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# THE HENKEL SQUARE HERALD

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## **The Abolition Plot in Texas.**

We extract the following from a letter to the Houston Telegraph, from Dallas, giving further particulars of the extensive Abolition plot discovered there a few days ago:

The outhouses, granaries, oats and grain of Mr. Crill Miller, were destroyed a few days after the destruction of Dallas. This led to the arrest of some white men, whose innocence, however, was proved beyond a doubt. Several negroes belonging to Mr. Miller, were taken up and examined, and developments of the most startling character elicited. A plot to destroy the country was revealed, and every circumstance even to the minutiae, detailed. Nearly or quite a hundred negroes have been arrested, and upon a close examination, separate and apart from each other, they deposed to the existence of a plot or conspiracy to lay waste the country by fire and assassination—to impoverish the land by the destruction of the provisions, arms and ammunition, and then when in a state of helplessness, a general revolt of the negroes was to begin on the first Monday in August, the day of election for the State officers. This conspiracy is aided and abetted by abolition emissaries from the North, and by those in our midst.

The details of the plot and its modus operandi, are these: each county in Northern Texas has a supervisor in the person of a white man, whose name is not given; each county is laid off into districts under the sub-agents of this villain, who control the action of the negroes in the districts, by whom the firing was to be done. Many of our most prominent citizens were singled out for assassination whenever they made their escape from their burning homes. Negroes never before suspected, are implicated, and the insurrectionary movement is widespread to an extent truly alarming. In some places the plan was conceived in every form shocking to the mind, and frightful in its results. Poisoning was to be added, the old females to be slaughtered along with the men, and the young and handsome women to be parceled out amongst these infamous scoundrels. They had even gone so far as to designate their choice, and certain ladies had already been selected as the victims of those misguided monsters.

Fortunately, the country has been saved from the accomplishment of these horrors; but then, a fearful duty remains for us. The negroes have been incited to these infernal proceedings by abolitionists, and the emissaries of certain preachers who were expelled from this county last year. Their agents have been busy amongst us, and many of them have been in our midst. Some of them have been identified, but have fled from the country; others still remain, to receive a fearful

accountability from an outraged and infuriated people. Nearly a hundred negroes have testified that a large reinforcement of abolitionists are expected on the first of August, and these to be aided by recruits from the Indian tribes, while the Rangers are several hundred miles to the North of us. It was desired to destroy Dallas, in order that the arms and ammunition of the artillery company might share the same fate.

Our jail is filled with the villains, many of whom will be hung and that very soon. A man was found hung at our neighboring city of Fort Worth, two days ago, believed to be one of those scoundrels who are engaged in this work. We learn that he had stored away a number of rifles, and the day after he was hung a load of six-shooters passed on to him, but were intercepted. He was betrayed by one of the gang, and hence his plans were thwarted. Many others will share his fate.

I have never witnessed such times. We are most profoundly excited. We go armed day and night, and know not what we shall be called upon to do.

BELLVILLE [TX] COUNTRYMAN, August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

**What is Life?**—The mere lapse of years is not life. To eat, and drink, and sleep—to pace round in the mill of habit, and turn thought into an implement of trade—this is not life. In all this, but a poor fraction of humanity is awakened, and the sanctities still slumber which make it worth while to be.

Knowledge, truth, love, beauty, goodness, faith, alone give vitality to the mechanism of existence. The laugh of mirth that vibrates thro' the heart, the tears that freshen the dry wastes within, the music that brings children back, the prayer that calls the future near, the doubt which makes us meditate, the death which startles us with mystery, the hardship which forces us to struggle, the anxiety that ends in trust, are the nourishments of our natural being.

STANDARD [CLARKSVILLE, TX], August 4, 1860, p. 1, c. 6

## **To Voters.**

By agreement between the proprietors of the Press at Marshall, none other than a general ticket with all the names for office, from the highest to the lowest has been printed for Harrison county.

Voters should be particular in rubbing out rejected names so as not to deface those voted for. By using ink the vote is often lost by blotting in folding the ticket before dry. A colored pencil is the best to cross off names.

HARRISON FLAG [MARSHALL, TX], August 3, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

**A writer in the Union of the 5<sup>th</sup>, [illegible] Panola county.**

The drouth has prevailed in our section of country since the 18<sup>th</sup> February, with the exception of two showers which [illegible] settled the dust.

Notwithstanding the severity of the drouth, we broke up our ground and planted our corn, which did fair for a large yield until the last three or four weeks; after then they have entirely failed.

A large number of our citizens are preparing to abandon their homes with their families and stock to some point where there are provisions to keep them alive.

Many are already destitute of either meat or bread, and are bound to suffer unless speedy relief is had; for there is neither money nor corn in our county.

Our citizens contemplate holding a meeting on Friday next, to petition the Governor to call the Legislature together to provide help for the suffering, and advise that the collection of debts for the present be stopped.

There are men in the county who have offered to hire out negro men and women until next Christmas a year, for their victuals and clothing. Hogs are daily dying for the want of food.

STANDARD [CLARKSVILLE, TX], August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 7

**A Word for the Ladies.**—It was stated that hundreds of cases of deafness among the female population are very week brought before the attention of the leading aurists in London, who attribute them to the prevailing fashion of wearing the hair. The ear is covered and loaded with a "mass of bandoline, horse-hair, wool, and other articles," by which the free current of air, indispensable to the healthy action of the auricle is impeded and at least deafness is produced.

HARRISON FLAG [MARSHALL, TX], August 3, 1860, p. 1, c. 7

**We have no late intelligence from Dallas.** Reports are current here to the effect that twenty or thirty negroes were in jail at that place—that the incendiary conspiracy was fully established, and that several negroes and two or three white men had been hung. It is stated that the negroes were instructed to burn down all the towns, stores, mills, and residences, and particularly every place containing powder. That the people would be thus rendered defenceless, and that on the day of election, the abolitionists would invade the State in armed force and carry off the negroes to Mexico.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

**Incendiarism,** thieving, and burglary are prevalent in Galveston. The News says:

"There are at this time a larger number of suspicious characters in our midst than we have ever known before—men who are either entirely unknown or of whom no good is known, and who are without any visible means of support, or any occupation, except that of living at the expense of others."

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

A committee appointed for the purpose at Paris, Texas, has reported that no "thermometer heat will ignite matches." This proves that the late burnings in the northern portion of the State were produced by incendiaries.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Marshall, Aug. 3, 1860.

