

CHICAGO POLICLINIC.

Clinical School for Practitioners of Medicine.

173-175 CHICAGO AVENUE.

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Chicago, June 4th 1893

Hon. A. W. Tougee,
Mayville, N. Y.

Dear Judge -

I had seen in the Inter Ocean that you would be here for the Anti-Trust Congress, which meets tomorrow I believe. Desiring to see you one more before returning South, if possible, I stayed here this week, and wrote you Tuesday or Wednesday ~~lengthy~~ ^{lengthy} letter requesting you to advise me what day you would arrive. I was disappointed in receiving no telegram - but my brother has just called my attention to a "special" in today's Inter Ocean giving account of the death of Mrs. Mary Corwin Kilborne, your mother-in-law. I understand it now.

I write to tender my condolences. Please to assure Mrs. Tougee of my deep sympathy with her & you in this sad hour. I too have lost a mother, only a few years ago, and know what it is.

Faithfully yours,
E. A. Martinet

HUGH WATSON'S DEFENSE.

He Claims That He Was Authorized to Solicit Contributions.

New Orleans, Feb. 27, 1893.

To the Editor of The Times-Democrat:
As the duly authorized chairman of the relief committee for the parishes of Catahoula and Concordia, I have been laboring assiduously for those people for the past two months. A sense of duty compelled me to pursue this course. At the meeting that was held in Jonesville on the 21st day of December last, it was resolved, "That the committee appointed by this mass meeting be requested to call upon his Excellency Gov. M. J. Foster, at his office in Baton Rouge, and present to him the facts, in full, concerning the distress now existing in this community."

"Be it further resolved, That in case the Governor is unable to assist our people, the committee is requested to at once proceed to Memphis, Cairo, Louisville, Evansville, Cincinnati, St. Louis and such other cities as they think proper, and solicit aid for these sorely distressed people."

This was signed by two members of the police jury of Catahoula, the Representative, ex-Representative and ex-Senator of that parish and a number of other prominent gentlemen. It was also signed by two members of the police jury and a large following of well-known planters of Concordia. After the meeting was over and no funds collected to defray the expenses of the committee (four in number), they refused to go, saying they could not raise the money incident to travel. Mr. J. S. Gaynor was not present at the meeting, but was represented by proxy. Finding that I was left alone as a committee, and being armed with the proceedings of the meeting, I started for New Orleans, stopping at Baton Rouge to see Gov. Foster. I met that gentleman in his office at the Capitol and presented him the facts in the case as it stood, saying that 3500 persons were needing help and that it would, at least estimate, cost about \$35,000 to help those people.

The Governor replied that he was powerless to take that amount of money from the State funds and use it for the overflow people. He then requested me to go to New Orleans and see what I could do down there. When I reached this city I at once had the proceedings published in the States and Times-Democrat, Dec. 27 and 28. I visited the Sugar and Cotton Exchanges, also the Board of Trade, and placed my case in their hands. These mercantile bodies at once responded and appointed committees to solicit aid in behalf of my people.

I made three trips to the overflowed section and carried rations to the sufferers, and acting in conjunction with Capt. L. V. Cooley, of the steamer Ouachita, I landed rations at a number of landings and placed them in the hands of responsible men, and the numerous letters now in my possession thanking and commending me in my course proves, beyond a doubt, that my work was well done. After I had thoroughly canvassed New Orleans and seeing the people still in distress, I concluded to try pastures new. I met Gov. Foster on the streets of New Orleans, and told him that I would be compelled to leave the State. He said nothing. Accordingly I went to the Cotton Exchange, and through the courtesy of Mr. Hester, the secretary, I received a letter from that body commending my course and introducing me to the Cotton Exchange of Memphis, Tenn. I also received a letter similar to the above from Mr. Henry H. Smith, secretary of the New Orleans Board of Trade. Armed with these documents and the proceedings of our meeting, also a large number of clippings from the New Orleans papers, I left here on the 6th instant for Memphis. Not a word was said. All of the city papers were praising me. From Memphis I went to Louisville, thence to Frankfort, Ky., where I was accorded a five minutes' talk with the Legislature of that State. The Louisville Board of Trade investigated my cause, as the following, taken from the Courier-Journal of Feb. 17, proves:

"The Louisville Board of Trade, after investigating the appeal in behalf of the sufferers in Catahoula and Concordia parishes, La., has issued a call upon the charitable people of this city and State to respond to a worthy cause. The necessities of life, provisions and clothing, are needed, and it is to be hoped that our business men will give as liberally as the merchants of New Orleans, Memphis and St. Louis have done."

