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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
OF LOUISIANA
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE PROJECTS
HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

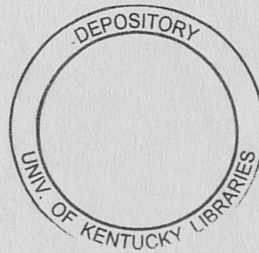
M E M O R A N D U M

June 19, 1939

TO: All State Directors, HRS
FROM: John C. L. Andreassen,
State Director in Louisiana

At the request of Dr. Luther H. Evans, I am transmitting herewith a copy of the title page, foreword, preface, and sample pages of the Jefferson Parish Police Jury (governing body) Minutes prepared by the Louisiana Historical Records Survey. The preface contains an outline of the procedures used in preparing transcriptions of archival materials for publication.

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OF LOUISIANA
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE PROTECTS
HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

MEMORANDUM

June 19, 1939

TO: All State Directors, RFD

FROM: John C. Anderson,
State Director in Louisiana

At the request of Mr. Walter H. Evans, I am trans-
mitting herewith a copy of the title page, forward-
ing slip, and copies of the following forms:
Police Party (Government body) blank prepared by
the Louisiana Historical Records Survey. The pre-
face contains an outline of the procedure and in-
forming descriptions of archival materials for
collection.

WHA:ev
cc:ev

TRANSCRIPTIONS OF PARISH RECORDS OF LOUISIANA

The Historical Records Survey

Luther H. Evans, National Director

Prepared by

John C. ...
Regional Supervisor and State Director
The Historical Records Survey
Division of Professional and Service Projects
Works Progress Administration

Division of Professional and Service Projects

NO. 26. JEFFERSON PARISH (GRETNA)

Flora E. Kerr, Assistant Administrator
Regional Supervisor
SHERIFF I. POLICE JURY MINUTES

Alma S. Hammond, State Director

VOL. I. 1834-1843

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

* * * * *

New Orleans, Louisiana
The Police Jury
Parish of Jefferson
June 1939

The Historical Records Survey

Luther H. Evans, National Director
John C. L. Andreassen,
Regional Supervisor and State Director
Vergil L. Bedsole, Supervisor

Division of Professional and Service Projects
Works Progress Administration

Division of Professional and Service Projects

NO. 22. JEFFERSON PARISH (GREEN)

Florence E. Kerr, Assistant Administrator
Mrs. Leo G. Spofford, Chief Regional Supervisor
Alma S. Hammond, State Director

Vol. 1. 1874-1882

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Col. F. C. Harrington, Administrator
George H. Field, Regional Director
James H. Crutcher, State Administrator

June 1939

PARISH OF JEFFERSON
 1939
 POLICE JURY

President Weaver R. Toledano
 Secretary William Hepting
 Treasurer C. V. Bourgeois

Members

Ward 1	Harold Heard
Ward 2	Wm. E. Strehle
Ward 3	Leon Gendron W. R. White
Ward 4	Albert J. Cantrelle Edward E. Feitel E. M. Gordon Hirsh Meyer
Ward 5	Joseph Petit
Ward 6	Clem Ferrin
Ward 7	Robert Ottermann
Ward 8	J. J. Holtgreve Ernest Riviere
Ward 9	Weaver R. Toledano

PARISH OF JEFFERSON
1939
POLICE LIST

PARISH OF JEFFERSON
1939

State Senator	Jules G. Fisher
District Judge	L. Robert Rivarde
District Attorney	John E. Fleury
Asst. District Attorney	Ernest Martin Conzelmann
Sheriff and Ex Officio Tax Collector	Frank J. Clancy
Representative	Alvin T. Stumpf
Clerk of Court	Vic A. Pitre
Assessor	George Heebe
Coroner	M. M. Odom
Superintendent of Education	J. D. Ellis

FOREWORD

The Police Jury of the Parish of Jefferson takes pleasure in sponsoring the publication of the Minute Books of its predecessors.

A perusal of this volume indicates its importance to the student of local history, law, and government. We especially wish to commend its study to the teachers and students in the schools of the parish.

This is the first volume of governing body minutes to be published under Federal Historical Records Survey auspices in the United States.

We trust this fine work done by the Works Progress Administration in preserving and making accessible the records of Jefferson Parish will receive the commendation it deserves.

