

went into dray or hauling as a daily occupation until 1855, when he purchased two Arpent(s) of ground in the then newly laid out town of Kenner 10 miles above N.O. in the Parish of Jefferson, when the ~~Pilots~~ ^{N.O. & G. N.R.R.} Central Rail Road was built, the town of Kenner still exist with a Mayor and Council, he moved his family to his new home and being the fourth inhabitant of the new place.

TOWN OF KENNER IN JEFFERSON PARISH.

1808

Minor Kenner born in New Orleans in 1828 married Miss Eliza Davis, a half sister of Dr D.C. Holliday, of New Orleans, and cultivated the Belle Grove plantation in Jefferson parish. When the railroad ^{then} ~~now~~ known as the ~~Pilots~~ ^{N.O. & G. N.R.R.} ~~Central~~ was built it passed through the place, and Mr Kenner became imbued with the idea ^{that} that a boom was about to take place real estate along the line of the railroad. He therefore cut up his plantation into building lots, and laid off streets and avenues of a future city. (X)

From 1855 to 1864 Baumann Sr, conducted a Livery Stable in the town of Kenner as well as farming with a great deal of success and

these men, in the manner of the intimidation was done, as I was well
 liked by all Republicans of the parish was kind and charitable
 to allow well to democrats, that if possible I could do for relieving
 ing those who caused all of us trouble, no favor was to small or too
 large for me to extend, all those who took such a prominent part
 to persecute and injure me were under immense obligations to
 me for past favors extended to them, but ingratitude had to argue
 itself.

MY REPUBLICAN TICKETS WAS HEADED AS FOLLOWS,

FOR CONGRESS: V. D. COLEMAN TICKET

FOR MAYOR JAMES C BAUMANN. CITY OF NEW ORLEANS.

FOR COUNCILMEN.

HENRY HOLLAND ALEXANDER DAVIS FRANK MARTELLO.

LOUIS BART FRANK SHEPARD PETER Mc DANIEL

Rooms of the Republican Parish Executive Committee.

Parish of Jefferson, April 2, 1889, 4th meeting held by the above
 committee the following resolutions were offered by W. N. King and
 unanimously adopted;

Resolved, That we look upon the Hon W. Dudley Coleman, MAJOR
 Here, Jr; Governor H. C. WARMOTH, Hon C. F. Brown P. B. S. Pinstenback, J. C.
 Baumann and A. S. Badger as true and staunch exponents of Republican
 principals in Louisiana, who have always proven their fidelity
 to the Republican party, and we as Republicans in meeting assem-
 bled, recognize them as entitled to the recognition the party
 is able to bestow upon its true and worthy leaders, and fully
 competent to judicially advise our Congressman upon all matters
 affecting your interest as Republicans.

Resolved that we recognize in Judge Jas C Baumann a true
 tried, unflinching Republican, whose services to the party ever
 since 1860 entitles him to every recognition at the hands of the
 Republican party, fully competent to fill any office within the
 gift of the party. We heartily endorse and recommend him for
 the appointment to the office of Surveyor of Customs of the port of
 New Orleans, and that we shall view his appointment to said office
 as highly satisfactory to the Republicans of this parish, and as
 a just, merited reward for his services in the past. The Republi-
 can part of Louisiana, in rewarding Mr Baumann, only honors one

and unflinching. He has always been actively engaged in furthering the Republican interest and is a true exponent of Republican principals. In recognizing such gentlemen the party strengthens and builds itself, and we therefore earnestly request the concurrence of the party leaders in furthering Mr Baumann's claim to said appointment at the hands of the party.

Resolved further, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States, as being the expression and wishes of the Republicans of this parish, and also a copy to the HON Dudley Coleman, by a committee of three, to consist of the following named gentlemen Hon C.F. Brown, Hon H. Demas and W.N. King, and we suggest to our Congressman that he should insist upon being recognized by the executive department as the only legal mouth piece of our party and by us elected for such and other purposes.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Sun, Standard, Pelican and St Charles Herald for publication.

(Signed) G. W. Wilson PRESIDENT

.. H.N. Gautier, Assistant Secretary

By virtue of the above resolutions many meetings were held over the district, endorsing me for the position as mentioned by all the news papers and meetings in Jefferson St Charles St James and New Orleans Parishes,

with many private communications from citizens over the district which were published in the papers which was very much appreciated and gratifying to me.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND REPUBLICAN DISTRICT CONVENTION.

Parish of St John, Edgar P.O. Sept, 29 th 1890.