**Editor Texas Republican:**

Dear Sir:--A few days ago, the citizens of Marshall and vicinity held a public meeting for the purpose of self-protection against all persons who might be found inimical to our rights; that is to say, thieves, robbers, murderers, &c., &c. The people seem to be, and no doubt are, much concerned in the preservation of their rights and freedom from any molestation by such pests of society. At the meeting an organization was had with great unanimity, which proposed to aid the law in bringing such offenders to justice. At Marshall we have two Justices of the Peace, a beat Constable, a Sheriff, and a Mayor, besides others; and, in addition to these, the organization constituted a Chief of Police to strengthen the "aid of the law" proposed, and a large number of the people constituted themselves into a police for guarding the lives and property of the people, and also the organization of a Military company. I belong to the Police organization. I have no doubt of the propriety of all this *now*, or at any other time of emergency in aid of law. Now, one case, and the first one under this effective union for self-protection. A few days after this organization a *case* happened to become apparent. A horse thief was caught in our very midst a *veritable horse thief*, in the person of \_\_\_\_\_ Robinson, given name not known, and the stealer of more than one horse according to his own showing. Robinson was caught in the vicinity of Marshall, on the 30<sup>th</sup> July past. Now let us see how the law was aided by these organizations. Robinson was kept in custody two or three days without warrant, as if the only object of his detention was to exhibit him at various points as a horse thief! His keepers were not to blame for they could not discharge him. *He had stolen a horse within two miles of Marshall, and in Harrison county, Texas*, and they were doing their duty to detain him till the law came. But it seems that the law with all its aids could not come to their relief. It is now the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August and the 4<sup>th</sup> from the time of the apprehension and custody of said horse thief and I believe the law has not come yet. But where is the thief gone? Is the law stronger with these aids than without them?

If the law had no other aid than fidelity on the part of its officers in its proper execution, this thief would now be in the jail at Marshall to answer for his transgression committed within two miles of the prison. But he is not in jail! Where is he?

I hear people speak of the weakness of the law. They don't understand what they talk about. The weakness of the law! The law is ample; full of life and energy. It arrests offenders and suspected persons *with or without* warrants and makes provisions for all cases. But its officers! What shall we say?

A vigilant police we have, and it is now doing good service, and bids fair to catch and bring every offender to the law, and the law if properly executed will be sufficient without those aids which intervene and bid defiance to law and transgress it.

Sir, can you tell where that horse thief is? and why it is that he is not in jail in Marshall to answer for his crime? How, sir, is the law to regain its former dignity and respect? P.

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### Abolition Incendiaries in Texas.

In another column we publish a letter written by Col. Chas. R. Pryor, editor of the Dallas Herald, which makes some startling developments. Facts have been elicited by actual testimony, that goes to substantiate the fact that this State is infested with an organized band of abolitionists, whose sole object is to war upon the institution of slavery. Plots have been discovered in different portions of the State, which go to show that an actual conspiracy is on foot to inaugurate a second Harper's Ferry affair in our very midst. On the same day that Dallas was destroyed, an attempt was made to fire Austin, and twice since; fires at Denton, Jefferson, and many other places occurred at the same time; an abolitionist was detected at Fort Worth who had just distributed fifty guns and fifty six-shooters among the negroes, and another one engaged in a similar act in Parker county was caught. Both were hung by the citizens. A correspondent of the Brenham Ranger writes from Chapel Hill that three suspicious persons were brought before a meeting in that place, and after a fair and impartial investigation, it was proven that they were abolitionists, had said that they sympathised with the negroes, and had made their boasts that there were three thousand abolitionists in the State, and also that in three years the Black Republicans would rule the State. One of them had been seen to take negroes in his room, and, with closed doors, to converse with them. They were ordered to leave the State, which they did.

The existence of abolitionists in the Cherokee Nation has already been chronicled. The State Gazette says it appears that an active warfare is going on there against the institution of slavery, and that the party engaged in it is of a religious denomination (Methodist Church North); thus infusing religious fanaticism in their hostility to the property of Southern men.

We append the remarks of the Gazette, which we heartily endorse:

["] We give these facts to our readers with no idea of desiring to create any false impression. We think any one who could thus trifle with the feelings of the people, would be amenable to the severest censure. We only do so desiring to know if there is an actual conspiracy on foot to treat our State with one of those horrible tragedies which it is proposed to enact in slave States for the purpose of creating the impression that powerful enemies to the institution live here among us, and who are willing to see and aid the conflagration of the incendiary, the bloody knife of the assassin, and deluge with blood the dwellings of all who in any way countenance the slave institution: rejoicing over our attack and the perhaps wide spread famine following in its wake.

Let the citizens of Texas everywhere be on their guard, and we hope that should a well attested case of incendiarism be discovered, the severest penalty will be quickly inflicted. The abolitionists have grown insolent from our own laxity and indifference. ["]  
THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

In consequence of the numerous fires and other incendiary movements in the Northern portion of the State, the people of Marshall have organized a vigilance committee and a rigid patrol.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

### The Conflagrations in Northern Texas—Startling News.

Mr. Chas. R. Pryor, editor of the Dallas Herald, writes to the State Gazette, under date of 16th July, giving an account of the destruction of that place by fire, and makes a statement which, if true, will produce exciting times in that quarter. After narrating the particulars of the fire, he says:

[“] All of these were so plainly the work of an incendiary, that suspicions were excited and several white men and negroes were arrested and underwent an examination. This led to the detection of a most diabolical plot to destroy the country. The scheme was laid by a master mind, and conceived with infernal ingenuity. It was determined by certain abolition preachers who were expelled from the country last year, to devastate with fire and assassination, the whole of Northern Texas, and when the country was reduced to a helpless condition, a general revolt of the slaves aided by white men from the North, and many in our midst, was to come off on the day of Election in August. The object of firing the town of Dallas, was to destroy the arms of the Artillery Company, ammunition and provisions known to be collected here; to destroy the stores throughout the country containing powder and lead—burn the grain and thus reduce this portion of the country to a state of utter helplessness.

