**Please choose one of the following prompts to answer in a short essay (about 10–12 sentences).**

Explain the significance of Emerson Bentley, Henry Clay Warmoth, and *The St. Landry Progress* in the Opelousas Massacre (1868). Please add some of your own research and draw upon primary sources and images in order to better explain your answer.

Emerson Bently was an educator and publisher. He was beaten while teaching a class that encouraged African Americans to register to vote and equal access to education. After a group of Blacks came to Bently’s assistance, an angry mob of white supremacists retaliated by killing an estimated 150 people (mostly African Americans.)

Henry Clay Warmoth was elected Governor of Louisiana who recommended leniency for ex-Confederates and lined his cabinet with Southern sympathizers. Warmoth, a Republican siding with the KKK, favored limiting the rights of African Americans.

The Saint Landry Progress was a Republican newspaper that promoted African-American enfranchisement and free and equal access to education for Blacks. The paper reported on how the white men of the parish were taking up arms to subdue empowered African Americans. The paper was run by Emerson Bently, a man of conscience and a political activist. He was a champion of African American rights and used his position to promote and preserve their newly gained rights.