The Republican Congressional Convention of the 2nd Congressional District of the state of Louisiana, met at the Court House, at Edgar P.O. St John Parish, on this, 29th day of September, 1890, shortly after the hour of 12 M, pursuant to a call of the second District Republican Congressional Committee, of date September 8th 1890.

Hon Andrew Hero, Jr, acting as its chairman and called the convention to order, with the following number of delegates present, Orleans Parish, 43 delegates, Jefferson Parish, 11 delegates, St Charles, 13 delegates, St John, 12 delegates, St James, 18 delegates,

and being a man of temperate habits he accumulated considerable property, which consisted of 10 horses, 2 mules, carriages and Wagons & etc, and was rated at about \$15000, his success met with the ill feeling and jealousy and opposition in the same line of business of another party, the result was he was set on fire and burnt out, and the circumstantial evidence was strong against those who done the deed, still not sufficient to convict, this was in December 1857 and lost every ~~thing he carried no insurance~~ down as a poor man to make a new start in life.

In the later part of 1858 Baumann Sr sent to Switzerland for four children the issue of his wife by a former marriage, their name s was Elisebeth, Rosa, Rosalia and Albert the two first took sick with ~~the~~ Yellow Fever in 1857 and died, Albert some years later met with an accident was killed by a large Sugar House chimney ~~falling~~ falling on him and crushed him to ~~death~~ death, Rosalia is still living.

On January 23rd 1858 he purchased from John B Humphrey ^{and Joseph} Square of ground ~~for~~ \$1000, payments on time his misfortune did not discourage him, he commenced his business over again at the new place which was located at the corner of 3rd and William streets same town, again in 1858 his place was again set on fire and burnt out, fortunately this time he was insured and suffered no loss .

His son James C Baumann had grown up to be quit a scholar having received such education that was available in said parish, always at the head of his class.

He then devoted himself from 1867 in the occupation as Druggist for two years, he then gave up the drug business, and went into the Mercantile business and the farming including truck farming including sugar cane planting until 1891, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

ON NOVEMBER 1868 HE TOOK PART IN THE NATIONAL ELECTION FOR PRESIDENT BETWEEN GRANT AND SEMOUR, Jas C Baumann the subject of this writing, entered political life with Major James Burke then leader in the ward on the side of the Republican Party, he was appointed clerk of election, ~~and~~ the result of that election was that the N.O.J.R.G.N.R.S.Co, ran several special trains to Kenner with men to intimidate the voters at the Kenner Poll nearly cre-

ken open, the lights put out, and ballots destroyed, and the lives of the commissioners and clerks of election therein danger of being shot.

In 1869 ^{he} received ^{his} first political appointment from the Hon Thomas W Conway then President of the State Board of Education of Louisiana, as one of three members constituting the school board, 8th ward Left Bank, Parish of Jefferson and was elected by said board as Treasurer and was one of the first organizers of the Public Schools in said ward after Reconstruction, in October 1870 he was Re-appointed on said board by the Hon Judge Hymanson Parish Judge of said parish which duty he faithfully discharged until he was succeeded by the Hon E. McKay in 1871.

The election in November 1872, he was appointed as one of the Republican Commissioners of election, at said election, his life was threatened by one Thomas Eckman for refusing to let his vote on an old registration paper, which was under the law barred from the fact of a new registration ordered which he failed to do for six months Eckman never would go out at night for fear of coming in contact with this man & to avoid of getting into trouble kept himself close to his home at night, in course of time this man called on me and apologized for his past action.

In January 1873, ~~he~~ was appointed a member Police Jury Parish of Jefferson Left Bank and known as the Bonabel jury on the organization of that body ~~he~~ was appointed chairman of the Finance committee and a member of the joint committee composed of the several corporations of said parish viz. Jefferson Parish Right and ~~the~~ ~~was~~ ~~appointed~~ ~~in~~ ~~November~~ ~~1874~~ ~~he~~ ~~was~~ ~~elected~~ ~~on~~ ~~said~~ ~~jury~~ ~~and~~ ~~served~~ ~~till~~ ~~1876~~, while member of said jury ^{he} advocated and used ^{his} influence to have an act passed by the state Legislature to authorize said police jury to build a public roadway on an air line from New Orleans to the City of Kenner, through my influence the jury proceeded to enforce the compliance of said Act, resolutions were passed relative to the same, surveys ordered, jury of freeholders appointed, and approved, and the final report made on the same and approved, contracts advertised and let, ^{he} received ~~as~~ chairman of the Finance committee to issue any bonds in payment of any work done until the

contracts where fully complied with, roadway was almost completed with the exception of putting down the bridges, and up to that date no cost to the parish, the venture failed on account of numerous litigations by the property holders over which the road passed. ²⁶¹ always contended for public improvements and the same time inance the value of the land over which the road would pass.