When this was accomplished, assistance was expected from Indians and Abolitionists. Many other places have already been fired, Denton, Pilot Point, Belknap, Gainesville, Black-jack Grove; some stores in Kaufman, Navarro, Waxahachie and other places, that I do not now remember.—Each county has a special superintendent, a white man, and each county is laid off in districts under the supervision of a white man, who controls the action of the negroes in that district. The negroes are not permitted to know what is doing outside of their immediate sphere of action. Many of our most prominent citizens were to be assassinated, when they make their escape from the burning houses. Arms have been discovered in possession of the negroes, and the whole plot revealed, for a general insurrection and civil war at the August election. I write in haste; we sleep upon our arms, and the whole country is most deeply excited. Many whites are implicated, whose names are not yet made public. Blunt and McKinney, the abolition preachers, were expected here at the head of a large force at that time. You had better issue extras containing these facts, and warn the country of the dangers that threaten it. We are expecting the worst, and do not know what an hour may bring forth. Do the best you can for us. We have no printing press and can do nothing in that line. We may have to call on the lower counties for assistance—no one can tell. All is confusion, excitement and distrust. ["]

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

**The Ladies Home Magazine**, published by T.S. Arthur & Co., Philadelphia, is one of the spiciest little periodicals we receive. It is exactly suited to the ladies, and the price at which it is published, \$1,00 per annum, places it within the reach of almost every lady. The fame of T. S. Arthur as a novelist is too widely known to require a notice from us. Send for the Home Magazine.

Altoona Tribune, August 2, 1860. (Altoona, PA), Transcribed by Kimberly Scott

**Cont. from page 2**

These inquiries, it occurs to us are, in every respect, pertinent and [illegible]. We are no lawyer, and consequently are not prepared to instruct the officers of the law relative to their duties. But we do know what the public interests and the peace of society demanded in this case and what it demands in all other cases of a like nature. The parties who lost their property ought, as good citizens, to have had this man Robinson regularly committed, and if they failed to do so, it was the duty of the officers of the law, to have attended to the matter, and to have instituted such proceedings as would have led to his prosecution. It was a matter of notoriety that a thief had been arrested, and that among other things stolen in this town and vicinity, was the horse of a citizen of this county, living within two miles of Marshall. For several days this thief was paraded about our streets. We take it for granted that our officers were cognizant of the proceeding, and if they were not conversant with all the facts and reports connected with the affair, they were not as vigilant as they ought to be, or as the proper administration of the law requires. It is for them, and not for us to say why there was no action in the premises.

What has become of the thief? One report stated that he had got away. Another that he had been carried to Shreveport, *in the State of Louisiana*. A friend informed us, on Thursday, that he met three gentlemen that morning, about seven miles from town, with the prisoner hand-cuffed, proceeding in the direction of Shreveport.

Now, we object to such proceedings as we have detailed, for the reason, that their inevitable tendency is to produce contempt for the law, and to substitute in its stead anarchy and mob violence. Speculation was rife, in this community, as to what would be done with the thief, and the opinion was freely expressed that he would be lynched or hung before the parties who had him in charge reached Shreveport. We trust the suspicion was unjust and unfounded, for while we have no sympathy for crime of any sort, we look with what we conceive to be just apprehension and horror upon everything that tends to subvert the good order of society, and particularly by men whose social position demands that they should strengthen and preserve the law. And, in this connection, it is proper to say, that we have with pain heard leading citizens, from whose age, experience, and elevated character we expected different reflections, speak of the *weakness* of the law, and in terms of approval of the lyncher's code! Do men reflect properly when they talk thus? Do they know what they are doing when they give encouragement to such a sentiment? If they are correct, we had better abandon all law, and substitute in its stead the course of proceedings which they recommend—the lyncher's code! which all experience has shown surrenders the control of society, to the most vicious and depraved. But as our correspondent says, the law is not weak, but strong, and fully efficacious for all legitimate purposes. We venture to say that there is no State in the Union that has better laws than Texas, and no State where there is less chance for a thief to escape punishment. but good laws and a virtuous public sentiment are worthless, where officers are not vigilant, or citizens fail in the discharge of their obligations.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

The foreign demand for American butter and cheese is rapidly increasing. During the first six months of 1858 there were exported from New York 685,116 pounds of butter, and 2,940,534 pounds of cheese; for the same period in 1860, the export of these articles was – of butter, 3,636,888 pounds; of cheese 7,187,266 pounds.

Altoona Tribune, August 2, 1860. (Altoona, PA), Transcribed by Kimberly Scott

Sometime in 1857, a person by the name of Lemmons was expelled from the town of Quitman for expressing abolition sentiments, and went to Illinois, where a printing establishment was purchased for him and where he published an abolition newspaper. A few weeks since, as we are informed by a gentleman just from Quitman, Lemmons returned to that town, and, after remaining a few days, suddenly absconded, and on the very night after his departure the town was set on fire by an incendiary. The fire was fortunately discovered in time to be extinguished without damage being done to property. A committee of the citizens of Quitman are in search of Lemmons, provided with ropes to hang him in case he is caught.—Jefferson Herald.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 4, 1860, p. 3, c. 2

**Abolitionists Caught.**—On the 3d July, as we learn from a letter in the Brenham Enquirer three men, Clock, Sr., his son, and Perkins, his son-in-law, were arrested in Chapel Hill, and brought before a public meeting on charge of being abolitionists. A committee of twelve of the most respectable citizens were appointed to investigate the affair. It was proven by several gentlemen that the accused had repeatedly said that they were abolitionists; that there were three thousand abolitionists in the State; and that in three years the Black Republicans would rule this State; and that they sympathized with the negroes.

The accused were ordered to leave the State as soon as they could arrange their business. They have complied with the order.

Clock, Sr., is about forty years old and hump-backed; young Clock is about twenty-one, and Perkins about twenty-five.—Galveston News.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 4, 1860, p. 3, c. 2

**RESIDENCE AND AGES OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES** – We find the following in an

exchange, the Richland Democrat, which may be useful for reference: -- Nominees for the Presidency:

	Residence	Born	Age
Abraham Lincoln,	Illinois	Feb. 12, 1809	51
John Bell	Tennessee	Feb. 13, 1797	63
Stephen Douglas	Illinois	April 23, 1813	47
J.C. Breckenridge	Kentucky	Jan. 16, 1821	39

Nominees for the Vice-Presidency.

