resumé of the expenses of our parish, during nine months of the year just passed; showing that of the taxes collected in 1877, about $18,000.00 went to payment of expenses saddled on us by the State, and for which our Police Jurors were in no way responsible. People naturally look upon anything, which smacks of increasing taxes, with suspicion, and though the act in question was really intended as a limitation on the right of our Police Jury to impose taxes, it was misunderstood, and led to a good deal of comment, and we believe some denunciation. No one is more anxious than we to see taxes reduced, but the question presents itself how can this be done with the present burthen saddled on us by the State? Certain works of internal improvement are necessary. New bridges have to be built; old ones must be repaired; our public roads demand yearly the expenditure of considerable amounts. There is an outstanding indebtedness, part of which we believe has been reduced to judgments, which must be paid. Even if we desired to do so we couldn't repudiate it. Then the Parish Attorney, Parish Physician, members of the Police Jury, and other Parish Officers are to be paid. As the law now stands, this year, expenses imposed on us by State laws, will amount to about $18,000. A tax of one per cent. on assessed value of property will amount to a little over $21,000. Deduct 13 of this for delinquent and uncollectable taxes and we have $14,000 remaining, or enough to pay only about three-fourths of the expenses the State has saddled on us. This rate of taxation would leave about $4,000 unpaid on this account alone; and nothing for works of internal improvements, outstanding indebtedness, pay of officers or other contingent expenses. We have already spent large sums in internal improvements, bridge building, &c. Unrepaired, in a few years these will go to ruin and be lost and will have by some hocus-pocus or other to be rebuilt again, because they are not only public conveniences, but usage has rendered them public necessities.

Again we call attention of our Senators and Representatives to this matter. It demands action on their part, at once, because as things now stand it is a simple absurdity to attempt to run this parish on a tax of one per cent. It can't be done; and to attempt to do so will prove simply a penny wise and pound foolish experiment. In the long run it will prove to be anything else but a wise economy, and it will take but a brief experience to demonstrate it.

One by One They are Falling.

On the 8th the House Committee on elections, agreed to report in favor of seating J. H. Acklen, Democrat, from the 3d Congressional District of Louisiana, in place of C. B. Darrall, the sitting member. The majority report is signed by all the Democrats of the committee. Mr. Hiscock, Republican, of New York, will submit a report, which though differing in some points from the majority report will yet declare Acklen entitled to the seat. There will also be a minority report.

The case will be called up in the House on Wednesday. We hope the majority report will be adopted. Darrall has been in Congress, *misrepresenting* the people of Louisiana since 1868. He belongs to the genus "Carpet Bagger," and like all others of that stripe, should be invited to take a back seat and keep it. We have no objection to a native Republican, white or black, holding office in Louisiana, when the people see fit to elect him, but Lord deliver us from Carpet Baggers, and particularly such as this fellow Darrall.

At last accounts Capt. May was doing very well, and hopes were entertained of his recovery. He was wounded several times during the war, and seriously so here during the riot in 1868. He seems to be almost bullet proof—his life, we mean—and with his healthy, vigorous constitution, the chances are in favor of his recovery.

The Rev. E. Cater will preach in Bellevue, next Sabbath; at 11 o'clock A. M., and at the Masonic Hall, in Opelousas, at 3 o'clock P. M.

Several exchanges are giving directions "How to dress." The most sensible way is to stay in bed till the fire is started, and then take your clothes and trot to the dining room stove.

Now if the Rev. Messrs. Thomas, Swing and Beecher will proceed to abolish Heaven, also, there will be an end of church pews and pastor's salaries.

The new style of "English walking shoes" are now made so that the heels point towards the Russian lines.

A Virginia girl whose affianced failed to appear on the wedding day acted as bridesmaid to another couple the same evening.

Capt. M. G. May Mortally Wounded by Capt. Jas. Trousdale.

[From the New Orleans Times, Feb. 10th.]

Saturday, at 11 o'clock a. m., a difficulty occurred on the first floor of a building, on Customhouse street, near to Alix drugstore, corner of Customhouse and Bourbon streets, between Capt. James Trousdale and Capt. M. G. May, in which the former fired five shots, two of which took effect. One went in the left side of the chest, coming out on the right side, between the fourth and fifth ribs, the other entered the left side of the abdomen and passing through to the back, is still in the body.

Capt. Trousdale was arrested by Officer Ryder and brought to the third precinct station.