M. R. Toledano
PRESIDENT

FOREWORD

The Joint Committee on the Organization of the Historical Records Survey, in sponsoring the publication of the *Records of the Federal Government*, is pleased to have the following foreword written by its members.

A purpose of this volume is to indicate its importance to the student of local history, law, and government. It is especially wished to commend its study to the teachers and students in the schools of the district.

This is the first volume of governing body minutes to be published under Federal Historical Records Survey auspices in the United States.

We trust this fine work done by the Historic Records Survey will assist in preserving and making available the records of Federal Government and receive the commendation it deserves.

M. R. Johnson
PRESIDENT

PREFACE

The Historical Records Survey in Louisiana is one unit in the nation-wide Survey, headed by Dr. Luther H. Evans, National Director. In the nation and in each state, the project operates under the administrative control of the Division of Professional and Service Projects, Works Progress Administration. From its beginning as a nation-wide project late in 1935, the Historical Records Survey operated under the Writers' Project until November 1936, when it became an individual part of Federal Project No. 1. The administration and operation of the Project in Louisiana remained under the Writers' Project until March 1937.

The objective of the Survey in Louisiana has been the preparation of complete inventories of the records of the state, and of each parish, municipality, and other local governmental units. By July 1938, it was apparent that if the Parish Archives Inventories were to present a clear picture of the records it would be necessary to delve deeply into the minutes of the governing body of the parish. Experiments aimed at limiting transcription from those minutes to pertinent passages indicated that we could not hope to obtain full coverage or uniform results by leaving to field workers the selection of the material which should be copied. For that reason, workers were assigned to the transcription in full of the police jury minutes in one parish after another until at the present time 67 workers are transcribing as many volumes in 46 parishes.

The first volume of the Police Jury "Minute Book" in Jefferson Parish was transcribed in long hand using a pencil. The transcription was made word for word, line for line, and page for page. At the close of each day, the worker proof-read the material he had copied on that day against the original and transmitted it to the state office, where the editorial foreman of the transcription unit, Mr. Verne Fisher, read and filed the material sent in on each day. If any feature of the transcript, such as handwriting or spelling was in question, it was returned to the field for correction or verification. The transcriber inserted "[sic]" after each misspelled word to indicate that the error was not an error in transcription. It should be pointed out that Volume I of the Police Jury "Minute Book" in Jefferson Parish carries the minutes in French on the even numbered pages and in English on the odd numbered pages for the pages 1-255; for pages 256-346 the opposite is true. The transcription reproduced here is based entirely upon the English record. On the completion of the transcription of this volume, the state office editorial foreman visited the courthouse in Jefferson Parish and with one of the workers proof-read the entire transcription against the original. He then eliminated from the transcription all editorial [sic]'s. The pencil transcription was then typed in 5 copies. The ribbon copy was, in turn, proofed against the handwritten transcription. From the ribbon copy, stencils were cut during February and March 1939. The stencils, in turn, were proofed against the typed copy. In other words, the text which follows has been proofed on four occasions, two of them against the original record.

Although the worker's copy was made line for line, the mimeographed version does not follow that rule. The transcription here presented is

a word for word, paragraph for paragraph, page for page transcription. Page numbers have been indicated in brackets preceding each page of transcription. We have carried the inclusive page numbers in parentheses at the top of each mimeographed page. The pagination of the original was used to avoid the necessity of double page citations, to the original and published text, in the index. The editorial device used to indicate page endings is a line drawn entirely across the page. The double lines which appear in a number of cases, as on page 27, have no editorial connotation whatever, but are a transcript from the original. The editorial rule adopted for the transcribed marginal notes is that the marginal note shall begin on the same line as the first line of the paragraph which it serves.

The exact title of Volume I of the "Minute Book" is shown on the title page immediately preceding the first page of the published transcript. For purposes of uniformity in citation, should it be found possible to publish any considerable number of volumes of police jury minute transcripts, we have set up arbitrarily a title, under which any parish record may be published in full, e. g. Transcriptions of Parish Records of Louisiana. These must of necessity be published by parishes; so that the practice of assigning a number to the parish according to its alphabetical position in the list of parishes, used in the Inventory of Parish Archives series, has been retained. The series title assigned is Police Jury Minutes. Of course, each mimeographed volume will carry the exact title and inclusive dates of the original.

