

THE MERKEL MAIL.

.00 a Year.

Devoted to the Interests of Merkel and the Merkel Country.

Eight Pages.

VOL. XII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JANUARY 16, 1902

NO. 48.

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

I have established a General Real Estate and Insurance Office in Merkel. It shall be my business to Sell Lands on Commission, Rent Property in the City, Collect and Remit Rents, Pay Taxes, Secure Abstracts of Title, Write Deeds, Mortgages, Conveyances, and all kinds of Commercial and Negotiable Papers. Notary Public in office

If you have lands for sale in any part of the country, list it with me, and the same will be advertised from time to time with no other charges than regular commissions when sale is made.

If you have lots or houses, or lots in the city, for sale or rent, list them on my books and get quick returns.

I want a list of all property in Merkel that is for sale or for rent.

A large and spacious office in rear of First National Bank has been fitted up with tables and chairs for your convenience. Drop in and see me.

YOURS FOR BUSINESS,

T. A. JOHNSON.

CANAL BILL PASSES.

The Aggregate Cost of Canal is Filed at \$180,000,000.

The Hepburn Nicaraguan Canal Bill passed Congress Thursday by a practically unanimous vote, there being only two dissenting voices.

The bill, as passed, authorizes the President to secure from the States of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, in behalf of the United States, control of such a portion of the territory belonging to the said States as may be desirable and necessary in which to excavate, construct and prospect a canal suitable to the wants of modern navigation and commerce and appropriate such sum as may be necessary to secure the control of said territory.

Section II authorizes the

President, after securing control of the needed territory, to direct the Secretary of War to construct such canal from the Caribbean Sea, at a point near Greytown, Nicaragua, by way of Lake Nicaragua, to a point on the Pacific Ocean near Brito, and also to construct proper harbors at the termini of said canal and to make necessary provisions for the defense of the canal and harbors.

Sections I.I and IV authorizes the President to make such surveys as may be necessary, and to employ such persons in the constructing of the canal as may to him seem wise, and directs that in the construction of the canal the River San Juan and Lake Nicaragua shall be used as far as they are available.

Section V authorizes the Presi-

dent to guarantee to the States of Costa Rica and Nicaragua the use of canal and harbors, upon terms to be agreed upon, for all vessels owned by said States and by citizens thereof.

The last section makes a present appropriation of \$10,000,000 to carry on this work and authorizes the Secretary of War to enter into proper contracts for material and work as may be deemed necessary therefor, such work and material to be paid for as appropriations may be made from time to time. The section fixes the aggregate cost at \$180,000,000, to be drawn from the treasury on warrants of the President.

"Some time ago my daughter caught a severe cold. She complained of pains in her chest and had a bad cough. I gave her Chamberlain's Cough Remedy according to directions and in two days she was well and able to go to school. I have used this remedy in my family for the past seven years and have never known it to fail," says James Prendergast, merchant, Annato Bay, Jamaica, West India Islands. The pains in the chest indicated an approaching attack of pneumonia, which in this instance was undoubtedly warded off by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It counteracts any tendency of a cold toward pneumonia. Sold by Rust & Pittard.

THE COUNTY PRIMARY.

Some Speculation as to Time for Holding Them.

There are general inquiries as to the probable intentions of the county executive committee in calling an early primary. Expressions are in favor of a primary and an early one at that, but so far nothing has been heard from the committee as to their intentions.

To thin the candidates down to a proper stand as early as practicable seems best, and at least it would do away with the expense usually attached to long campaigns.

American Presidents.