In April 1873, ^{he} used ^{his} influence with the state Legislature to pass an Act to Incorporate the City of Kenner in said parish with a mayor and council, on the organization of that body ^{he} was elected as Secretary and Treasurer and served until December 1876, it was then due to ^{his} influence that the Hon Chas Hodges was elected as the mayor of said city in November 1876, in opposition to O. T. Connor late mayor who had run the city in debt to the amount of several thousand dollars.

In November 1879, ^{he} was elected as 2nd Justice of the Peace Parish of Jefferson Left Bank, in opposition to one Dennis Bowlding who had incurred the displeasure of the community by his official actions in the community, in April 1884 ^{he} was re-elected to the same office receiving 243 votes, being the unanimous vote of the ward in which ^{he} lived, and served until 1888, ^{he} had also received the nomination as Clerk of the 26th Judicial District Court, at first ^{he} declined to again accept the nomination as Justice of the peace, it was only by the earnest appeal of the people of ^{his} ward ^{he} finally made up ^{his} mind to accept, the result was ^{he} again received the unanimous vote of ^{his} ward, the Mayor and Council of the City of Kenner fixed ^{his} salary at \$50. per month as Justice of the Peace, which ^{he} applied personally ^{to} engaging two teachers a t a salary of \$25. per month for the benefit of the colored children of the town of which there where over 125 without schooling, the school board of the parish claimed ~~no~~ only having sufficient funds to apply to the opening of the white children.

IN 1880, I was elected Mayor of the City of Kenner and re-elected in 1882 and served until December 1884.

In MAY 1882 Judge Michal Hahn District Judge, ^{him} gave ~~me~~ certificate of qualification as Notary Public, and was appointed as Notary Public in and for the Parish of Jefferson by Gov, S.D. Mcenery, and was re-appointed in 1886 by gov Nichols which position

He resigned in 1891, after moving to New Orleans.

The term of eight years ^{he} served as justice of the peace ^{and} have the credit of passing judgement on over 300 civil cases and not in a single case was ^{his} judgement reversed by the district court on appeal.

IN April 1884 ^{he} was elected clerk of the 26 th judicial district court, Ex-Officio Recorder of Mortgages and conveyance and clerk court of Appeals, of the parish of Jefferson La, again receiving the unanimous vote of ^{his} ward, the total vote of the parish was 2143 cast 1886 in ^{his} favor and 357 for ^{his} opponent the Democratic candidate, in 1888 ^{he} received the nomination again by acclamation, but owing to some dissatisfaction which arose as to the sheriff one of the candidates on the ticket caused a dissension in the Republicans ranks of the parish, ^{he} was urged and prevailed upon to take sides with the fusion, which ^{he} declined to do in the same time the sheriff in order to save himself played treachery to ^{his} support, the result was ^{he} was defeated, it is due to ^{him} the excellent manner in which ^{he} arranged the records of the court, and the books in the Recorders Office of said parish of which ^{he} received the approval of the legal ferternety of the parish and City of New Orleans, all knowing in what condition the records in the court of jefferson parish where before ^{he} took charge, in 1884, while clerk of court ^{he} was compelled to issue a Rule to compell the Election Commissioners ~~only~~ of Grand Iles of said parish to make return of the Congressional election, upon which result depended the election of the Hon Michal Hahn for congress as an effort was made to count him out.

In January ^{he} was elected 1888, as an Alternate from the state at large, by the state convention to the National Convention which met at Chicago and which ^{he} attended, ^{he} also was a delegate to the convention which nominated the Hon H.D. Coleman as congressman and was placed upon his notification and campaign committee, which was successful in electing its candidate, through ^{his} influence ^{he} gave Mr Coleman in ^{his} ward the largest majority of votes cast in the parish, ^{he} was a delegate to every convention in the parish and in ^{his} district from ^{his} entering political life in 1868 to 1896, ^{he has} always been active in politics and true

to the principals of the Republican Party.

In one of the public meetings that took place in the bapt~~ist~~ church in Kenner with a gathering of over 500 people and while ~~he~~ was making a public speech one Emanuel King ~~while~~ under the influence of liquor made some remarks that was resented by some one in the meeting which caused a small riot and over 100 shots were fired ~~and~~ King was killed, some of ~~his~~ friends rushed into the building and took ~~up~~ ^{him} ~~him~~ ^{Bassman} up bodily and rushed ~~out~~ ^{him} out of the rear of the building and ~~out~~ ^{of} danger and to ~~his~~ office where ~~he~~ ^{he} swore in several deputy constables to preserve order.