Dr. A. Capdeville was called and gave his opinion that the wounds were fatal.

The affair happened in the club room kept by both men named. In the room, the chairs were found by a Times reporter in front of a cheerful grate fire.

They had been occupied by both men, May had been sitting before the fire with the back of the chair leaning against a table in the middle of the room, and Trousdale a little further towards the window with the chair leaning against a writing desk.

So they had been left by the housekeeper, who shortly afterwards was startled by five shots in rapid succession and a scuffle, which led her to believe that both men after the shooting, had grappled and scuffled in to the back parlor.

Here blood spots were found; also, two bullets, evidently belonging to a bull-dog revolver.

It is stated that the affray grew out of some business affairs.

Captain May could give no explanation. He only said that his pistol did not go off—if it had, he would not have troubled the doctors.

Capt. Kelly, Sergeant Rourke and Corporal Conrad arrived shortly afterwards, and at the request of the physicians in attendance, the room was cleared of all present but Drs. Capdeville, Drew and Prof. Joseph Jones.

CAPT. TROUSDALE'S STATEMENT.

Capt. Trousdale, when interviewed by a Times reporter, unhesitatingly made the following statement:

It is an old feud, and a woman is at the bottom of it. Two days ago he met me, and saying that he was "heeled," advised me to do likewise. We were partners and kept the clubroom at No. 117 Customhouse street.

This morning when I went into the club room, I found him alone with the servant boy. To bring the affair to an issue, on my arrival he sent for Miss Alice Williams, the landlady, and accussed her of saying things to other parties derogatory of his character, which she denied. He asked her to be seated. She declined, and with the remark that she did not care about hearing more about it, left the room.

The boy went out and we were alone. Looking at me full in the face, he said, "I will have your blood or will have mine," and thereupon we simultaneously arose, pistol in hand. I do not know who pulled first; whether it was May or myself. His pistol snapped, but mine went off.

Trousdale was arraigned before Judge Miltenberger, and remanded without benefit of bail, to await the result of May's wounds.

Last night the condition of the wounded man was so critical, that Dr. Capdeville would not permit Recorder Miltenberger to take his dying declaration. One ball went through the left lung. The doctor was, however, after a consultation at midnight unable to decide, if it would be advisable to send for the recorder.

At the consultation nothing new was developed. May may die during the morning, or may ultimately recover. The chances are even.

Constitutional Amendments.

An act proposing amendments to the constitution of the State of Louisiana

Section 1. *Be it enacted, etc.*, (two-thirds of the members of each house agreeing thereto,) That the following amendments be proposed and entered upon the repective journals of the Senate and House of Representatives, with the yeas and nays taken thereon; and the Secretary of State shall cause the same to be published three months before the next general election for Representatives to the General Assembly in at least one newspaper in every parish of the State in which a newspaper shall be published; and said proposed amendments shall be submitted to the people at said election, in such manner and form that the people may vote for or against each amendment separately, *i. e.*, "First proposed amendment—for approval," or, "against approval," and in like manner as to others; and if a majority of the voters at said election shall approve and ratify such amendment, or amendments, the same shall be appropriately numbered and become a part of the constitution, and be proclaimed as such by the Governor and Secretary of State.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

AMENDMENT I.

Representatives shall be chosen on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November every two years, and the election shall be completed in one day. The General Assembly shall meet on the first Monday in January, and biennially thereafter on the first Monday in January, unless a different day be appointed by law, and their sessions shall be held at the seat of government (Strike out art. 17.)

AMENDMENT II.

The members of the General Assembly shall be paid a salary of $500 per session, and actual traveling expenses by the nearest practicable route, not to exceed $50 for any one member provided, that if two sessions are held in the same year they shall receive for the second session in that year a salary of only $250 and actual traveling expenses by the nearest practicable route, not to exceed $50 for any one member. The regular biennial sessions shall not exceed ninety days in duration unless by vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly, (Strike out art. 39.)

AMENDMENT III.

The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law changing the venue in criminal cases, changing the names of persons, legitimating children, vacating roads, streets or alleys, remitting fines, penalties and forfeitures, or refunding moneys legally paid into the Treasury; affecting the estates of minors or persons under disability, exempting property from taxation; creating any monopoly, legalizing the unauthorized or invalid acts of any officer or agent of the State, or of any parish or municipality, granting any extra compensation to any public officer, agent or contractor, after the service has been rendered, or contracted for; changing any parish seat, or creating new parishes, except by the assent of the majority of the qualified electors of the parish, or parishes to be affected. In all other cases where a general law can be made applicable, no local or special law shall be passed.