The index has been prepared under the direction of Mr. Randolph T. Palmer. The line-index form has been used throughout. An attempt has been made to include every place and proper name, and to group under subject heads the significant items of information contained in the record.

As a preliminary step to making readily accessible the entire body of local ordinances in the parish, we have also included a list, arranged chronologically, of the ordinances adopted by the police jury at Jefferson Parish between 1834 and 1843. These ordinances are covered by the subject index, but we believe that their importance warrants such special treatment as well.

A cursory examination of the contents of this volume will reveal, in large measure, the significance of police jury minutes as a fundamental source for the study of parish government and history. These records, taken in the aggregate, contain a vast body of local law, which, because it was not in accessible form, has been lost to all except a very few pertinacious lawyers. The minute books reveal in what measure the parish operated as a local government, and to what extent as an agency of the state.

While the whole picture is by no means to be obtained from a reading of this record, the all-embracing functions of the early police jury as a governing body and the record of its actions indicate in which offices to look for the source which will fill out the picture.

An example of the use which can be made of the transcriptions of Police Jury Minutes may be cited. As will be noted the minutes of the

police jury of Jefferson Parish begin in 1834. The parish, however, was established in 1825. The question arose regarding minutes from 1825 to 1834. In scanning the Acts of the Legislature, it was found that in 1834 an act was passed by that body giving in great detail the powers and duties of the police jury of the parish of Jefferson. Consultation of the minutes showed that the police jury had, at a meeting held on January 15, 1834, (page 1) requested the senator and representative from the parish to secure an act from the legislature specifically defining its powers and duties. The result apparently was the act referred to above, which as approved by the governor on January 30, 1834. One of the significant sections of this act, and one not found in the general acts, was section 6, which ordered the police jury to transcribe in a book its ordinances and other proceedings. This would seem to indicate that there are no missing minutes of the police jury, that it had never kept any such record of its proceedings, and this conclusion seems to be borne out by the following pages of the "Minute Book", where there will be found a long list of ordinances for the regulation of all important parish affairs.

In Louisiana the Historical Records Survey began operation in March 1936, under the supervision of Lyle Saxon, State Director of the Writers' Project, who acted as State Director of the Historical Records Survey. On March 10, 1937, John C. L. Andreassen became State Director of the Historical Records Survey; Mr. Saxon continued as State Director of the Writers' Project. On March 6, 1938, Mr. Andreassen became Acting Regional Supervisor of the Survey in the eleven states comprising W. P. A. Region III. Since July 9, 1938, Mr. Vergil L. Bedsole has served as State Supervisor in Louisiana during Mr. Andreassen's absence from the State.

General regulations and procedures applicable to all Historical Records Survey units in the forty-eight states have been followed in Louisiana. The officials of W. P. A. in Louisiana have always given the project cordial support and assistance. Appreciation for the interest and cooperation of Jefferson Parish officials in our undertaking must be mentioned. The Police Jury, through its President, Mr. Weaver R. Toledano, Secretary, Mr. William Hepting, and Treasurer, Mr. C. V. Bourgeois, assisted the project by making the minutes readily accessible, and providing room and facilities for transcribing. Mr. Vic A. Pitre, Clerk of Court, provided room and facilities for workers who could not be accommodated in the police jury room.

This and the succeeding twelve volumes of the minutes are being published under the sponsorship of the Jefferson Parish Police Jury. Requests for information concerning this, or other publications of the Historical Records Survey in Louisiana, should be addressed to Dr. Edwin Adams Davis, Archivist, University, Louisiana, or to the State Director of the Survey.

John C. L. Andreassen
State Director and
Regional Supervisor
Historical Records Survey

622 Canal Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana
June 1939

Proton

police jury of Jefferson Parish began in 1834. The parish, however, was established in 1825. The question arose regarding minutes from 1818 to 1834. In assuming the Acts of the Legislature, it was found that in 1834 an act was passed by that body giving in great detail the powers and duties of the police jury of the parish of Jefferson. Comparison of the minutes shows that the police jury had at a meeting held on January 12, 1834, (page 1) requested the senator and representative from the parish to secure an act from the legislature specifically defining its powers and duties. The request apparently was not referred to above, which was approved by the governor on January 30, 1834. One of the significant sections of this act, and one not found in the general acts, was section 5, which ordered the police jury to transcribe in a book the ordinances and other proceedings. This would seem to indicate that there are no missing minutes of the police jury that it had never kept any such record of its proceedings, and this conclusion seems to be borne out by the following pages of the "minutes book," where there will be found a long list of ordinances for the regulation of all important parish affairs.