Hannibal Hamlin	Maine	Aug. 27, 1809	51
Edward Everett	Mass.	April 11, 1797	63
H. V. Johnson	Georgia	Sept. 18, 1812	47
Joseph Lane	Oregon	Dec. 14, 1821	39

Altoona Tribune, August 2, 1860. (Altoona, PA), Transcribed by Kimberly Scott

**Melancholy Affair.**—We regret to learn that a serious affray occurred on Wednesday, at Helena, Karnes county, between Capt. John Littleton and John Rabb. According to our information Rabb fired the first shot from behind Littleton, striking him on the side, the ball striking the temple, and glancing, scalped the forehead which stunned him so that he did not repeat his fire. Littleton fired two more shots—the first passed through the cheeks, and the last through the body of his antagonist. Littleton's shots having been expended, it is said some unknown person fired at Rabb, the ball striking him in the body. Strange to say, Rabb did not fall, and was still alive when our informant left Helena, though in a very precarious condition. Capt. Littleton, though very seriously wounded, was not considered in any great danger. The difficulty, it is supposed, grew out of an old feud.—Goliad Messenger.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

**Texas Wool in New York.**—The recent large arrivals of Texas wool, having been put on the market, resulting in quite a stimulus to the trade, and also to some other descriptions of wool—there has been an active demand this week, and about 600 bales Texas, mostly unwashed, has changed hands at prices varying from 24 to 28 cts., and 33 for washed—a portion on time, and part cash.—N. Y. Shipping List. [""]

During the same time California wool was selling at 10 to 16 cts. per pound, and Spanish at 17 cts. This speaks well for the stand Texas wool has taken in the New York market, and the result of the improvement being made in Texas flocks will be to command a still higher grade of prices.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

On Tuesday last, great excitement was created in Marshall, by the intelligence that a lady of this county was missing from her house, and that apprehensions existed that she had been killed by the negroes. It seems that her husband attended the election in this place, the day previous, and owing to the hot weather, did not leave until late. He arrived at home early in the night, and found his wife missing. The negroes could give no satisfactory account of her absence. Of course an affair of this character created great consternation. Search was instituted and she was finally found about seven miles from home, at the residence of Mr. Boon. Reports had been circulated that the negroes were to rise on election day, and being a short distance from the house, she heard the firing of guns, and becoming frightened ran off, her alarm increasing with her flight. She was out the entire night, and arrived at Mr. Boon's barefooted and in a wretched condition. This affair shows the necessity of prudence and caution, and the folly of unnecessary alarm.

MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

**Lynch Law.**—It is reported that a horse thief was arrested a few days ago, in this county, and hung. One report states that he was hung at the cross roads 9 or 10 miles from Marshall, which we think unfounded, and another rumor is to the effect that he was executed upon the same limb in Caddo parish upon which Robinson was hung last week.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

The following account of the "heated term" has been condensed from a weather journal, kept at the Railroad Office in Marshall, the thermometer in the shade:

The "term" commenced about the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, and the end is not yet. The period of the greatest heat was during the month of July, when the thermometer indicated over 100 degrees Farenh. excepting four days, when it was between 90 and 100. The greatest heat attained was 115½ degrees, on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup>, and 113 degrees on Sunday, the 29<sup>th</sup>.

On the 15<sup>th</sup>, a slight norther and a change of temperature; at 8 o'clock, A.M., 88 degrees, and at 8¼ P.M., 75, with high wind, clouds of dust, but no rain. From the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>, the temperature was below 100. The average for the month of July, between 8 o'clock, 1.m., and 5 o'clock., P.M., has been 93 degrees.

There was a light rain on the 23d of April. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of July a few drops fell; on the 23d a slight sprinkling; on the 26<sup>th</sup> and on the 30<sup>th</sup>, more showers, just enough to keep the dust quiet for an hour or two. The wind has been very uniformly South, and in the month of July especially, has blown with considerable strength, and served to mitigate the suffering which such intense heat is likely to produce, particularly at night, and *every* night, the thermometer often indicating a temperature as low as 70 degrees.

It will perhaps be unnecessary to state, that we are suffering *some* from drouth, as the preceding abstract will show.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

**Incendiarism Again.**—An attempt was made on last Monday night to fire the dwelling of Mrs. Erwin, two miles west of town. The fire was applied to a bale of cotton, which was under the house, and would have rapidly consumed the building, but from the fact that the barking of the dogs aroused a negro man, who discovered the fire.—Tyler Reporter.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

**Zouave.**—The word "Zouave" is generally and incorrectly pronounced as a word of two syllables. It should be spoken as if written *Zwuve*, the *a* having the Italian sound as in "fau." The name is derived from the Arabic Zouaona, a confederacy of the Kabile tribe, who lives on the mountains back of Algiers. The original Zouaves in the French service were composed of Arabs from the country near Algiers.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 7

**The Home Journal** is responsible for the latest and best definition of beauty—that which has troubled the brain of the wisest philosophers. It says: "Beauty, dear readers, is the woman you love—whatever she may seem to others."

HARRISON FLAG [MARSHALL, TX], August 10, 1860, p. 1, c. 4

**The Tyler Reporter** very justly says: "The celebrated John Brown raid was mere child's play, in comparison with the state of things which now exist in Texas."

MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

### Letter from Dallas.

*More Startling Developments—Several Negroes hung—Among others the Incendiary who Burnt the Town of Dallas—Investigations still going on—Poison found in the hands of Negroes.*

The following letter is from one of the most reliable citizens of Dallas, addressed to the editor of the State Gazette:

[ ] Dallas, July 21, 1860.

The excitement consequent upon the revelations made by negroes under examination continues unabated. Already nearly a hundred blacks have been arrested and examined separately before a committee of vigilance, appointed for that purpose. This committee consists of the most respectable and responsible gentlemen of this country, whose proceedings have been characterized by the utmost prudence and moderation. During so much excitement and confusion it seems almost a miracle that so much forethought and deliberation should govern their action. Such developments and such outrages would seem to indicate a speedy resort to extreme measures; but in this instance they have acted with as much calmness as if no public calamity had befallen the community, and as if no extraordinary emergency had called them from their homes.

Crowds of men are in Dallas, anxious and eager to lend their assistance, and ready to quell every disturbance that threatens the peace of the State. The developments are of the most startling character, unfolding the most diabolical plot that the wickedness of man could invent, to destroy this whole section of country.

At the town of Lancaster the same general plot was revealed—to burn the town, to poison the inhabitants, to assassinate the aged females, and to seize and appropriate the young and handsome for their villainous purposes. Thank God! this unhallowed conspiracy has been nipped in the bud, and the country saved from such a scene of horrors.