AMENDMENT IV.

The Governor shall receive a salary of $7000 per annum, payable quarterly on his own warrant. (Strike out art. 56.)

AMENDMENT V.

The Lieutenant Governor shall receive a salary which shall be double that of a member of the General Assembly. (Strike out art. 57.)

AMENDMENT VI.

Every bill which shall have passed both houses shall be presented to the Governor. If he approve it he shall sign it; if he does not he shall return it with his objections to the house in which it originated, which shall enter the objections at large upon its journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such reconsideration two-thirds of all the members present in the House shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent with the objections to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of the members present in that house it shall be a law. But in such cases the vote of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of members voting for or against the bill shall be entered upon the journal of each house respectively.

If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within five days after it shall have been presented to him, it shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly, by adjournment, prevent its return; in which case, within thirty days, the Governor shall file the same, with his objections thereto, in the office of the Secretary of State, and give public notice thereof; otherwise it shall become a law, as if he had signed it. The Secretary of State shall communicate said objections and bill so deposited to the house in which it originated, on the first day of the meeting of the next General Assembly, who shall act upon the same as above provided.

The Governor shall have power to veto one or more items in any bill appropriating money, embracing distinct items, while approving other portions of the bill, and the part or parts of the bill approved shall become law, and the item or items of appropriation disapproved shall be void, unless repassed, according to the rules and limitations prescribed for the passage of other bills over the Governor's veto. (Strike out art. 66.)

AMENDMENT VII.

The Auditor and Treasurer shall receive a salary of $4000 per annum each, payable quarterly, on their own warrants. The Secretary of State shall receive a salary of $3000 per annum, likewise payable. (Strike out art. 71.)

AMENDMENT VIII.

No officer, whose salary is fixed by the constitution, shall be allowed any fees or perquisites of office.

AMENDMENT IX.

The judicial power shall be vested in a supreme court, in district courts and in justices of the peace. The district courts shall have original jurisdiction in all civil cases where the amount exceeds one hundred dollars, exclusive of interest.

In criminal cases and in all probate matters their jurisdiction shall be unlimited. They shall have appellate jurisdiction in civil suits from justices of the peace when the amount in dispute exceeds $25 exclusive of interest. The justices of the peace shall be elected by the electors of each parish in the manner and with the qualifications to be determined by the General Assembly. They shall hold office for the term of two years, and their compensation shall be fixed by law. Their jurisdiction in civil cases shall not exceed one hundred dollars, exclusive of interest, subject to appeal to the district court in all cases when the amount in dispute shall exceed $25 exclusive of interest. They shall have such criminal jurisdiction as shall be conferred by law. The General Assembly shall have power to vest in the clerks of the district courts the right to grant such orders and do such acts as may be deemed necessary for the furtherance of the administration of justice. In all cases the power thus granted shall be specified and determined. (Strike out art. 73, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89; 91, 133.)

AMENDMENT X.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall receive a salary of $7000 per annum, and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court shall each receive a salary of $6500, payable quarterly, on their own warrants.

AMENDMENT XI.

The General Assembly shall divide the State into judicial districts, which shall remain unchanged for four years, and for each district, one judge, learned in the law, shall be elected by a plurality of the qualified electors thereof. For each district there shall be one district court, except in the parish of Orleans, in which the General Assembly may establish as many district courts as the public interest may require, not to exceed the number now authorized by existing laws, except by a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to both branches of the General Assembly. Until otherwise provided by law, the district courts now existing in the parish of Orleans shall have the jurisdiction at present conferred by law. No redistricting for change shall be made so as to take effect during the incumbency of any judge. The number of districts in the State shall not be less than ten nor more than thirty. The clerks of the district courts shall be elected by the qualified voters of their respective parishes, and shall hold their office for four years. (Strike out art. 83.)

AMENDMENT XII.

Each of the district judges shall receive a salary to be fixed by law, which shall not be less than $2500 per annum, payable quarterly on his own warrant, and which shall not be increased, nor diminished, during his term of office. He must be a citizen of the United States, over the age of 25 years, and have resided in the State and practiced law therein for the space of two years next preceding his election.

The judges of the district courts shall hold office for the term of four years. (Strike out art. 84.)

AMENDMENT XIII.