There was no complaint raised against my mission until I reached Chicago. There I learned that Gov. Foster had stated that I had no authority from him to solicit alms in foreign cities. Since then all of the papers have been hurling epithets of a kind calculated to do me an injury. In the name of an honest man, I would like to know if the credentials, as above stated, cannot be classed as authority. If not, then I am ignorant of the meaning of the word. Why was it that all awaited my arrival in Chicago ere a general kick was made? Why was I not called back from Memphis? I am at a loss to comprehend this unwarranted proceeding. I left Chicago immediately upon hearing that I was unauthorized to solicit aid. I was promised some \$4000 if I would remain in Chicago two days longer, but the idea of being denounced at home led me to refuse all offers of aid. At Louisville, upon my return, I was handed \$125 from the secretary of the Board of Trade (being subscriptions), which is all that I have collected. I left some clothing and flour in that city; also clothing and provisions in Memphis. The \$125 will be invested in corn and sent to the overflowed district. I am not ashamed of my act and stand ready to do the same bidding again. I shall visit my people during the week and submit my report to them, and if I am adjudged guilty of any wrong intent I am willing to be banished from my native State.

It seems passing strange that people in and around Concordia, whom the recent flood never injured, should make such statements as have been presented to the people through the press, when they well know that not one ounce of the provisions sent out from Natchez, Miss., and collected by Messrs. Gaynor, Green and Burley in New Orleans, ever went to a soul in Catahoula. Those gentlemen worked for their own parish and left Catahoula to starve or send a committee to beg for them and, unfortunately, I am now to be that committee and must shoulder all the blusterings of a few would-be patriots. If the State is able to care for her distressed people, why did the Concordia committee come to New Orleans and beg for alms instead of visiting the Governor? These are questions I would like to have answered. I have acted under motives purely conscientious. I have performed a duty of which I justly feel proud, and should the people of the overflowed district call upon me again I stand ready and willing to respond. When people are hungry, in my opinion, I do not think it necessary to call upon the Governor to know if I should get them a barrel of meal. In conclusion I now ask all papers to give this card a place in their columns, in order that the world can be apprised of my side of this much to be deplored affair. Yours very respectfully,

HUGH WATSON.

LOUISIANA SURRENDERS HIS REMAINS

Jefferson Davis Funeral Train Ready to Start on Its Trip to Virginia.

NEW ORLEANS, La., May 28.—Louisiana surrendered the remains of the ex-President of the Confederate States today to the keeping of the escort that is to bear it to the Old Dominion State through a dozen Southern Commonwealths. The ceremonies were marked by an absence of enthusiasm, and were as simple as the funeral of an humble citizen. Barring the military display a fringe of people lined the sidewalks, and uncovered heads were the order of the day while the pageant passed to the train in waiting. All Friday night a faithful guard of honor restlessly paced the polished floors of Memorial Hall beside the bier. Now and then a belated pedestrian timidly made his way into the hall and gazed respectfully at the rich old oaken casket and then quietly slipped out, but these visits were few.

When day broke the scene changed and a slender stream of humanity began to wind in and out of the hall, made up of all classes of citizens. As the morning wore on and the churches filled with worshippers there was a lull, and as the afternoon grew apace the human current increased again, running in and out until the guards at the stone steps forbade any more to enter. During the day more floral offerings were received to be placed beside the bier. All the way from the home-stand of Franklin Pierce, in New Hampshire, came a tiny bunch of May flowers. Mr. Davis had been a member of the Cabinet of President Pierce, and some one in far-off New England remembered that.

Only the gray-haired and gray-clad veterans, who formed the guard and the escort, public officials, distinguished visitors, the Davis family, and those who had the right to be present remained in the hall when the ceremonies were about to begin. The first of the distinguished visitors to arrive was Gov. Foster. He entered leaning on the arm of Gen. Stephen D. Lee, and behind came Lieut.-Gov. Parlange and leading lights in the ranks of the veterans. They gathered on the platform, mingling with the Richmond committee, who wore the Confederate uniform in honor of the occasion. In a few minutes there was a parting of the ranks of the throng in the hall and Miss Winnie Davis, leaning on the arm of Ambrose McGinnis and followed by her sister, Mrs. Hayes, the husband of the latter, passed up to the platform. Both ladies were dressed in black. Then the ceremonies began. Gov. Foster spoke for Louisiana and in his address said:

"Seven cities claimed the honored dead through which the living honored begged his daily bread; but not so with Mr. Davis. The love and patriotism of our people were ever true to him in life and death, in sunshine and storm. In life the Southern States delighted to honor him. In death they vied with each other for the honor of his grave. Every Southern State claimed the sacred charge, and we had earnestly hoped this honor would fall to Louisiana, almost his home, and to New Orleans, the metropolis of the South. Mrs. Davis has, however, designated Richmond, and as it was the central scene of the great struggle in which he led we relinquish this much-desired place of honor in deference to her wishes, and there are many reasons why the family should prefer Richmond. It is sacred ground to them, for it is hallowed by the grave of their boy. Here, too, was born the beloved daughter of the Confederacy, and here were passed the most eventful years of their lives. It was also the capital of the Confederacy, than which no nation rose so white or fell so free of crime." Virginians are worthy of this confidence and honor and will keep the trust with that courtly fidelity for which they are famous. We are assembled here today, not to make history or to discuss the causes leading up to the civil war and its potential results, but to offer our tribute of love to the memory of Jefferson Davis and to perform the last sad token of esteem in escorting his remains to their place of final rest. A people unwilling to honor their leader, though not crowned with success, are incapable of producing others when the clamoring of the camp-followers shall have ceased and time shall have dissipated sectionalism, as, thank God, it is rapidly doing, and mellowed, the heartburnings of the great civil war. Then will Americans point with pride alike to Davis and Lee, Lincoln and Grant, and the great leaders on either side.

When the Governor had finished his address Vice-President Gilmore of the Army of Northern Virginia read the order of Mrs. Davis for the removal of the body and the letter of Mayor Ellison requesting the Army of Northern Virginia to deliver the body to Gen. Glynn. These letters were made public for the first time today. After a prayer the casket was taken to the funeral car. It was the same that was used on the day of the funeral of Mr. Davis in this city. It was near 8 before the party got under way. The train is made up of a locomotive and tender, baggage car, an ordinary coach, the funeral car, four sleepers, and a private car.

A Negro Acquitted of the Charge of Murder.

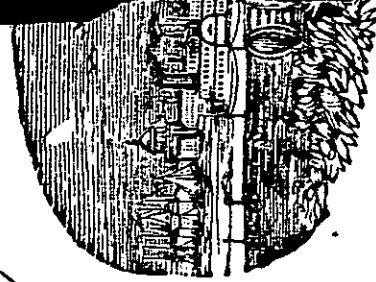
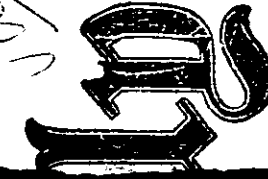
Special to The Times-Democrat.

Perry, Ga., April 15.—Bill Brown is a free man, and the death of William Hatchett at his hands was justifiable homicide. So pronounced a jury last evening.

Judge Bartlett had delivered an impartial charge to the jury, and they were ordered to retire and make up their verdict. In about two hours Judge Bartlett was informed that the jury had agreed. He went to the courthouse, and Bill Brown was brought from the jail. The verdict of "Not guilty" was rendered, and Brown discharged and the jury dismissed. Thus the verdict of the coroner's jury was sustained by a higher court. The case grew out of a series of white-capping outrages, which have been committed in this county, the aggressors being white men and their victims being negroes. Nightly visits have been paid to the negro quarters on many plantations, and the frightened people were dogged and otherwise maltreated. About a month ago William Hatchett, the son of a highly esteemed farmer, was reported by one of the negroes as a white cap leader. This so enraged Hatchett that he sought out Bill Brown, colored, who had given him away, and warned him that on that night the whole settlement would be cleaned out. Thoroughly scared, the negroes informed several prominent white men of their danger. They were advised to arm themselves, to be in readiness, and to fill their assailants with lead. Thus encouraged, they were prepared, and Wm. Hatchett fell at the first volley. The better class of whites sustained the negroes, and the acquittal of Bill Brown by the Superior Court puts an end to litigation on the subject.

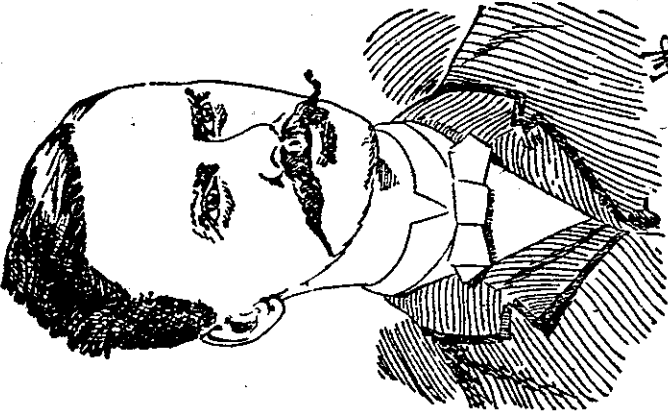
CHAUTAUCU SOCIETY

7015



THERE IS DESTITUTION

In the Overflowed Sections of Catahoula and Concordia, But Not to Such Extent as to Justify the Appeals for Aid. The Situation Greatly Overdrawn and the Distress Exaggerated. The Parish is Not Bankrupt and its People Are Not Paupers.



