Terrence Voisin

St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana

Terrence Voisin, a well-known planter of St. John Baptist parish, of Bonnet Carre, La., was born November 15, 1844, in this parish.  He is a son of J. B. T. and Amelia (Billilieux) Voisin, natives of this parish, and of French descent.  Mr. Voisin was a very prominent planter of his parish, and died there in 1844, while the subject of this sketch was an infant.  His widow is still living and makes her home with the subject of this notice.  She was born January 1, 1814, and became the mother of two children--the subject of this notice and Ferencia, who died in infancy.  Terrence is the younger of these two children.  He received his schooling in St. John Baptist parish, and also attended private schools in New Orleans.  In 1863 he became a clerk in a dry goods store in New Orleans, continuing there until 1869, when he came home. He then began planting, which he still continues.

He was married July 8, 1871, to Miss Lydia Picun, who was born in St. John Baptist parish, February 20, 1846.  She was a daughter of Theodule and Adele (Buligny) Picon, natives of New Orleans, La., and their only child.  Her father was one of the leading planters of this parish, devoting most of his plantation to the raising of sugar.  He died December 15, 1889, his wife having died February 7, 1867.  Mr. Voisin and wife are the parents of ten children, they are as follows:  Phillip R., Charles S., Arthur T., Mary E., William E., Louise W., Lydia H., Ann A. (who died while young), and two others who died in infancy.

Politically Mr. Voisin is a republican, and his first vote was cast for President Grant, for his first term.  In 1877 Mr. Voisin was appointed chief deputy sheriff of St. John Baptist parish, and has held that important position ever since.  He was a member of the police jury from 1877 to 1880.  In 1892 he was unanimously nominated as candidate for secretary of state by the largest and best represented republican convention which ever assembled in the state of Louisiana, and carried all the parishes, where a free expression of the vote was allowed, by large majorities.  Mr. Voisin is at present a leading member of the republican congressional and state central committee and secretary of the district committee for the last twelve years.  He is a very devout member of the Catholic church, of which his family are all members.  His plantation is situated on the east bank of the Mississippi river, and here he has lived since 1850, all of his life having been passed in this state.  He is a liberal contributor to schools and churches, and takes great pride in their advancement.  He stands high politically and socially, and is held in the highest regard by all who have the honor of his acquaintance.  He has done much toward the development of his parish, and the confidence placed in him is shown to some extent by the fact that the people have so continuously favored him in office, and he is worthy of the trust reposed in him.

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