IN the later part of 1886 one Henry ^(Alias Henry Long) Lang and several of his friends were out during the night promiscuously shooting up and down the street and one of the shots hit a boy in the head it was a clear moonlight night and the boy recognised the parties he made an affidavit against them ~~and~~ a warrant for arrest for shooting in the corporate limits ~~and~~ and wounding, the next day ~~he~~ ^{he} tried them and the evidence was clearly proven that they had done the shooting, ~~he~~ ^{he} fined each of them \$2.50 for shooting in in the town, and on the other charge sent them before the District Court for trial, when their case was called for trial they waived trial by jury, and requested to be tried by the judge, same evidence was given as in ~~the~~ ^{his} court, in passing judgement the judge remarked that he had his doubt that at night 60 feet off any one could be recognised and that he would give the prisoners the benefit of the doubt and discharged the defendants, ~~he~~ ^{he} had occasion the next day to be in the Rail Road office where this man Lang was agent he told ~~me~~ ^{him}, that ~~he~~ ^{he} could have done just as the district judge had done, ~~he~~ ^{he} stated to him that if ~~he~~ ^{he} was judge no matter how long and the same evidence came before ~~me~~ ^{him} ~~he~~ ^{he} would send the case before the district court every time, notwithstanding what position the other took, he then said what would it ^{he} if they had killed the negro, and same time said there have been 17 Democratic votes in this ward voting for ~~me~~ ^{him} that he intended to see they would not do so in the future, I remarked that he could do as he pleased as this was a free country, from that out he adopted every means and method he could think off, or to devise to harrass and persecute ~~me~~ ^{him}, he associated with him such white and colored men who would do

all his bidding, with the aid of others over the parish and the promise of high officials of patronage to be given him if he should succeed.

The first effort was made in April, 1888, ^{he} when ~~he~~ was re-nominated as clerk of court, the returning officer of the parish gave him the commissioners of election and clerk in ~~the~~ ^{his} ward Vic, with Lang A. Felix H.A. Stahl, on the opening of the Poll on the morning of the election, word had gone down the line of the democrats to line up early and vote, this was carried out to the letter, as soon as the 17 democrats had voted, Lang and his commissioners refused to receive any further votes on the pretext of claiming that a riot was eminent from the fact that one voter appeared and he told him his name did not appear on the poll list, that was only a pretext, causing about 200 Republican voters to stand in the sun, being a candidate and was told by Lang and others that they did not intend to proceed, by the action of said Lang and others caused a bitter feeling, the same methods were applied at nearly every poll in said parish, the result was ~~he~~ ^{he} defeated.

In September 1888 said Lang, Felix and Stahl (see their character later on) helped to organize a colored club and named it the "Progressive League of Kenner" with one Louis Walker colored as president, and Samuel Dixon as ~~the~~ secretary in the interest of the democratic party of Kenner, (The former was made after that a fugitive from home given notice not to return to live there again, the later was lynched) in ~~1888~~ ^{Xy 1888}, the democrats made up a municipal ~~1888~~ ¹⁸⁸⁸ with one Philip Holliday as mayor, colored and Frank King, Edward Steward preacher, Harris Williams, colored with Benj Felix, Joseph Marona and Peter Schneckberger jr, white, as councilmen, in November 1888, I took no part in that election, all the above parties were made to do the biddings of this man Lang in 1892 in ~~his~~ ^{his} persecution as later events will show.

In October 21 st 1889, ~~he~~ ^{he} received the unanimous indorsement from the Republican Committee of the 2nd Congressional District of Louisiana, for the position of Surveyor of Customs, Port of New Orleans, copies of said resolutions were sent to President Harrison to the Congressman of ~~the~~ ^{his} district and to all of the city papers.

In December 1889, several indictments were found by the Grand Jury of the parish against the Mayor ~~xxx~~ and the colored

justice of peace elected on the democratic ticket under the guidance of this man Lang, of extortion, oppression and malfeasance in office and both members of the "Progressive League" the justice resigned and the Mayor never was tried, ~~XXX~~ GOV? Foster then appointed this man Lang as justice of the peace, in Kenner.