In order to provide for the establishment of the judicial system created by the above amendments, and to prevent the evils of an interregnum, it is hereby ordained by the people of Louisiana:

1. That the General Assembly which meets on the first Monday in January, 1879, shall, in accordance with the foregoing amendments, immediately redistrict the State and provide for the authority of clerks and the election and criminal jurisdiction of justices of the peace.

2. That as soon as the Legislature shall have acted as aforesaid, the Governor shall by proclamation call an election for justices of the peace for each parish, except the parish of Orleans, and for district judges and district attorneys, in each district created by the redistricting, where one or more parishes have been added to or taken from the existing judicial districts.

This election shall be held on the same day throughout the State, which day shall be not less than sixty, nor more than ninety days after the passage of said acts.

The terms of the officers elected at said elections shall expire at the general election of 1880, and the limitation on the change of districts oftener than once every four years shall not be considered as having effect before the general election of 1880.

3. That the judicial system as established by the constitution of 1868 shall remain in force until the expiration of the thirtieth day after said election, excluding from the computation the day of the election.

4. The adoption of these amendments shall not vacate the offices of the present clerks of court in each parish.

AMENDMENT XIV.

Article 132 of the constitution of 1868 shall be abrogated.

AMENDMENT XV.

The Superintendent of Public Education shall receive a salary of $3500, payable quarterly on his own warrant.

AMENDMENT XVI.

No license tax shall be imposed by the State, or any parish or municipal authority, on any mechanical trade, manufactory, or factory, except such as may require police regulation in towns and cities.

AMENDMENT XVII.

The citizens of the city of New Orleans shall have right of appointing the several public officers necessary for the administration and police of the said city, pursuant to the mode of election which shall be prescribed by the Legislature. The same right shall be guaranteed to the citizens of the several cities, towns and parishes of the State with reference to their respective officers, provided that the above provisions shall not embrace the filling of vacancies.

Adopt the Amendments.

[From the N. O. Picayune, Feb. 9th.]

An attentive examination of the constitutional amendments confirms our first opinion, that they are all that the public can reasonably expect at this time. The committee have done their work well; so well, indeed, that even a chronic caviler could find little in it to criticize. The fact that the committee were unanimous in signing the report indicates that there is a fair prospect for the success of the amendments in the Legislature; and it is to be presumed that they will be equally successful when submitted to the ordeal of a popular vote. We trust that now the Legislature will take speedy action on this important matter, and thus satisfy the just and reasonable expectations of the public. Everybody admits that many changes in our organic law are necessary; and a very intelligent and very determined public opinion demands that, in one way or another, those changes shall be made. The method of amendment, rather than the method of a constitutional convention, appears to meet with the greater favor, both in the Legislature and before the public mind; and as the amendments proposed by the committee effect the desired objects, they should be adopted at once.

Pius IX.

Pope Pious IX died on the 7th of February. He was one of the remarkable men of the century. We refer our readers to the following notice of the illustrious dead, taken from the New Orleans Democrat of the 8th inst. It is worthy of perusal:

The death of Pius IX must exert an extraordinary effect on European politics, already sufficiently disorganized. After an exciting and stormy career of thirty-two years in the Papacy, and at the age of eighty-five, the head of a church numbering over 200,000,000 of persons, has departed this life, just two weeks after his old enemy Victor Emanuel. In the present disorganized condition of European politics, with a war waging in the East, with a new King just seated on the throne of Italy, the death of the Pope, necessitating as it does the election of a successor, is only too likely to produce most unfortunate results.

The present Pope has reigned longer than any of his predecessors, not even excepting St. Peter himself; and passed through a most varied and exciting career. His life has indeed been one of vicissitudes from its very beginning. Her temporal power was twice lost, in 1848 and in 1870, and more than once has his life itself been in serious danger.

Giovanni Maria Mastai-Feretti was born at Sinigaglia, on the west coast of Italy, May 13, 1792. He was of noble family, the son of Count-Guilamo Mastai-Ferretti and the Countess Saluzzi. He began his studies at the College of Volterra in 1803, but these studies were interrupted in 1809 by frequent attacks of epilepsy. It is said that young Mastai-Feretti desired to enter the army, but that his illness prevented him from doing so, and he finally selected the church as the proper field for his talents. In 1808 he received his clerical tonsure and went to Rome to study theology.