Investigations are going on in all directions and startling disclosures are being made.

Monday July 23. An immense concourse of people from all parts of the country is here awaiting the action of the committee of vigilance. The stage came in from Waxahachie yesterday, bringing news of the high state of excitement in that town. The conspiracy and insurrectionary spirit extend to that place in all the horrid forms contemplated at this place. Throughout the country as far as we can learn the same thing exists. That town was destined to be burned, the people to be poisoned and slaughtered, and the remaining property to be distributed among the victorious blacks.

On Red Oak Creek the chief prisoner had been arrested and executed. Negroes at Waxahachie have been detected with the poison in their possession; and a rumor was in town yesterday that there have been several executions at that place. We have not yet received the particulars.

The committee of vigilance have been in session all day, and this evening they announced that three of the ring leaders of the insurrection are to be hanged tomorrow. These hardened scoundrels were amongst the number. The decision seems to give general satisfaction. The crowd dispersed after this announcement, and a strong guard was detailed to

watch the jail in which are confined six or eight of the criminals. The police are active and unremitting in their efforts, and it would be impossible for the whole abolition fraternity to surprise us now, although we might be easily overpowered. They "would have to fight for it," however.

Tuesday, July 24. This evening at 4 o'clock the three ring leaders, Sam, Cato, and Patrick, were escorted from the jail under a strong guard to the place of execution. An immense concourse of citizens and negroes assembled to witness their exit from the scene of their wickedness. As they passed through the town they surveyed with composure the ruins of the once flourishing town, that now lays in a blackened mass before them. Patrick Jennings (so called) remained calm and collected during the whole day, and betrayed no remorse or feeling whatever in view of his approaching doom. He it was who fired the town, and that night after its destruction glorified himself for the deed, and pronounced it only a commencement of the good work. These facts were obtained from many witnesses, who testified to the same facts without any hesitations or contradiction of each others' statements.—Sam smith, so called from the name of his master, was an old negro preacher who had imbibed most of his villainous principles from two abolition preachers, Blunt and McKinney, who lived in the country a year before, and had had much intercourse with said negro; this old negro was a deep dyed villain. Cato had always enjoyed a bad reputation. They met their fate with a composure worthy of a better cause. Patrick Jennings with unparalleled *nonchalance* died with a chew of tobacco in his mouth, and refused to make any statement whatever.

They were hung on the bank of the river above town, and are buried beneath the gallows

Investigations are still going on throughout the country, all of which tend to confirm the facts elicited at this place. The evidence obtained before the committee will be published in due time. More anon. [ ]

The Gazette also publishes extracts from many papers in the State, which go to show that abolitionists are actively engaged in fanning the flame of insurrection and incendiarism. Suspicious characters have been seen prowling about Seguin, Fort Worth, and other localities, and the Paris Press says the house of a citizen of that place was set on fire by one of his negro women, and totally destroyed. Public meetings have been held in the different places bordering on the northern frontier, patrols organized, and other measures adopted to suppress any further attempts on the lives and property of [tear in paper].

[This same information was widely reported in several other papers in the state].

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 5

**More Sad Work.**—We learn that more fires have occurred in the Eastern part of the State. The report in regard to Henderson is confirmed.

ALAMO EXPRESS [San Antonio, TX], August 18, 1860, p. 3, c. 1

We hear by Ed Tucker who is just from Houston, that it is reported there that the towns of Tyler and McKinney have been burnt up.

BELLVILLE [TX] COUNTRYMAN, August 18, 1860, p. 3, c. 1



### Excitement and Alarm at Carthage.

Carthage, Texas, Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

At a public meeting called for the purpose of considering of the best means of protecting the town of Carthage, against the torch of the incendiary and the interests of the county of Panola generally, against the secret foes who seem bent upon the ruin of this portion of the Southern country, Judge Drury Field was called to the chair, and having brought the assembly to order, explained the object of the meeting, briefly, pertinently and forcibly.

...It was moved and seconded that a vigilance committee be appointed to examine all strangers with reference to the purpose of their visit to our town and county.

Moved that the last motion be so amended as to make the officers of the corporation members of this committee. The motion and its amendment were withdrawn, to await the action of the committee appointed to report a plan for the protection of the town and county.

Tuesday Afternoon, Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>.

The citizens assembled at the hour appointed. The meeting being called to order, the following report of the committee appointed this morning, was read by its chairman.

Whereas, we have reason to believe that there are incendiaries in our midst, and that our lives and property may be in danger. Therefore in order for our protection,

Resolved, That the Chief Justice be requested immediately to convene the County Court, for the purpose of appointing patrol detachments for the county, as authorized by Law.

Resolved, That we recommend the establishment of a police or guard. That the town marshal be appointed chief of such police, and that every free white male citizen be required by such ordinance to do and perform such duty when called upon by the said town Marshal.

Resolved, That such police or guard be stationed every night and remain on guard during the night unless relieved.

Resolved, That we recommend and urge upon all those who own unimproved lots, on or near the public square to cut down immediately all the bushes and remove other timbers that may obstruct the view to the Town or any of the buildings.

Resolved, That we advise all owners of slaves in the county to keep them at home for their own safety, and not to allow them to visit this or any other public place in the county unless on special business.

Resolved, That we recommend that when any patrol detachment shall find three or more slaves together, away from home, whether they have permits on paper or not, that they be requested to punish them in the manner authorized by Law.

The report was then adopted with the following amendment to the second resolution, to-wit:--That it be recommended that whatever weapons may be found unlawfully in the possession of slaves be appropriated to the use of the county, until redeemed by their proper owner.

On motion of H. McKay, the following additional resolution was adopted:

Resolved further, That this meeting recommend, that the citizens of the different Beats in the county, assemble immediately and take such steps as will in their wisdom, meet the present emergencies—and that the acting Justices of the Peace, be requested to call together the citizens of their Beats for such purpose; and further, that there be a patrol appointed by the chair to patrol this Beat, and search all negro cabins, and other places where arms may be likely concealed, pursuant to a former resolution, and that said patrol be requested to appoint of their own number, an individual to act as commander of such detachment, and that said Patrol be requested to proceed immediately to patrol this Beat.

On motion of H. P. C. Dulany, the following resolutions were also adopted.