Two presidents of the United States were elected by the whig party during the twenty-five years of its existence as an organization. These were William Henry Harrison and Zachary Taylor. Both died in office. The republican party, which succeeded the whig party, has elected in forty-one years six presidents—Lincoln, Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Harrison and McKinley. Three of these, Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley—were assassinated. This is a startling and a tragic record. The democratic party has been in existence 110 years. During half that period it has been in power in the nation. It elected nine presidents of the United States—Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Jackson, Van Buren, Polk, Pierce, Buchanan and Cleveland. Five of these, namely, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Jackson and Cleveland, died in office. The republican party has elected two terms nine dem-

J. C. Warren, Pres.

S. F. West, V-Pres.

Geo. S. Berry, Cashier.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL

CAPITAL, = = = \$30,000
SURPLUS, = = = \$ 4,000

We Guarantee Satisfaction to our Customers, and offer them the Services of a Reliable and Conservative Banking Institution which is at all times Willing and Able to extend every Courtesy Consistent with Sound Business Principles.

years not one died in office. It is worthy of note also that the only ex-president living is a democrat.—Boston Republic.

Shining Float.

The following story is told by John Kendrick Bangs as an illustration of a child's fine sense of fitness of things:

"Hennessey, formerly foreman of the Herald's composing room, had a little daughter, who said:

"Mamma, what are the stars?"
"The stars, my child, are the Angel Gabriel's lamps. Every night at twilight the angel flies out of the gate of Paradise with a torch and lights all the stars."

On the following evening a storm darkened the heavens and the lightning zigzagged across the face of the sky. The child ran to her mother exclaiming:

"Mamma, I think the angel is going to light his lamps now."

"Why do you think so, my daughter?"

"Because he is striking his matches on the sky."—New Denver (B. C.) Ledger.

Volcano of Oil.

One of the most prominent oil men of Beaumont is quoted as saying:

"Spindle Top hill is nothing more or less than a volcano of oil. It is the neck of the great fuel volcanoes of Mexico, which have been burning for hundreds of years. Some of these days there will be the greatest volcanic eruption at Spindle Top the world ever saw. The gas that supplies the pressure which forces the oil 200 feet above the derricks, circulates fully 2,000 miles under the surface of the earth, coming under the gulf from its volcanic origin in the asphaltum beds of the Trinidad country. The more wells put down, the greater the pressure of the gas becomes. Unless safeguard measures are adopted to prevent all of the wells being allowed to flow at the same time, the entire hill will be blown away bodily one of these days."

Phone the news to No. 31.

THE HOME GOLD CURE.

An Ingenious Treatment by Which Drunkards are Being Cured Daily in Spite of Their Selves.

No Noxious Doses. No Weakening of the Nerves. A Pleasant and Positive Cure for the Liquor Habit.

It is now generally known and un-Drunkness is a disease and not body filled with poison and nerves shattered by periodical or constant use of heating liquors, requires an antidote neutralizing and eradicating this poison, destroying the craving for intoxicants. Su may now cure themselves at home without lily or loss of time from business by this dertul "HOME GOLD CURE" which has perfected after many years of close study treatment of inebriates. The faithful use cording to directions of this wonderful discover, is positively guaranteed to cure the most obstinate case, no matter how hard a drinker. Our records show the marvelous transformation of thousands of drunkards into sober, industrious and upright men.

Wives, cure your husbands! Children, cure your fathers! This remedy is in no sense a nostrum, but is a specific for this disease only, and is so skillfully devised and prepared that it is thoroughly soluble and pleasant to the taste, so that it can be given in a cup of tea or coffee without the knowledge of the person drinking it. Thousands of drunkards have cured themselves with this priceless remedy and as many more have been cured and made temperate men by having the "CURE" administered by loving friends and relatives without their knowledge in tea or coffee, and believe today that they discontinued drinking of their own free will. Do Not Wait! Do not be deluded by apparent and misleading "improvement." Drive out the disease at once and for all time. The "Home Gold Cure is sold at the extremely low price of One Dollar, thus placing within the reach of everybody a treatment more effectual than others costing \$25 to \$50. Full directions accompany each package. Special advice by skilled physicians when requested without extra charge. Sent prepaid to any part of the world on receipt of One Dollar. Address Dept. 1, EDWIN B. GILES & Co. 2330 and 2332 Market St., Philadelphia.