Up to 1888, Mrs Lang was post mistress at Kenner, for the action of her Son acting as he did as commissioner of election as to ~~my~~ ^{his} caddacy as clerk of court and the candidate for congress in not allowing the voters to vote, ~~he~~ ^{he} wrote to the Post Master General at Washington informing him of the action of this man Lang, and asked his removal for his action,

In 1889, Dr J.D. FAUCETT was appointed as Post Master at Kenner, (Vice Lang removed) ~~he~~ ^{he} signed his bond, this caused further ill feeling, after which Dr Faucett was assaulted by this man Lang while in the discharge of his duty, Lang was arrested upon an affidavit before U.S. Commissioner Wright and sent before the U. S. Court for trial and placed under bond, in January 1890, Dr, FAUCETT was again assaulted and badly bruised up by one — Tucker then a telegraph ~~er~~ operator and working in the same rail-road office with Lang, during the assault Lang, the colored mayor and his police were present, no attempt was made to save the man, and no arrest was made, the Doctor was confined to his bed for several months and finally died and this man — Tucker disappeared.

In September 1890, the citizens of Kenner prevailed on ~~him~~ ^{him} to allow them to use ~~his~~ ^{his} name for the office of Mayor, in consequence of the bad management of the then administration in power, to satisfy them ~~he~~ ^{he} agreed to make the race considering that ~~his~~ ^{his} interest was very great and the earnest appeal of the citizens, and an honorary position no pay attached to ~~the same~~ ^{and} a great deal of responsibility, no sooner it was definitely known that ~~he~~ ^{he} would accept every one flocked to ~~his~~ ^{his} assistance with the exception of about a dozen people in the town, ~~his~~ ^{his} interest in the town then was about two thirds value in property, the election was to take place in November 1890, this man Lang had placed the same ticket in the field against ~~he~~ ^{him} ~~he~~ ^{he} had in 1888, Lang seen he had no earthly show to elect his ticket and an overwhelming defeat, he appealed to the Democratic Leaders of said parish, the result was on the

evening before the election, a democratic committee came from Gretna, ~~parish~~
 parish seat 15 miles from Kenner, consisting of L.F. Marrero then
 President of the Police Jury, since Senator and now Sheriff, Dr. L.
 Lebeauf coroner of said parish, Dr. C.W. Settoon Parish Physician,
 J.W. McCunethe Notary Public and member of the school board, H. Keil-
 man then member of the police jury, Wm. Strella deputy sheriff and
 jailer, and several others they styled themselves a committee of
 citizens of the parish, although composed of parish officials, they
 where heavily armed, they came up on the evening train, ~~he~~ happened
 to be on the same train they said nothing to ~~me~~ ^{him} until ~~he~~ ^{he} arriv-
 ed at the Kenner station, they then met this man Lang, H.A. Stahl,
 Paul Felix and Joseph Reach who reside in Kenner, as ~~he~~ ^{he} stepped off
 the train L.H. Marrero stepped up to ~~me~~ ^{him} and said he was spokesman
 of a committee to wait on ~~me~~ ^{him} and asked ~~me~~ ^{him} to step into the rail-
 road office as the committee desired to talk to ~~me~~ ^{him}, ~~he~~ ^{he} told him
 if the committee desired to speak to ~~me~~ ^{him} they could do so on the
 platform as well as in the office, they all came out and they in-
 formed ~~me~~ ^{him} that ~~he~~ ^{he} would have to take out of the field, the Repub-
 lican ticket headed by ~~me~~ ^{himself} as Mayor, and that they were there
 to see it done, even if they had to shed some blood to have it
 done, he was further informed that if the request was ~~not~~ ^{not} complied
 with, that the committee would not be responsible for what might
 take place during the night intimating at the same time to ~~me~~ ^{him}
 that all ~~his~~ ^{his} property was there, and ~~his~~ ^{his} family, that something might
 happen, ~~he~~ ^{he} took in the situation at once, and not wishing to sac-
 rifice any of ~~his~~ ^{his} friends, ~~his~~ ^{his} property, or ~~his~~ ^{his} family knowing at the
 same time, nothing could be accomplished, before the judiciary of
 the parish, the same being at the mercy of the above name parties,
~~he~~ ^{he} informed the committee that under such circumstances as these,
 which would, nor could be tolerated in any civilized country, except
 Louisiana in which an American Citizen could not cast his vote as
 he chose, although the election of a congressman depended on this
 result, as well as myself, the Hon H.D. COLEMAN was then a candidate
 for re-election, was then defeated, I then informed the committee
 the Republican ticket would not appear under that condition the
 next day, I kept my word, and retired from a ctive political life,
 the citizens of Kenner where very much out-done by the action of