In Louisiana the Historical Records Survey began operation in March 1936, under the supervision of J. L. Saxon, State Director of the Survey, and ended in State Director of the Historical Records Survey, John C. L. Anderson became State Director of the Historical Records Survey for Saxon continued as State Director of the Survey, Project. On March 6, 1938, Mr. Anderson was named Acting Regional Supervisor of the Survey in the eleven states comprising W. L. A. Region III. Since July 9, 1938, Mr. Vergil L. Bodolski has served as State Supervisor in Louisiana during Mr. Anderson's absence from the State.

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This and the succeeding twelve volumes of the minutes are being published under the sponsorship of the Jefferson Parish Police Jury. Requests for information concerning this, or other publications of the Historical Records Survey in Louisiana, should be addressed to Dr. E. W. Adams Davis, Archivist, University, Louisiana, or to the State Director of the Survey.

John C. L. Anderson
State Director and
Regional Supervisor
Historical Records Survey

632 Canal Building
New Orleans, Louisiana
June 1939

POLICE JURY
OF THE PARISH
OF JEFFERSON
MINUTE BOOK

1834 - 1843

POLICE JURY
OF THE PARISH
OF JEFFERSON
MINUTE BOOK

1834 - 1842

No 1

Police Jury of the Parish of Jefferson.
Meeting of the 13th of January 1834.

The jury met agreeably to adjournment.

Mr. Felix Delery appointed in place of Mr. F. Dugue for the 2^d. district, Mr. P. A. guillote in place of Mr. Walton, for the City of Lafayette presented themselves & after having been duly sworn, took their seats.

Members present the hon^{ble} F. Dugue president, Felix Delery--C. Zeringue--M Penny--Mr. Fortier junr.--Phi Labarre, LS. Bouligny-P.A. Guillote--Geo. Baumgard. Absentees MS.D.B. Villars P-A Delachaise-- Antne Foucher junr--Eugene Fortier.

On motion resolved that the following resolution be adopted.

Request made to the Senator & representative of the Parish

Resolved that our senator and representative be requested to solicit from the legislature, the enactment of a law which would give to the police jury of this Parish, all powers necessary to obtain a good Police.

Invitations made to the senator & representatives of Orleans

Resolved that the senator & representatives of the Parish of Orleans be invited to unite their efforts to those of our Senator & representative, in order to obtain the enactment of said law-whereas the great risks and losses which that parish should be exposed to suffer if that of Jefferson had not a good police.

Whereas the great number of laws relative to police juries, it should be necessary that the law which is solicited, should be explicit enough in order to repeal any laws concerning the Parish of Jefferson only.

Mr. B. Boisblanc appointed treasurer.

On motion resolved that it be proceeded to the appointment of the Parish treasurer and in counting the votes, it appeared that Mr. Beausjour Boisblanc had been unanimously elected.

(1-3)

Emoluments
of the
treasurer.

Resolved that the emolument of the treasurer shall be of eight per cent on every sums he shall receive on account of the Parish.

Duty of
the treas-
urer

Resolved that it shall be the duty of the Parish treasurer not to pay any account before the same be accepted by the judge.

Committee
appointed to
examine the
police regu-
lations

Resolved that a committee of three members be appointed to examine the police regulations, to make the amendments they should think necessary & that the said committee be requested to make their report Saturday next--Messrs. P.A. Delachaise, Baumgard & N. Fortier Jr have been elected members of said committee.

Stray Cattle
\$2

Resolved that a fine of two dollars per head shall be exigible for the apprehension & leading of the stray animals to the different syndics one half of said fine for the parish & the other half for the person who shall have taken them up.

Money col-
lected on
grog shops
refunded to
the city of
Lafayette

Resolved that all sums collected by the treasurer of this Parish for licences on grog shops, within the limits of the City of Lafayette from the day of the incorporation of said city to the 20th of April last be reimbursed to the City Council of said City.

