

the Parish.

My son, Henry, at that time got the bearing of the offering of a tract of virgin timber land owned by Harnsheim Estate in New Orleans at \$4.25 per acre, but all the money he had was the one thousand dollars that I gave to each of my children when they got married or started business of their own so, by talking with Mr. Edenborn who was just building his railroad from Shreveport to Alexandria, and friends as we were, when he and myself went to New Orleans, he said to me, "If you go in with five thousand dollars, I will", and we formed a company with a capital of twenty thousand dollars, taking Chas. LaCroix in as a fourth partner, because he had several ox teams and was a good woodsman, so I went to the Custom House again and told what I wanted, so they gave me \$2,200.00 for my bonds. These bonds had, in the meantime, become valuable, and this was the beginning of Urania.

MAY 14, 1925.

We went through a very dry season last summer. Cotton crop was made without a rain, also a good corn crop of the early planting. Now for the first time, it has rained so it helped the cotton and corn besides gardens materially.

My health is according to the doctors advise just as long as I take care of myself. The last illness was very close to the finish, but my guardian angel has said not yet, your work on earth is not finished. The last of my brothers died last week. He was two years older than I. Had it not been for his house burning down at midnight a month ago, he would have lived perhaps longer, but his time had come.

I am close to another birthday time rolling around, so as long as I do not have a knock down or a breakdown, I am all right.

JANUARY 10, 1926.

This Sunday morning finds me in a quiet spirit in body and soul. All the household is to church, which leaves me the nurse and the cook so everything is very quiet, therefore, this is of the present.

My trip last July to Minneapolis was enough, but lonely, as I have had no one to count on with, so when I arrived at the good Hotel Van Dyke met the officials, it made me feel like home again. I stayed for three months and returned home, where, for some reason, my heart became very weak and the doctor found my blood pressure too low so he ordered me to stay in a room for some period, which, I suppose, is about as my nurse tells me there is nothing the matter with me now and I think the doctor, my sole friend, will come to see me tomorrow and make a thorough examination. I certainly have a good nurse, so attentive, and give me an eggnog every morning at eleven, of her own making and this gives me more strength than the usual with sugar and water. I feel of having my full strength again.

Last year I have given to my grandchildren with the exception of the Whites who are most old enough to take care of themselves, cash and bonds bearing seven to eight per cent interest, to the amount of one thousand dollars, enough for the future education of the children to Lasca's son's property on Second Street. This is a great satisfaction to me.

This is so far a typical Southern winter with a temperature from 35 to 54. Had only one cold spell where the temperature went down to 22 degrees but, as we have gas installed, it is such a comfort that we ask ourselves how we ever did without it.

This is about the time the French set for