The next year Napoleon Bonaparte, who had invaded Rome, dispossessed the then Pope, Pius VII, a relative of young Mastai Feretti, confiscated his domain and carried him off a prisoner from Rome to Savony. Mastai Feretti escaped from the tumult of the capital, an invalid, returning to his birth-place, Sinigaglia, and when summoned to become a member of the imperial guard of honor at Milan, he was able to procure exemption on the plea of incurable disease. He returned with Pius VII to Rome, after Napoleon's defeat, considerably improved in health, but still so feeble that it was made a condition of his ordination in 1819 that he should be assisted at mass by another priest. In June, 1825, he was appointed secretary to Monsignore Muzzi, apostolic delegate to Chili, where he ministered to the Indian population of the interior. He returned to Rome in 1825, when he was made domestic prelate to Leo XII, then Pope.

In 1827, he was nominated Archbishop of Spoleto. It was at that place that he showed his ability and his charity, and laid the foundation of the reputation which gained him the Papacy. He devoted himself to the care of the poor and the sick; erected schools and hospitals and charitable and industrial establishments of all kinds.

When the revolution against Austria broke out in the Italian provinces in 1830, some four thousand of the insurgents sought refuge after their defeat in Spoleto. The Austrian commander wished to attack them there, but the Archbishop interfered, prevented this and persuaded the insurgents to surrender their arms and peacefully disperse. Among those whose lives he saved on that occasion were two Bonapartes, one of whom became afterward the Emperor Louis Napoleon.

From Spoleto he was translated to the See of Immola, of which he was made Archbishop. In 1839, he was created a Cardinal and proclaimed as such the subsequent year.

On June 1, 1846, Pope Gregory XVI, died. The Archbishop of Imola was among the most prominent persons suggested as his successor, being the candidate of the moderate national party. The conclave met June 16, while the Austrian Cardinals, known to be opposed to him, were on their way to Rome, and elected him Pope.

There was no more popular monarch in Europe than Pius IX at that time. He began his rule with the greatest reforms, personally supervised all departments of the government, built railroads, introduced gas, appointed laymen to most of the municipal offices, gave liberty of the press, pardoned all political offenders, established a council of delegates from the provinces, and tried, in fact, to make the papacy a limited constitutional government. Everywhere he was applauded for these reforms. The Legislatures of almost all the States in the Union, Louisiana among them, congratulated the Pope upon these reforms, and extended him their hearty sympathies in his attempt to benefit his subjects and improve their condition.

The revolution of 1848 came. From France it spread rapidly over Europe, and soon reached Rome. The populace of Rome demanded a Radical Ministry in place of the Liberal Ministry that the Pope had formed. This request he refused. A few days after this refusal, Count Rossi, the Pope's Prime Minister, was assassinated. On the next day, November 16, 1848, the populace, the civic guard, the gendarmerie, the troops of the line and the Roman legion besieged the Quirinal, and forced the Pope, whose secretary, Monsignor Palma, shot down at his very side, to accept a Radical Ministry. He did so to prevent bloodshed, but succeeded in escaping a few days afterwards, leaving Mazzini and Garibaldi masters of Rome. From Gaeta, where he took refuge, he appealed to the Catholic powers of Europe for assistance, which was granted him, and a force furnished by Louis Napoleon, then President of the French Republic. Rome capitulated to the French forces on July 1, 1849, and on April 12, of the next year the Pope reentered his domain.

In 1854 he invited the bishops from all parts of Christendom to meet him in Rome, and with their consent formally defined the doctrine of the immaculate conception. In 1870, France, being then engaged in war with Germany, was compelled to withdraw the troops stationed at Rome. The result was the occupation of that city by the troops of Victor Emanuel, the Pope refusing to make any resistence to this entrance, on the ground that it would be a useless waste of life. From that time nothing of importance has occurred in the Pope's life, with the exception of the Ecumenical Council convened by him, which enunciated the dogma of papal infallibility.

For some time past the Pope's health has been exceedingly bad, and more than once his life has been actually given up, but his wonderful vitality and determination kept him alive despite all these attacks, until utterly worn out he suddenly departed this life yesterday.

The personal character of Pius IX was irreproachable. No one, however bitterly opposed to him, has ever whispered a word against him. He was kind, affectionate and benevolent. He obtained the respect of all, Catholic and Protestant alike, and his death will cause universal regret and sorrow. He was a man of the most generous impulses, and promised to become a most intelligent and beloved ruler over the Papal States, when the unfortunate events of 1848 changed all his political views from liberalism to conservatism.