W. Sharp

Due reading having been made of a letter from Mr. Sharp claiming the sum of \$21-50cts for printing costs in his paper.

Resolved that Mr. Sharp be requested to furnish a more explicit

[3]

account.

Mr. McDaniel

After having taken into consideration the letter of Mr. McDaniel claiming the amount of two bills the one of \$15 & the other of \$17 for internments of two corpse in October 1832.

Resolved that the total amount of those two bills be reduced to the sum of \$24.

Propositions
to establish
gaming houses

Reading having been made of the letters of Mr T Dews & Mrs Sacredotte & Givodeau praying to be authorized to establish gaming houses.

(3-5)

Lafayette
accounts
given to
the attorney

Resolved that the account of claims made by the City of Lafayette against the Parish of Jefferson in consideration of the sums collected on the licenses on grog shops, shall be delivered to the parish attorney to collect them.

Resolved that Mr. N. Fortier Jr. be appointed member

[5]

N. Fortier
appd member
of the com-
mittee on
finance

of the committee on finance together with Mrs. P. A. Delachaise and Louis Bouligny.

Resolution
relative to
collectors

Resolved that all persons collecting money on account of the Parish of Jefferson shall make a monthly report to the police jury of all sums by them so collected specifying from whom & on what account the same has been received & it shall be the duty of the secretary of the Police jury to keep a faithful record of the same.

That all money collected on account of the Parish shall be paid monthly into the hands of the treasurer by the collector or collectors thereof & the vouchers for such payments shall be produced to the police jury whenever demanded.

Requisition
on justices
of the peace

That the several justices of the peace within the Parish of Jefferson, be requested to furnish the police jury of this Parish with a list of all suits on their respective dockets brought on behalf of or against the said Parish since they have been appointed justices of the peace, and also an account of the several sums collected by such justices of the peace in suits for the Parish & to whom paid over.

Secretary
his duty

And the secretary of the police jury is hereby requested to communicate this resolution to such justices respectively & to request their compliance therewith and it is hereby made the duty of the secretary hereafter, once every six months to renew such application to the respective justices, aforesaid & to communicate the result to the police jury. The jury then adjourned.

Resolved that those letters be deposited on the table.

D. Dean

Reading having been made of a letter of Mr. D Dean by which he gave to the police jury, in favor of the orphan assylum a sum of \$259 -- which is due to him by Mr. H. Davis.

Resolved that the secretary be requested to write to the said Davis in order to know if he should be disposed to pay said sum.

On motion the jury adjourned indefinitely.

January 13th 1834.

F. Dugue

President of the Jury

Meeting of the 18th January.

Members present Mrs. F. Dugue president, C. Zeringue M. Penny--F. Delery--Louis Bouligny--N. Fortier junr Geo. Baumgard--P. A Guillote.

the Parish attorney requested to settle with Mr. Depassau

On motion resolved that the Parish attorney be requested to settle as soon as possible with Mr. Depassau as sheriff of this Parish.

Jurors when liable to fine

Resolved that hereafter the members of the police jury who shall fail to attend the meetings of the Police jury shall be obliged to pay the fine required by law.

Regular meetings

That hereafter the regular meetings of the Police Jury shall take place on every second Monday of each month.

the Attorney charged to claim from Harang's heirs

That the parish attorney is charged to claim from the heirs of judge Harang that sum that the said judge may owe as treasurer of the Parish as soon as possible which sums after having been collected are to be delivered with the hands of the present treasurer.

Fairchild & Callender

The bill of Msrs Fairchild & Callender having been taken into consideration received that it be submitted to the committee on finance.

Reading having been made of the letter of M^s Fairchild & Callender offering to point the deliberations of the police jury, resolved that it be deposited on the table.

Parish of Jefferson January 18th 1834.
F Dugue president of the police jury

Meeting of the 7th February.

Members present Mr. F. Dugue president, C Zeringue -
P.A Guillote- Delachaise- Geo. Baumgard-L^s.Bouligny-
E.Portier M.Penny- Phi.Labarre- Felix Delery- D B
Villars.

The jury having met by virtue of a convocation
asked by several members after reading of the Journal
on motion.

Regulations
ordered to
be printed

Resolved that the regulations of the Police jury
be printed in the City of Lafayette, in French & Eng-
lish & that a committee be appointed on that effect-
Mrs. P.A Guillote & G. Baumgard have been appointed.

