Theodule Schexnayder

Theodule Schexnayder, planter, St. James, La., St. Emma Plantation of which Mr. Schexnayder is manager and part owner, consists of 1200 acres with 500 acres under cultivation, and is a very old place, having been cleared for a plantation by Judge Contrelle, the old French commandant of the territory when it belonged to the French Government.

Years later this plantation became the property of Louis Bourgeois and it is now owned by Stanislaus Hymel and Theodule Schexnayder, the latter being manager.

Mr. Schexnayder was born in St. John Baptist Parish, April 6, 1843 and his father, Theodule Schexnayder Sr., was also a native of that parish, and a small but successful planter. Theodule Jr., the only child born to his parents, was educated in St. John Baptist Parish and at Bardstown, Ky.

At the breaking out of war, he left school to enlist in the Army, joining Company G, Thirty-eighth Louisiana Infantry, in which he served until the close of the war. He was in the battles of Baton Rouge, Port Hudson, Jackson and Siege of Vicsburg. He was taken sick and was captured after the Battle of Jackson and conveyed to Camp Morton, Ind., where he remained until the close of the war, being unfortunate about being exchanged.

Returning to St. John Baptist Parish, he commenced planting, followed this for some time, and then engaged in other occupations until January, 1890, when he came to St. James Parish.

Previous to this, in 1879, he was elected treasurer of St. John Baptist Parish, was re-elected several times, but resigned to come to St. James Parish.

In 1866, he married Miss Marcelite Laurant, also of French descent, and they became the parents of three sons and seven daughters. All the members of this family belong to the Catholic Church. Mr. Schexnayder is strictly Democratic in his political views.

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