The election of the successor of Pius IX is now an event interesting not only to the members of the Catholic Church, but to the entire Christian world. The cable informs us that the foreign cardinals have been telegraphed for, which would seem to indicate that the new Pope will not be elected hurriedly, as was at one time supposed, but that ample time will be given for the assembling of all the cardinals. There are now sixty-three of these, of whom forty are Italians, seven Frenchmen, four Spaniards, one Portuguese, one German, two Austrians, one Belgian, one Pole, two English, one Anglo-American and two Spanish-American.

The Italians have a vast majority in the Conclave and will most probably elect an Italian Pope. It was whispered at one time that Cardinal Simeoni was anxious to see a foreigner elected Pope, but this is scarcely possible, such a thing not having occurred for several centuries. At the last Conclave the liberal party triumphed in the election of Pius IX. This seems scarcely possible on the present occasion. The Italian Cardinals, it is true, are almost evenly divided into moderates and ultras, but as the French, Spaniard, German and other foreign Cardinals are all ultras, there is no likelihood of the election of a moderate Pope, that is one on friendly and amicable terms with the Italian government, and who would be willing to enter into some sort of compromise with the King of Italy.

Of course there are many candidates for the papacy. The leading Italian candidates—for there is scarcely any need of considering the others—are Cardinals Nina, Panebianco, Di Pietro, Di Lucca, Mertel, Franchi, Chigi D'Avanzo, Parocchi, Di Valleta and Simeoni.

Nina, is a candidate of the moderates. He is on extremely friendly terms with the Italian government, and his great desire is to bring about a compromise between the papacy and that government.

Panebianco is an ultra. He is reported to be an irascible and quarrelsome old man, and was deposed from the position of Camerlungo on account of his quarrels with the other cardinals.

Di Pietro is of a noble Roman family, seventy-two years of age, extremely wealthy, lavish with his money, and extremely moderate in his political views.

Di Lucca is even more liberal, is a man of considerable learning and a great student.

Mertel is a great jurist, and one of the wisest and most moderate men in the sacred college. He was one of the liberal friends of Pius IX in 1848, and sustained the Pope in all those improvements he attempted to carry out in Rome at that time.

Simeoni is probably better known to the world than most of his competitors. He was one of Pius IX's ministers, and is a man of great ambition.

Canossa, Bishop of Verona, sprung of the noblest family of that city, will be one of the strongest candidates before the conclave. He is an Intransigent or Extremist, but a man of great intellectual power.

Ten days is usually allowed for the assembling of the conclave. After that has met it remains in session until a pope is elected. For this election a two-thirds vote is necessary of all the cardinals present. Until the new Pope is elected, the Camerlungo, Cardinal Pecci, will act as temporary pope.

Mileage and Reform.

[From the Lafayette Advertiser, Feb. 9.]

Article 39 of the Constitution reads as follows: "The members of the General Assembly shall receive from the public treasury a compensation for their services which shall be eight dollars per day during their attendance, going to, and return from the sessions of their respective houses. This compensation may be increased, or diminished by law, but no alteration shall take effect during the period of service of the members of the House of Representatives by which such alteration shall have been made." The law enacted in 1872 provides, that the compensation shall be eight dollars per day, and declares that every thirty miles or fraction thereof, from the domicile of the member, to the State-House, shall be computed as one day's travel, going and coming, for which the members shall receive eight dollars per day, and also, twenty cents per mile going and coming. This law also fixes fictitious distances to each parish.

The distance to this parish is put down at 250 miles. Under that law of 1872, this distance entitles our member in the House of Representatives, to pay for nine days to go to New Orleans and nine days to return home from there, making $144, which added to the mileage of twenty cents, 500 miles going and coming, makes a total of $244. The actual distance from here to New Orleans is about 180 miles and four days is more than ample time to go and return. The only compensation allowed or contemplated by the Constitution is eight dollars per day and four days would be $32 instead of $244. This salary grab in favor of members from other parishes, is still more extravagant and outrageous.

