

# LOUIS J. BOURGEOIS

Submitted by Mike Miller

St. James Parish, Louisiana

The town of St. Patrick's, La., can certainly be congratulated upon the high standard of enterprise and ability displayed by her merchants, prominent among whom is Louis J. Bourgeois, who established his business there in 1890. He was born in St. James parish, La., on March 13, 1853, and was educated in Jefferson college, St. James parish, and St. Vincent college, at [C]ape Girardeau, Mo., receiving a thorough education. He then entered the medical department of Tulane university, New Orleans, but a few months later gave up that profession and became a planter.

He was married on September 16, 1875, to Miss Georgina Chauff, of St. John Baptist parish, and one year later he took charge of St. Emma plantation, which he owned until 1890. As a planter he was a decided success. Mr. Bourgeois is prominently identified with the growth and development of his native parish, and has given his hearty support to all worthy enterprises. He has held a number of local offices, and discharged the duties of all in a manner reflecting

credit upon himself and the people. In 1878 he was appointed road master of St. James parish. returning officer in 1880, and in 1884 he held the position of assessor, and is now a prominent candidate for the office of sheriff of his native parish to the coming election to be held April 19, 1892. In 1888, immediately after the inauguration of Gov. F. T. Nicholls, he was appointed a member of the school board. His commission expires with the present governor. In 1890 he moved from St. Emma plantation to Vachene Station, or St. Patrick's, and opened a mercantile establishment, and on April 9 of the same year was appointed postmaster. He is well known in the parish, and as a business man and citizen sustains a high reputation. To his marriage were born three sons and four daughters.

Socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Perseverance ledge, No. 49, and in politics he is democratic, having worked for the success of that party from boyhood. He is the son of Joseph Theovide Bourgeois, the grandson of Valery Bourgeois, and the great-grandson of Paul Bourgeois, who was the first of the Bourgeois family to locate in Louisiana. This family came originally from France to Quebec, and from there to Louisiana. This has been a family of planters. The father of our subject was also born in St. James parish.