All correspondence strictly confidential.
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REMARKABLE CURE OF CROUP. A Little Boy's Life Saved.

I have a few words to say regarding Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It saved my little boy's life and I feel that I cannot praise it enough. I bought a bottle of it from A. E. Steare of Goodwin, S. D., and when I got home with it the poor baby could hardly breathe. I gave the medicine as directed every ten minutes until he "threw up" and then I thought sure he was going to choke to death. We had to pull the phlegm out of his mouth in great long strings. I am positive that if I had not got that bottle of cough medicine, my boy would not be on earth today.—Joel Demont, Inwood, Iowa. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Try reading The Mail.

BLACK LEG VACCINE

PARK-DAVIS PASTEUR'S EXCELSIOR

We are agents in Merkel for these well-known brands of Black Leg Vaccine. They are the best on the market to-day. We can supply your wants for almost any quantity, and our prices are as low as you will find anywhere in this country. If you need anything in this line we should be glad to figure with you on either large or small quantities.

SAVE YOUR CALVES



FROM 12 1-2c TO 60c A ROLL

RUST & PITTARD

The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEMMAN, PUBLISHER.

Published Every Thursday.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Office 31
Residence 37

If you know of any news item, we will consider it a special favor if you will report same to this office, either by person, letter or over the phone to either of the above numbers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

RATES:

For District Offices \$10.00
For County Offices 5.00
For Precinct Offices 3.00

All announcements must be accompanied by the cash; no promise of future payment goes, and no deviation from this rule will be made. The above rates does not include name on ticket. Extra write-ups of candidates appearing elsewhere than in this column must be paid for at the usual rates.

DEMOCRATIC.

(All announcements under this head are subject to the action of the Democratic party.)

For County Treasurer:
J. H. THORNTON.
(re-election.)
JNO. T. TUCKER.

For Sheriff and Tax Collector:
J. V. CUNNINGHAM.
(re-election.)

For Tax Assessor:
C. C. JACKSON.
(re-election.)

or County and District Clerk:
S. H. GARRISON.
(re-election.)

ty Attorney:
F. A. BLEDSOE.
(re-election.)

here's a ten-months' run to pie counter.

Two more rock houses are almost dead sure things.

Don't hamper Merkel's progress.

Keep up the agitation of a new depot and force the company to show their hands. This is the only apparent way to secure that badly needed improvement.

The growth and expansion of Merkel can be hardly estimated for the next twelve months. A number of new business ventures are contemplated, besides numerous improvements under way and certain of fruition.

There are some serious and well-founded objections to the plan of having the Commissioners' Court to create Merkel into a special road district, to the end that all town labor may be forced to work the streets. It is a question that when this labor is taken from the roads leading into town it may work a hardship on the country people, and the public roads suffer accordingly. Some move of this kind is badly needed and some effort looking to the improvement of the streets should be made, but good roads are also a necessity to the success and growth of Merkel as a trading point. Should continued wet weather set in, both the streets of the town and the public roads leading into town, would soon become almost impassable. The people of Merkel should look well to their interests in this respect. We cannot do a greater work for the town than by putting the roads and streets in good condition.

Teach Them Kindness.

Mothers frequently tell their babies to slap back when they are slapped, to punish "naughty brother" or "naughty sister," this ill-advised counsel implanting the idea of retaliation, which is in direct opposition to true principles.

Parents place whips and pistols and toy weapons of other sorts in their little one's hands and cheer and approve them when they strike each other, or strike pussy or the dog. What wonder that when they grow a little older they fight and quarrel among themselves and come to blows—blows were applauded so short a time ago and they remember!

Teach them from their very cradle to be merciful, forbearing and forgiving. You will not make them too spiritless. The instinct of self-defense is strong in most natures. If the child is lacking in this instinct—is very timid and is apt to be imposed on—he can be taught self-esteem and the way to hold his own, without teaching revenge or aggressiveness.—Sunny South.

Truths to Guide You.