Resolved, That we recommend the immediate organization of a military company here to be held in readiness until our country and military district shall be organized as authorized by the acts of the last Legislature.

Resolved, That we pledge ourselves to sustain every citizen who shall endeavor to carry out these resolutions.

Resolved, That these resolutions be published in the Marshall and Shelbyville papers.

On motion the meeting then adjourned.

Drury Field, Ch'n.

A. M. Samford, Sec'y.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 18, 1860, p. 1, c. 4

**Hung.**—It is reported that the *gentleman* who was in our city some weeks since, engaged in the laudable undertaking of selling maps, has been hung in Eastern Texas, for tampering with negroes. He hung many a map with all our country on it, and at last was hung himself.

ALAMO EXPRESS [San Antonio, TX], August 18, 1860, p. 3, c. 1

The people of Dallas have gone to work to rebuild their "burned district." Several large brick buildings are already going up and many frame buildings are under contract. There is a great demand for carpenters and brick masons. Mrs. Cockrell has already opened a new hotel, although her own was burned.

The slave Joe, convicted of arson, for setting fire to the buildings in Cameron, Milan county last fall, was hung on the 13<sup>th</sup> ult. A thousand spectators attended. A number of negroes were present, whom he warned against following his example.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 18, 1860, p. 1, c.

It is reported that a man was taken out of the Gilmer jail on Thursday by a body of armed men from Wood county, and hung in the town. We sincerely hope that this is not so.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

A negro woman has been convicted by the Vigilance Committee of Henderson with being concerned in burning the town, and sentenced to be hung on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Other parties are under arrest, and will be tried.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

**Two Men Hung.**—We learn that on last Saturday an investigation of some negroes was held at Tennessee Colony, and from their testimony sustained to the full satisfaction of the whole assemblage, by circumstances and other corroborative testimony, two white men—Wyrick and Cabelle,—were implicated in the proposed insurrectionary movements of the negroes of our county. A full, fair and impartial investigation was had, as we are informed, and the verdict was unanimous that they were guilty. They were then taken to the woods and expiated their crimes on the gallows. They had both been citizens of our county for years, and on one or two occasions heretofore had been charged with a degree of certainty, of having harbored runaway negroes. Their general character was bad. The citizens engaged in the investigation numbered about two hundred and was composed of some of the coolest, most impartial and respectable men in the county, and we have fullest assurance that they but discharged their duty to themselves, to their families, and to their country. Let no one judge hastily and harshly of their actions, but reflect upon the startling emergency, which called upon them for prompt and decisive action; circumstances admitted of no delay, and however much the necessity may be regretted, yet their course was the only one which presented itself as equal to the emergency.—Palestine Advocate of the 8<sup>th</sup>.

The Rusk Enquirer contains the following letter relative to this denouement and tragedy.

Palestine, Sunday Eve., 5<sup>th</sup> Aug.—News has just reached here of the hanging of two white men at Tennessee Colony; they had supplied negroes with a quantity of strychnine, and were instructing them as to the details of the plot which is now discovered, for the negroes to poison to-night, to-morrow kill the women and children, get possession of arms and kill the men on their return from the election. Some of the negroes here are engaged in it. I have heard nothing to implicate any one in your county. The plot is general north and north-west of us. The last news from Athens was that they were about to hang three negroes there, who had poison and arms. There have been some negroes arrested here. I do not think we need apprehend much danger as the plot is so generally made known and the people are on their guard. From Dallas, Fort Worth and other places above us, the same plan of action is developed, the negroes all tell the same tale; it is to be hoped that the worst is over.

Yours truly,  
J. T. Eppinger.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Mr. Thomas Erwin, who is represented as proverbially kind to his slaves, was recently murdered by two of his negro men. The negroes are in jail at Brenham.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

We have received a letter from Clarksville, Texas, dated the 13<sup>th</sup> inst., which says:

On the 11<sup>th</sup> inst., a traveller by the name of Pierce, formerly a cabinet maker of Shreveport, was arrested here and carried to Paris from whence I think they will send him to Henderson. He is strongly suspected of having had a hand in the fire in Henderson. Three Abolitionists hung in Gainesville, Cook county, (Templeton, Hensley, and Kirk.) These men before they were hung implicated 15 other men belonging to an Abolition conspiracy. [MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

**Coaxing Up an Expression.**--A brace of lovers anxious to secure each other's shadow ere the substantial faded, stepped into an ambrotype car one day last week, to sit for their pictures. The lady gave precedence to her swain, who, she said, "had got to be tuck fust and real natural." He brushed up his tow head of hair, gave a twist or two to his handkerchief, asked his girl if his collar looked about X, and planted himself on the operator's chair, where he assumed the physiognomical characteristics of a poor mortal in a dentist's hands, and about to part with one of his eye teeth. "Now, dew look purty!" begged the lady, casting on him one of her most languishing glances.

The picture was taken, and when produced it reminded the girl, as she expressed it, "jist how Josh looked when he got over the measles!" and as this was not an era in her suitor's history particularly worthy of her commemoration, she insisted that he should stand again. He obeyed, and she followed him to the chair.

The poor fellow tried to follow the indefinite injunction.

"La," she said, "why, you look all puckered up!"

One direction followed another, but with a little success. At last, growing impatient and becoming desperate, she resolved to try an expedient which she considered infallible, and exclaimed:

"I don't keer if there is folks around!"

She enjoined the operator to stand at his camera; she then sat in her feller's lap, placing her arms around his neck, managed to cast a shower of flaxen ringlets as a screen between the operator and her proceedings, which, however, were betrayed by a succession of amorous sounds, which revealed her expedient. When this billing and cooing had lasted for a few minutes, the cunning girl jumped from Josh's lap, and cried to the astonished operator:

"Now you have got him! Put him through!"

BELLVILLE [TX] COUNTRYMAN, August 18, 1860, p. 1, c. 6

Creditors never annoy a man as long as he is getting up in the world. A man of wealth only pays his butcher once a year. Let bad luck overtake him, and his beef bill will come in every morning as regular as breakfast. Again we say, never plead guilty to poverty. So far as this world is concerned, you might as better admit that you are a scoundrel.

HARRISON FLAG [MARSHALL, TX], August 10, 1860, p. 1, c. 4



### **Incendiarism in Texas.**

We publish below all the intelligence we have been able to gather from our exchanges in different parts of the State. The following is from the Austin State Gazette:

**Incendiarism in Austin.**—The large Steam Mill of Capt Glasscock is believed by many to have been destroyed by an incendiary. Loss between \$30,000 and \$50,000.