COLONEL T. SAMBOLA JONES. Baton Rouge, La., March 26.-(Special.) Colonel T. Sambola Jones, who was commissioned by Governor Foster to visit the parishes of Concordia and Catahoula and report upon the condition of the overflow sufferers of those parishes, has submitted the following report to the governor:

BATON ROUGE, La., March 22, 1893. His Excellency, Governor M. J. Foster: My Dear Sir—In pursuance of your commission to visit the sections of Catahoula and Concordia reputed in such a state of destitution as to require your official assistance as governor of Louisiana, I took passage upon the steamer Danube, Thos. Kneel, master, on Friday evening, 17th inst., reaching the mouth of Black river the evening following.

That I might in person inspect the localities and interview the residents who were the sufferers, I was accompanied by Mr. Hugh Watson, who had been commissioned by them as their special agent and representative. By the favor of Capt. Thos. Kneel, to whom I am under personal and special obligations for many courtesies, I was enabled to meet a number of persons in both parishes who were asking aid. The Danube was handy, convenient, and I was thus much facilitated.

Leaving the steamer I spent the night at the home of Mr. John Welch, in Catahoula parish. Messengers having been sent out the night previous, I met thirty or forty of those from lower Concordia and the lake neighborhood from Catahoula (ward 10.) After concluding my investigations in this locality I traveled by land to Troyville, interviewing and inspecting along the twenty mile drive. From Troyville I went by buggy up Little river to French fork, posting myself as I went. Crossing the fork I visited the section pointed out and interviewed the people. Returning to Troyville I crossed over to Vidalia, in which route I gathered all possible information.

I dispatched messengers to what is known as Black river bend and the upper part of lower Concordia, requesting those whose names were given me, to meet me at Jonesville to lay before me their situation. Though these messengers were sent out at some inconvenience and expense, for one reason or another, there was not a single response in person, though one or two fixed hours beyond my limit of time. I have thus detailed my itinerary that you might rely upon the thoroughness of my investigation. I give the results of my interviews in the following personal statements, which were obtained entirely without outside influence and which you may rely upon as plain, honest, straightforward statements, without exaggeration or embellishment.

PERSONAL STATEMENTS. Mr. John Pecanty testified as follows—I am a resident of the Tenth ward of Concordia; not one of the needy. There are about 150 persons in my ward, the only ward in the parish needing assistance. All white, mostly French; owners of small places; 100 of these are in absolute destitution. They need bread; also seed to plant. This covers a radius of about ten miles. Some of them went to the hills and returned when the water fell, and have been trapping coons and fishing. I advised the people not to leave, some left temporarily but returned. I think the government and general charity should help them. The hills are too poor for men of large families. Some of these people will be in need even after the sixty days for which I asked assistance.

THERE IS DESTITUTION.

Continued from First Page.

suffered for something to eat. I suppose some few would have suffered but for rations. A pretty fair lot of seed corn has been gotten, but some have no cotton seed. I have five head of cattle and one horse. Sam has a horse also. I have twenty dogs. About one-third of the forty families here will suffer without help. This need only be temporary. Families average about seven persons each.

John Kitterlin—I live right here at French Fork. Do not think the situation as bad as it was. Can't say that I know anybody who has suffered for something to eat. Fully as many as 125 persons will need aid here until the danger of the water is over. They need feed for horses and meal and molasses for themselves. None need cotton seed. I don't know how about cotton seed. They got little rations here, for they with the seed corn sent, were given to the larger planters along Little river. I am not asking aid for myself.

W. F. Paul, French Fork—There are about thirty families in this immediate neighborhood in destitute circumstances. I am among the number. The families average five persons. I live with my old mother. She owns the place, eighty-five acres, not mortgaged. I have one horse, ten head of cattle and twenty hogs. I can make out without meal, and bread. I ask for horse feed and suffered for meat and bread. Pretty tight times, though. I have no complaint to make about former distribution of rations and seed corn. We got a peck each. Two or three weeks ought to be enough help.

F. B. Bruce—The above statement is as near correct for this section as I can give. Thompson, French Fork—About forty families of 250 persons at the Fork; about one-half of them are in desperate condition, needing help. Some lost their hogs, but most of them have meat. They need feed and meal and molasses. I am among the number. I own my own place, 200 acres, not quite paid for, also eight head horses and fifteen cattle. No hogs. I have six children—one grown son, one 13 years. No mortgage except unpaid balance stated above.