The attempt made to amend the act of 1872, to make it conform to the Constitution, was defeated in the House of Representatives by the votes of the following members:

Bridger, Burton, Brown, Barron, Barrett, Bosley, Brooks, Brice, Carloss, Carville, Como, Cole, Detiege, Drury, Durden, Dayries, Drew, Dickenson, Desmarais, D'Avy, Dejoie, Duke, Fobb, Gantt, Gary, Gaskins, Gillespie, Gracien, Hill of Ascension, Holt, Hammond, H. M. Johnson, Robert Johnson, Keeting, Kelly of Winn, Kidd, Leonard of Caddo, Lewis, Magloire, Martin, Means, Milon, Nunez, Peralta, Pitts, Richardson, Routon, Randolph, Rolle, Raby, Souer, Singleton, Self, Snaer, Semmes, Stagg, Sellers, Tolliver, Toler, Vance, Voorhies, Washington, Watson, Washburn, Walker, Wood, Wilde and Young of Claiborne.

The amendment proposed was essentially a measure of reform and retrenchment and was intended to repeal the unjust and obnoxious features of the law, inflicted upon the State by an unscrupulous and corrupt Radical majority. The reasons, or rather the pretexts, given by those who voted against the measure, will not be accepted by the tax payers and people of the State. The Democratic-Conservative party is pledged to establish thorough and substantial reforms and to correct abuses of all kinds, and the legislators or other agents, who fail to do their duty towards redeeming these pledges, will be disowned and repudiated by the party. The people and not the politicians, constitute the party and they expect and will exact, a fair and honest execution of their wishes. Those legislators who voted to pocket the money allowed them by that unconstitutional and infamous act of 1872, will be held to a strict account by their constituents. The people are aroused and are in deep earnest, in their determination to obtain reform and retrenchment in all matters and in every detail.

One of the young men from Milford sat down the other day and wrote on the back of two postal cards. Then he turned them over and directed them, but by mischance placed the address on the wrong cards. The result was the shirt manufactory in New York got a polite invitation to go out carriage riding somewhere on the Milford pike, while the young man's girl was made frantic by receiving the following: "Please send me a sample of the stuff your shirts are made of."—[Ex.

The mean temperature is what disgusts a man with every climate.

Brig. Gen. Whiskycocktailski will be temporarily superceeded by Gen. Swearoff.

Proceedings of the Board of Police of the Town of Opelousas.

FRIDAY, February 8th, 1878.

The Board met pursuant to a call of the President. Present: James Ray, President; Chas. N. Ealer, Emile Donato, Wm. G. Bell, P. J. Lefebvre, C. Mayo and Leodore Skinner.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A petition from Mr. D. Breuille, asking permission to burn a brick kiln on a square of ground belonging to Victor Lastrapes within the corporate limits of the town of Opelousas, was read, when on motion it was resolved, that permission be granted to Mr. D. Breuille to burn a brick kiln within the corporate limits of the town of Opelousas in the locality as set forth in his petition.

A petition of citizens of the town of Opelousas, representing that they are desirous of having a street opened from Union street running east and passing through the property of Mr. Jos. Bloch and connecting with a street running west of the property of Alexandre Lejeune, was read, when on motion, resolved, that the said petition be referred to the committee on streets, and that said committee report upon the same at the next meeting of this Board.

On motion of Mr. Ealer, Resolved, that the sum of three hundred dollars, (or so much thereof as will be necessary,) be and the same is hereby appropriated to pay for the building of the bridge across the Bayou Teeson on Landry street.

On motion, Resolved, that the sum of four dollars be and is hereby appropriated to pay Mr. Jas. M. White, for making a coffin for a tramper.

The President appointed Messrs. P. J. Lefebvre, Emile Donato and Chas. N. Ealer a committee on claims and the said committee reported favorably on the following claims, to-wit:

Opelousas Journal for printing blanks advertising and subscription	$54 12½
Chas. M. Thompson removing dead animals	3 00
C. C. Duson, sheriff, jail fees	11 50
E. P. Veazie justice peace fees	2 00
E. S. Taylor " " "	7 00
E. S. Taylor " " "	2 00
Victorin Lastrapes constable fees	4 00

On motion the Board adjourned.

J. MPS RAY, President.

Attest: O. VOORHIES, Clerk.

JUDICIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION.

PROBATE COURT, PARISH OF ST. LANDRY.

No. 3983.

ESTATE OF LOUIS SIMON.

Whereas, Jean Baptiste Durousseau and his wife Augustine L. Simon of the parish of St. Landry, have applied by their petition to be appointed joint administrators of the estate of Louis Simon, deceased, late of the parish of St. Landry.

Therefore, any person intending to make opposition to said appointment, will file the same in writing in my office, in the town of Opelousas, within ten days from the present notice.

JAMES O. CHACHERE, Clerk.

feb 16-bam & fp