Amts. allow-
ed to Mr.
Buisson

Resolved that the sum of \$80. be paid to Mr.
Buisson & a sum of \$40. to each of the other asses-
sors.

New commit-
tee appoint-
ed

That the secretary be authorized to procure him-
self the book where the account rendered the 13th
October 1831 by the late Treasurer T. M. Harang &
accepted by the committee then charged to examine
said account.

That a new committee be appointed to examine the
account since that time & make their report to the
president who then shall cause the jury to meet.

The jury shall take cognizance of it and will
decide in consequence.

The committee appointed by ballot is composed
of Mrs. Phi Labarre Baumgard- & C. Zeringue.

[7]

The police
jury com-
posed of 12

Resolved that the police jury shall continue to
be composed of twelve members, that is to say that six
members shall represent the right bank of the Missis-
sippi--2 members shall represent the City of Lafayette
and four members shall represent the rest of the Par-
ish, in order that the division by the district should
remain the same.

(7)

Division of
the 5th Ward

That the fifth district shall be divided into two wards in order that the first division should begin at the inferior limit of Mr. N. Fortier's plantation & stop at the inferior limit of Carrollton City comprehending (La metairie) shall form the 5th ward.

Limits of
the 6th Ward

The second division shall comprehend the inferior limit of Carrollton and shall stop at the inferior limit of Delassize's plantation & shall form the 6th ward.

7th Ward

The 7th ward shall comprehend Barataria.

The syndic
of the 5th
ward \$300

Resolved that the syndic of the 5th ward shall be entitled to \$ 300 per annum & that several syndics shall be paid quarterly on their drafts.

E. Guillote
appd syndic

Resolved that the jury proceed to the nomination of the syndic for the 6th ward, & in verifying the votes it appeared that Mr. E. Guillote had been unanimously elected.

J Winters &
A P How
app^{td} con-
stables

That Msrs. Joshua Winters & Archibald P. How be appointed constables for the parish, & in verifying the votes it appeared that they had been unanimously elected.

fine against
persons in-
cumbeing
levees &
battures

Resolved that three days after notice given by the syndic of his ward persons who shall have made obstructions or other encumbe on the levees & Battures shall be condemned to a fine of \$49 & of ten dollars for every day during which said obstructions shall exist after the expiration of the three days notice above said.

Police regu-
lations how
registered &
posted to be
force.

Resolved that hereafter three days after the police regulations shall have been registered & posted up at the door of the Parish Court they shall be in force.

Resolved that the following Regulations be adopted to wit:

Police regulations of the Parish of Jefferson adopted on the seventh February 1834.

Regulation to fix the manners in which the levees, ways, bridges & ditches are to be made & repaired.

The judge of the Parish of Jefferson, by and with the advice of the inhabitants composing the police jury of said Parish convened according to law, hath ordained & doth ordain as follows:

Art 1 of the breadth of Highways. The breadth of the highways on both banks of the river and throughout the whole extent of the Parish, without exception, shall be at least twenty-five feet; they shall have a swell

[9]

a swell toward the center sufficient to facilitate the running off of the waters and be lined on each side by a draining ditch two feet wide and one foot deep.

Art. 2. The length of the bridges throughout the whole parish shall not be less than the breadth of the roads, and their breadth shall be at least three feet. They shall be made of cypress planks of a length equal to the breadth of the road and two inches in thickness, which planks shall be supported by joists placed at four feet distance from each other, four inches below the level of the road, so that the bridges be two inches below said level. Those bridges which are not constructed according to these proportions, shall be made anew & in conformity thereto.

The bridges on the canals of saw mills and others shall be solidly constructed of planks twenty feet long and two inches thick; they shall be secured with rails, and the ascent to them shall be easy and commodious.

Art. 3 The ways on the levees shall be, as all others twenty five feet in breadth.

Art. 4 If there be any trees, hedges, ditches or other objects which in any manner obstruct the passage on the land reserved for public ways all such obstruction shall be immediately removed, on penalty of a fine of \$25. against the person or persons whose duty it is to make and clear the way so obstructed, and the said fine may be exacted for every time that the said person or persons, being thereto required by the syndic or syndics of the district, shall have failed to comply.