The workshop of Wilhelm and Burns, destroyed on Sunday last, is also believed to be the work of an incendiary.

The destruction of Dr. Renfro's residence on Monday last, was attempted by an incendiary, but fortunately the fire was discovered and arrested before doing any mischief.

The residence of Mr. Bennett has been twice fired and discovered in time to arrest the flames before doing any injury. In this case the man was seen applying the light, but escaped before he could be apprehended.

A negro with a knife in hand and a bundle was hailed on Monday by the patrol when he refused to make himself known, and started off on a run. The patrol fired upon him twice without effect. He escaped.

On Wednesday last, the Mayor ordered an examination of the quarters and chests of the negroes. It resulted in finding pistols, knives, bullets, muskets and a keg half full of powder, also, a bottle of powder. The powder is the only ominous sign, and it may yet be explained.

The Gazette very properly cautions the community against false alarms and concludes:

There having been no public investigation, all is mystery at present, and many property holders feel unsafe. The patrols have been largely increased, both in the city and country. Nothing can allay the excitement but a public investigation, conducted by responsible citizens having the entire confidence of the community, and under the auspices of the Mayor, whose course in the whole matter has been highly commendable.

**The Galveston News** of the 4<sup>th</sup> says:

Mr. G. R. Chessman, from Wharton, informs the Matagorda Gazette that a report had reached that place that a contemplated insurrection had been discovered in Grimes county, in which two Abolition preachers and about eighty negroes were concerned; the report was further, that the preachers made a full confession, corroborating the belief that there was a deep laid scheme to produce a revolt among the negroes of the State. The preachers were then hung and the negroes put in jail.

A patrol has been established at Matagorda. The citizens of La Grange have appointed a vigilance committee, and it was recommended at the meeting that in every beat in the county, a guard be organized. A letter from Independence, Washington county, to Rev. R. C. Burleson, of La Grange, says that a white man had been taken up and with him several negro men, suspected of being connected with the present insurrectionary movement.

**Ellis.**—A young man who had been employed in a store at Waxahatchie was hung a few days since for giving strychnine to slaves to put in wells.

**Smith.**—The man who was shot in the attempt to set fire to Tyler, has been found dead.

**Cherokee Nation.**—The Paris Press speaks of a rumor that a bloody fight had taken place in the nation, between Abolitionists and Pro-Slavery men, in which 159 of the former were killed, and 7 of the latter. This story is most probably a fabrication.

**Wood.**—On the 29<sup>th</sup> ult., an armed committee escorted the notorious J. E. Lemon out of Wood county. Just before which, he signed a document binding himself under penalty of his life not to return to Wood county, nor publish or circulate Abolition documents in the State.

We copy the following from the **Tyler Reporter**, of Saturday:

"We have direct news from Athens, in Henderson county, that one well was poisoned in that place, on Sunday night and that upon investigation, over one hundred bottles of strichnine [sic] were found in the possession of the negroes. After a severe punishment, the latter related the particulars of the plot—which was to poison all the public and private wells in the town on Sunday night—to poison, as far as possible, the family breakfast, and the knife and pistol (with which they were well supplied,) to complete the fiendish work. All the old women and young children were to be murdered and the young women were to be taken as wives by the hellhounds. So far as we have heard, the negroes being examined separately, tell exactly the same story, the truth of which we cannot for a moment doubt."

The subjoined items are from the same paper:

Mr. E. T. Broughton has this moment informed us that a stable in Athens belonging to Mr. John T. Carlisle was fired on Monday evening, by an incendiary, and burned to the ground.

A negro belonging to Mr. Barron, at Science Hill, Henderson county, was hung last Friday for having a quantity of strychnine in his possession. He confessed to having a hand in the insurrection.

**Rumors.**—The report is current here that a preacher and another individual were hung, and two negroes burned and one whipped to death at or in the neighborhood of Dallas, a few days since, as having been concerned in the recent conflagration there. We also hear that two negroes have been apprehended at Daingerfield for complicity in incendiary doings. We do not vouch for these rumors.

**The Mt. Pleasant Union** says:

A rumor has reached here that an abolitionist, named Morrison, was hung on yesterday, at Pittsburg, in the adjoining county of Upshur.

The rumor of the burning of Daingerfield is untrue.

Last week, we understand, there was much excitement in Daingerfield, and some slaves were taken up and closely questioned, but nothing of importance could be ascertained.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 5

A caravan of Camels arrived in our city to-day, from the Pacific.

We are glad to learn that the foot bridge near the Convent is to be re-built.

Several gay affairs have happened in our city during the week among the lovers of Terpsichore.

The city council have ordered twenty-five lamp posts of the gas company. It appears to us this is a small number, but perhaps will do to start with.

ALAMO EXPRESS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1860, p. 3, c. 1

The report which we mentioned in our last in regard to the hanging of the map man, Mr. Parker, is contradicted by the Herald. We have obtained some more particulars. Mr. L. Zork, of our city, who was in Richmond on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup>, says that Parker was then in jail, and was to be tried on the Saturday following, and that he heard it mentioned that he would be hung. The letter upon which the report is contradicted, is dated Matagorda the 6<sup>th</sup> inst.

ALAMO EXPRESS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1860, p. 3, c. 2

**The Montezuma Mills.**—These Mills are owned by Mr. J. C. Crawford, and situated on the beautiful Leona some ninety miles west of here, and within fifty miles of Eagle Pass, on the Rio Grande. Mr. Crawford is now filling a large Government contract, which is proof that his mills turn out the best quality of flour, and are capable of supplying a good proportion of the demand for that article in this market. They are situated on purpose on the nearest permanent running stream to the Rio Grande, so as to command the Mexican wheat crop, which is more certain, if possible, than in any other part of the world. The advantage in regard to distance and the quality of the road is decidedly in favor of Montezuma Mills over the coast as a point to receive our flour from. Wheat has not yet been cultivated in the vicinity of the Montezuma Mills, but the complete success of the wheat crop in this region demonstrates the fact that it can and will be raised extensively all over Western Texas. H. Mayer & Co., are Mr. Crawford's agents in this city.

