LEVET, Sidney J.

St. James Parish, Louisiana

Submitted by Mike Miller

Levet, Sidney J., who resides at Lions, was born in St. James parish, March 31, 1875, and is a son of Xavier and Frances (Donaldson) Levet, the former of whom was born in the locality in which the son was born, and the mother in St. James parish.  The paternal grandfather, Xavier Levet, was a native of France. The maternal grandparents, David and Amelie (Fargon) Donaldson were natives, respectively, of Donaldsonville and the Republic of France.  The ancestors of this branch of the Donaldson family in Louisiana came to this state from Virginia.  Seven children were born to Xavier Levet and his wife, as follow: Sidney J., subject of this sketch; Amelie, died at the age of 1 year; Fernand, married Miss Webre, and is living at Colon, in St. James parish; Leonce, married; Henry, married and living in St. James parish; Joseph, married and living in New Orleans; Adele, was educated at Sacred Heart academy and Ursulines convent, New Orleans.

Sidney J. Levet attended public schools in St. James parish, the parochial school of Sacred Heart convent, in St. James, and the Jesuit college, New Orleans, taking a commercial course at the last-named institution.  At the age of 20 years he began his life work as over-seer of Ingleside plantation, in Assumption parish, which was at that time the property of his uncle, Lezin Ory, who now resides in St. John parish. Sidney J. successfully directed the work of cultivating Ingleside until 1904, when Lezin Ory became interested in the San Francisco Planting & Manufacturing Co., and Sidney J. went to St. John parish as assistant to the **nude** in managing the properties of this company, Lezin Ory being secretary and manager of the San Francisco Planting & Manufacturing Co. In 1910, associated with Victor and Felix Loup, Sidney J. bought Viola plantation, consisting of 600 acres, in West Baton Rouge parish, and has since utilized this property in successfully growing sugar cane.   In 1911, in partnership with Andrew Montz, he purchased the Greeley place, at Baker, in East Baton Rouge parish, upon which sugar cane and cotton has since been grown with marked success.

June 27, 1907, Mr. Levet was married to Marie V. Ory, daughter of John L. Ory of St. John parish, who is one of the largest and most successful planters in Louisiana and is elsewhere referred to in this work. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Levet, namely:  Sidney J., Jr.; Claude Harrod, Marie V. (the 4th child died in infancy), and Lillian Joy.  Mr. Levet affiliates with the republican party in National affairs and with the democratic party in local affairs. He is a member of the Catholic church.  In public and political affairs he only takes such part as the obligations of  good citizenship seem to require, devoting his abilities to his business.  While managing his own properties, he still fills the important  position of assistant to his uncle in handling the large interests of the latter, and it is easy to see that he is one of the busiest men to be found in Louisiana, and his work is of the kind that counts.  Mr. Levet has accomplished much within his years, and more will be heard of him as time goes on.  He will bear an important part inreorganizing the agricultural interests of this state.

Fortier, Alcee, Lit. D. *Louisiana: Comprising Sketches of Parishes, Towns, Events, Institutions, and Persons, Arranged in Cyclopedic Form* Volume 3. Madison, Wis.: Century Historical Association, 1914. pp. 688-689.