In this disposition are not comprised such trees as are planted on the side of ways to form alleys, and not obstructing the passage.

Art. 5. The levees shall in future be constructed at a distance of at least forty feet from the waters' edge, which is to be understood from the level of the soil without any regard to its declivity toward the river in the time of low water, but in places the bank is apt

to tumble down the distance from the levee to the river shall be determined by the syndic assisted by at least two inhabitants.

Art. 6. If the earth for the construction of a levee, taken outside, that is to say, on the side of the river, a space of at least twenty feet shall be left untouched between the exterior base of the levee & the spot where the earth is taken from.

Art. 7. Every levee constructed anew shall be strongly lined with fascines or palisadoes, from its base to its summit in order that it be not diluted by the waves.

Art. 8. The levees shall be constructed in the following manner: For one and not above three perpendicular feet of water, (masse) five feet base for every foot in height; so that three feet in height shall give fifteen feet base.

For four feet height, the base shall be twenty four feet.

[11]

For five feet, thirty five and eight feet base for every foot in height shall exceed five feet, calculated from the level of the soil.

The summit of a levee shall always be equal to one third of the base; but after the sinking of the earth it shall still be raised one foot above the level of the water when highest.

Levees shall be constructed by lays, in order to make them the stronger.

Art. 9. The proportion between the base and the height of levees shall be augmented one foot, on all lands where, there is not for every arpent of levee an individual either free or slave, capable of working. because that description of property, not being watched with all necessary care may expose the neighboring cultivators to the greatest inconveniences

Art. 10. For the levees already existing & which want to be repaired the repairs shall be ordered by the syndic, assisted by at least two neighboring inhabitants who after having been on the spot shall make a verbal proces of the repairs thus to be executed, the syndic when ordering the works for levees to be constructed

shall notify to the inhabitants the number of slaves who are to be employed at the said works until their completion; it being well understood that the said slaves shall be able to do the work; and in case at the expiration of eight days from the notification the syndic should not find this necessary number of slaves he had ordered as aforesaid he shall require from the inhabitants of his district the necessary number of slaves and those slaves shall be paid to the 18th Article, and the reimbursement enforced according to the 16th Article of the present regulation.

Art. 11.

In case of any proprietor being absolutely unable to effect the works of the levee enjoined by the present regulation he shall declare his inability before the Parish judge at least one month prior to the period fixed by the present regulation for commencing said works on penalty of a fine of two hundred dollars and of being liable for the damages resulting from the non performance of the works.

But on its appearing to the satisfaction of the judge, that the proprietor making this declaration is really unable to effect said works, the said judge shall authorize the syndic of the district, where the said works are required to cause them to be executed, either by means of adjudication to the lowest bidders or by journey men, if such can be found, or by requisitions of the inhabitants of the said district, in proportion of their number of slaves the whole at the expense of the proprietor bound to perform the said works; it being well understood, that in case the syndic should have adopted the way of requisitions of slaves on the inhabitants, to have the said works done, any inhabitant refusing to comply with such requisition shall be condemned to pay a fine of five dollars for every slave that had been required of him, unless upon the report of the syndic himself, the jury should have sufficient motives to remit the fine.

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And the proprietor where levees shall have thus been made, or repaired, shall besides the expenses of tracing and levelling pay the daily hire of the slaves at the rate of two dollars or at the price fixed by said adjudication or at that paid by him who has employed the journey men.

In case the said proprietor refuses to pay the expenses incurred on his account in making or repairing

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his levee he shall be compelled to pay the same in the same manner and by the same summary and expeditious means as prescribed by the 16th Art. of the present regulation.

Art. 12. The works for the levees shall begin every year in the month of July or as soon as the water is low, & shall be finished & completed by the first of November following, under penalty for every such Contravention of a fine which shall not exceed five hundred dollars nor be less than than fifty at the discretion of the Parish judge.

Art. 13. One month previous to the commencement of the work specified in the preceding articles, the syndics shall carefully inspect the ways, bridges, ditches and levees within their respective districts and from the inspection they shall draw up a general report of the works to be made which they shall deliver to their successors who shall afterwards make the same known within their respective districts, & to send each inhabitant a statement of works that concern him.