Ex-Senator J. B. Boatner—The statement of facts sent out to the world from here were overdrawn at the time in point of numbers alone, otherwise they were true and correct. Since they have been left, some have been, in part, provided for and some have occasional work, but many are yet destitute and need help. I don't think anybody is exactly starving, but they received aid more than once, otherwise I don't know but that they would have suffered. I don't know that anybody will starve to death, but there is distress. From my best information thirty-five to forty families on lower Black river, both sides, Catahoula and Concordia and fifteen to twenty-five on upper Little river, to and including French Fork, would be all. These families average about six persons. Outside aid is needed for these comparatively few persons and our people cannot help them for the simple reason that it requires a supreme effort for a large majority, if not all the balance, to keep the wolf from their own homes. These people mentioned above, be it understood, are exclusively helpless people in the swamp. At the outside, thirty days ought to be the limit of this aid unless the river goes for us again. I made this same statement to the public in January and stand by it. This parish is not impoverished nor bankrupt and its people are not paupers. They have had a great calamity, indeed, a succession of misfortunes. Heavy losses always follow, but this is the richest spot on earth and even our poor will be well-doing and comfortable when this present great misfortune can be temporarily bridged. Of course, facts change with the change of dates, and my statements of the straits of condition are at present true and correct.

MY CONCLUSIONS.

As will be seen by these statements, the conception of what constitutes such a condition as warrants public charity is indeed varied. Some of those claiming assistance are manifestly in gross error. But I adopt the statement of Ex-Senator Boatner as a fair statement of the true condition and I call attention especially to the statements of Messrs. Trisler, Beard, East and Boatner as fairly representing the several sections. There has been and is yet much poverty and distress in these localities. When you consider that there was a devastating overflow in 1890, followed by starvation prices for the staple crop cotton in 1891 and by the great and overwhelming overflow of 1892, which occurred in June, after the crops were made (this being the first June overflow since the 40s), it would be difficult to overstate the condition. There is poverty and misery, more or less, however, in all communities and under all conditions. There never has been that poverty and want depicted in the reports sent out. None dispute this statement even among those who are the greatest sufferers. When public sentiment is crystallized upon any topic, expressions are given in high sounding phrases and weighty sentences. Just so with the resolutions sent out at the several meetings held. But while the peculiar and extraordinary condition of destitution brought about by the concatenation of circumstances recited above was intense, it never was such as to warrant the sweeping statements sent out or the appeal for aid from other states. It is noteworthy that, although only about half of the parish of Catahoula is subject to overflow, there has not been one dollar appropriated by the police jury in aid of the sufferers. (This is the statement from several parties who ought to be informed.)

None have starved, none will starve in either parish without aid, and there never has been such destitution and want as that Louisiana was not amply able to give adequate relief in considering the interviews above. I wish to remember that vanity often makes one estimate his possessions far in excess of their true value, and that further, under the strained conditions where there is neither money nor demand for such things of value, as they are worthless so far as concerns the procuring bread and meat of this year, procuring bread and meat of this year, begets such want of confidence with merchants and furnishers of supplies as that it is quite impossible for even those in fairly good circumstances to be supplied. These are, I believe, in Concordia, Tenth ward, say about eighteen families needing some assistance, upon the Catahoula side, Tenth ward, say twenty-two families averaging six persons to the family. In the upper Little river and French Fork neighborhood there are about twenty-five families of six persons similarly situated. These need meal and molasses and seed corn and cotton seed. Besides these, there are, perhaps, twenty-five families who are without seed and without the ability to provide them. I believe the indiscriminate distribution of rations would be a public calamity only exceeded in its baneful influence by a devastating overflow. Aid can only be expected for a period of thirty days at most, and in any case it should not be sent to a point for distribution, but given directly to the needy ones. And unless the most unscrupulous care and business can be exercised, it will not reach its proper destination. Whether or not any feed can be given for stock with which these people are to make their crops remains for you to determine.

I cannot close this report without saying that while some have criticized Mr. Watson's judgment in the extreme to which he went, none failed to express their gratitude and their warm and earnest appreciation of what he did for them, and further, that he heard none of my interviews, made no suggestions, but gave me aid in ascertaining facts alone. Possibly I have overestimated the condition; possibly I have underestimated it, but my best judgment, and I only regret, has been given, and I only regret that I could not recommend and you cannot give aid to all those who ask it. The two parishes above named are as high as any sections on the earth, and only the most extraordinary misfortune could possibly bring their people to want. Respectfully submitted, T. SAMBOLA JONES.