ALAMO EXPRESS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1860, p. 3, c. 2

**A Daughter among the Sons.**—A woman disguised in man's clothes gained admittance to the Sons of Malta lodge-room in Hartford, the other evening, and passed all the several degrees of initiation successfully until the worshipful commander came to apply the emblem. Then the trick was discovered, the candidate being found unworthy to receive it. The affair has caused considerable excitement.

ALAMO EXPRESS [San Antonio, TX], August 25, 1860, p. 3, c. 3

The Houston Telegraph says: We are informed that an attempt was made a day or two since to set the town of Owensville, Robertson county, on fire. The incendiary has been arrested. The report comes to us direct and appears authentic. The reported burning of Palestine, Tyler, McKinney and other towns, as well as the reported attempts on half the towns in the interior are not to be believed until they are confirmed. Palestine, McKinney and Tyler were all safe at latest direct accounts, which are later than any rumor could have brought the truth.

The report of the burning of Henderson is confirmed. Loss \$211,500.

BELLVILLE [TX] COUNTRYMAN, August 25, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

**The Marshall Cavalry Company** will hold a meeting at the Courthouse on Saturday, the first of September. All that desire to join it should attend. On the day of the previous meeting the Courthouse was occupied by a political gathering, and many who would have perhaps desired to join the Company were forced to go home without doing so. A Cavalry Company will be quite an ornament to our town, and in case of necessity, may render effective service.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 25, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

[illegible] Mr. John [illegible] Evans, who has made a turn through the counties of Upshur, Rusk, and Cherokee informs us that the crops although very light, will turn out much better than was anticipated. There will be a larger yield of both corn and cotton. In the most of neighborhoods there will be sufficient corn for bread. About a sixth of a crop of cotton will be gathered, but of a very trashy and indifferent quality. He also informs us that what was supposed to be poison in the hands of the negroes in Cherokee county, when subjected to chemical analysis turned out to be a harmless preparation. And yet the negroes stated that it was poison, and that they had been instructed to place it in the wells and in the food of their masters. Very little reliance can be placed in testimony obtained by coercion or intimidation. It is a matter of history, that during the prevalence of the plague in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, many persons acknowledged themselves as having been the cause of it by poisoning the wells, &c. In Massachusetts, during the witch excitement, a great many innocent people were put to death who confessed their guilt, some of whom acknowledged direct intercourse with the devil. These things should teach caution.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 25, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

The Galveston News says that even in New Orleans, many of the citizens, merchants and other men of sense seem to think the excitement in Texas has been gotten up for political effect. It would be very strange for men to burn up their towns, stores, mills, and dwellings, and to hang their slaves for such a cause. But it would be much more strange for them to select a season like the present for such wholesale destruction, when there's almost a famine in the land.

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 25, 1860, p.2, c. 2

**A New Bath House.**—Capt. John Anderson has just completed a bath house at the end of a wharf built for the express purpose, directly in front of his house, for the accommodation of citizens and strangers. It is neatly fitted up and is situated where bathers will be exempt from all outside annoyances, which parties will readily appreciate. Families can have the exclusive use of the bath room from six till nine o'clock in the morning, and from three till six o'clock in the evening. A small fee will be exacted sufficient to keep the house clean and in repairs. It is an institution long needed here, and Capt. Anderson is deserving of thanks as well as a liberal support for supplying the want. To all we say, try the Captain's bath house.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

A gentleman of this place has received a letter from Tyler, dated the 15<sup>th</sup> inst., to which is attached the following postscript: "A Mr. Thomas had his gin house, cotton press, plows, wagon, with all his newly picked cotton, etc., burned up last night, three miles fro Starrville; a clear case of incendiarism. There is considerable feeling on the subject in Tyler."

[MARSHALL] TEXAS REPUBLICAN, August 25, 1860, p. 2, c. 3



**An Episcopal Church.**—It will be seen by reference to the new advertisements, that a call is made for all persons favorable to the establishment of an Episcopal Church to meet at the Court House on the first of next month. We hope to see a general interest manifested on that occasion by citizens throughout this vicinity. The moral influence of a Church, is sufficient to induce all citizens to give the undertaking a right handed support. That the effort will be a success is our earnest wish.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 25, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

#### **Ants.**

Mr. Editor:--Next after droughts, the greatest pests to the field and garden are the "cutting ants." They have quite discouraged some of my neighbors, who kept up good heart against other hindrances. They come so suddenly, in such multitudes, and are so voracious, no wonder they are looked upon with dread.

I have tried the "ant poison," the salt recommended by Affleck, the scalding process, etc., and, in common with others, to find they were victors. "Two came to attend the funeral" of each one killed; but latterly I have kept them in check, and driven them off by pouring fine sand into and about their holes. I take the sand that is drifted by the breeze, for that is the finest and the best. It readily fills up their holes, and it is a long and difficult labor for them to pack it out, a grain at a time. After two or three attempts, they will abandon the place and move off, and make a new den. I follow them up, and they move still further. Thus I have driven them quite off my lot each way, and so far off they go the other way to get their food.

This is the result of my experiment. It took only a few minutes for several successive days. I know they will need watching, lest they return or spring up anew; but I hope watchfulness will keep them at a safe distance. This is worth a trial. L---l.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 5

#### **Our Streets.**

The effect of the recent heavy rains upon most of our streets, must have demonstrated to many an unfortunate pedestrian, that although we have great reason to be thankful to the clerk of the weather, we have also a good right to complain of the miserable condition of our public highways. What are the Mayor and Aldermen of Corpus Christi so engaged in, that they cannot find time to make such improvements as the actual wants and necessities of our people demand? Are they acting upon the principle that when it don't rain, there is no necessity for improvement, and when it does, they can't? It seems to us that when public officials are inefficient and slack, it is high time to remind them of their shortcomings, and to insist upon reform. In reality, no man should ever accept an office in the first place that he cannot attend to with his whole heart. Undertake a trip from the Post Office down Chaparral street as far as the Sierra Madre Hotel, and you will encounter about as many obstacles as did old Pharoah when he tried to ford the Red Sea. This is not the only evil. Standing water is not overly conducive to health. Let a warm sun pour his rays upon these ponds for a short time, and we will guarantee an increase of business to every physician in the place. Now this can all be remedied by a slight expenditure of energy on the part of our City Fathers. Wake up, we say, ye who have the keeping of the city confided to your care, and perform your duty! If you have other business to attend to, *resign, and let others who are more willing to work, fill your places.*

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 25, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