Art. 14. If during the roparation of the levees any part should happen to fall down so as to destroy the work already done or to increase considerably that remaining to be done by the inhabitant who is bound to perform it, the syndic of the district in which that accident has happened, with two neighboring inhabitants shall immediately repair to the spot, & if it should appear to them that the means of the inhabitant who has suffered by the accident does not admit of his completing his works in time to avoid an inundation or the loss of his crop they shall cause aid to be given to him by requiring the inhabitants of the said district to furnish him with a sufficient number of slaves, in proportion to the number they severally have, on penalty, in case of non compliance with said requisition of a fine of five dollars for every negro which the defaulter ought to have furnished to be paid according to the 16th Article.

Art. 15. As soon as the works presented by the preceeding article shall be completed the syndics within their respective district shall proceed to the inspection of the said works in order to ascertain whether they ought to be approved & they shall give notice to the proprietor who shall have performed said works in order that he may attend at the said inspection & approval, Should he think proper.

Art. 16. In case the works not being performed or of their not being approved it shall be the duty of the inspecting syndic to report immediately the fact to the Parish

judge in order that he may condemn the defaulter to the fine

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prescribed by the 12th Article.

The syndics shall immediately cause the said works to be completed at the expense of the proprietor by requiring a certain number of slaves within their district the said slaves shall be paid at the rate of two dollars per day.

Art 17.

If any rupture (crevasse) should happen to take place in any levee in consequence of any parts falling down, the syndic of the district, with two neighboring inhabitants shall immediately repair to the spot and require the inhabitants of the said district in proportions to their respective number of slaves, to send a sufficient number of negroes to remedy the accident and no compensation for assistance shall be demandable.

Art 18.

Whenever a rupture shall take place on a plantation & the negroes of the owner on whose land it will take place shall not suffice to repair it, the syndic shall require from the inhabitants of his district the number of slaves he will think necessary to repair the said rupture, and these slaves shall be paid at the rate of two dollars per day and fed at the expense of the inhabitant on whose land they shall be working, and every planter who shall refuse to send his slaves shall be condemned to a fine of ten dollars per every slave, these expences shall be recovered before any competent Court.

Art 19.

Any inhabitant who should have sent one or more slaves to stop a (crevasse) on an other proprietor's lands either during the day or in the night, shall be entitled to the payment of those of his slaves, who should happen to drown themselves or otherwise lose their lives by the effect of said works.

In such cases the syndic of the district in which the accident happens assisted by three inhabitants of the said district, shall proceed to the appraisement of the above slave or slaves & the verbal proces they will make out of such appraisement, shall serve the owner in claiming his payment from the jury of the Parish. The jury shall order the payment of slaves thus lost in the public service out of the funds of the Parish, after having ordered that the amount of the same be levied

upon the landed property within this Parish in proportion to the tax to which the said properties are respectively subject and in addition to the said tax.

In cases where slaves employed as above mentioned should happen to be wounded and disabled so as to be unable in future to be of the same service to their masters as they were before, the owner of such slaves shall be entitled to an indemnity, which shall be settled and paid in the same manner as above.

Art 20. On plantations subject to (crevasses) the owners shall be bound to have always ready a number of pickets & Clubs, the quantity & proportion of which shall be determined by the syndic, in order to experience the least delay possible in case a rupture should take place at their levees.

They shall also have a deposit of straw and moss, & finally every owner shall be bound to have a white overseer on his lands, as well as a number

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of workmen sufficient for the keeping of the levees, ways, bridges, fences & d in repair: and on failing to comply with this last paragraph of the present article the syndic shall provide for it at the expense of said owner.

Art 21. Besides the works which the inhabitants are bound to perform at Certain periods of the year by virtue of the present regulation they shall at all times be under obligation to keep their ways, bridges, ditches and Levees in good repair and free of all kinds of filth and of weeds, in order principally that the holes which might exist in the levees be perceived and if after having been duly repaired and notified by the syndic of their district to execute the said repairs they refuse or neglect to do so within the prescribed delay, they shall be condemned to a fine of twenty five dollars.

Art 22. The syndics within their respective districts shall see to the observance of the present regulation and of all others that may be made relative to ways, bridges, ditches, levees, fences and to the police of Cattle on all matters relating thereto, they shall Correspond direct with the judge of the Parish, to whom they shall take care to denounce all the abuses they may discover in any of the said particulars.