The determined and persevering need never despair of gaining their object in the world.—Beaconsfield.

Be loving and you will never want for love; be humble and you will never want for guiding.—Dinah Muloch Craik.

Sleep is death's younger brother and so like him that I never dare trust him without my prayers.—Sir Thomas Brown.

Hast thou a friend, visit him often, for thorns and brushwood obstruct the road which no one treads.—Eastern Proverb.

Philosophy triumphs easily over past and future evils, but present evils triumph over philosophy.—La Rochefoucauld.

Meditate daily on the unseen and eternal things of life; and by the grace of God do something dally which thou wouldst have done when the end comes.—Archbishop Leighton.

When thou wishest to delight thyself think of the virtues of those who live with thee; for instance, the activity of one, and the modesty of another, and the liberality of a third, and some other good quality of a fourth.—Marcus Aurelius.

Saw Wood.

An Arkansas contemporary gives the following wholesale advice to young men and boys:

"My son, follow not in the path of loafer nor example him who is born tired, for verily I say unto you, their business is overstocked, the seats are all taken and the whittling places are all occupied. It is better to saw wood at two bits a cord than whittle at a loafing match and cuss the government. My son, while thou hast in thy skull the sense a jaybird avoid the cigarette habit, for lo, thy breath stinketh like a glue factory and thy whole appearance is less intelligent than a stone dummy. Thou art a cipher with the rim knocked off."

S. W. Sheppard is having his farm, adjoining the town on the south, cut up into residence lots, which will soon be thrown on the market. This addition will afford one of the loveliest building sites in the city. The lots should go like hot cakes.

John Mitchell's residence was burned at Sweetwater last night. Value \$2,000, with about one-fourth insurance.

A WORTHY SUCCESSOR.

"Something New Under the Sun."

All doctors have tried to cure Catarrh by the use of powders, acid gases, inhalers and drugs in paste form. Their powders dry up the mucous membranes causing them to crack open and bleed. The powerful acids used in the inhalers have entirely eaten away the same membranes that their makers have aimed to cure, while pastes and ointments can not reach the disease. An old and experienced practitioner who has for many years made a close study and speciality of the treatment of Catarrh has at last perfected a treatment which, when faithfully used, not only relieves at once, but permanently cures Catarrh, by removing the cause, stopping the discharges and curing all inflammation. It is the only remedy known to science that actually reaches the afflicted parts. This wonderful remedy is known as "SNUFFLES, the Guaranteed Catarrh Cure" and is sold at the extremely low price of One Dollar, each package containing internal and external medicine sufficient for a full month's treatment and everything necessary for its perfect use.

"SNUFFLES" is the only perfect catarrh cure ever made and is now recognized as the only safe and positive cure for that annoying and disgusting disease. It cures all inflammation quickly and permanently, and is also wonderfully quick to relieve Hay Fever or Cold in the Head.

Catarrh when neglected often leads to Consumption—"SNUFFLES" will save you if you use it at once. It is no ordinary remedy, but a complete treatment which is positively guaranteed to cure catarrh in any form or stage if used according to the directions which accompany each package. Don't delay, but send for it at once, and write full particulars as to your condition, and you will receive special advice from the discoverer of this wonderful remedy regarding your case without cost to you beyond the regular price of "SNUFFLES," the Guaranteed Catarrh Cure.

Sent prepaid to any address in the United States or Canada on receipt of One Dollar. Address: Dept. 1, EDWIN B. GILES & Co., 2320 and 2322, Market St., Philadelphia.

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The Best is the Cheapest.

Not how cheap, but how good, is the question.

The Twice-a-Week Republic is not as cheap as are some so-called newspapers. But it is as cheap as it is possible to sell a first-class newspaper. It prints all the news that is worth printing. If you read it all the year round, you are posted on all the important and interesting affairs of the world. It is the best and most reliable newspaper that money and brains can produce—and those should be the distinguished traits of the newspaper that is designed to be read by all the members of the family.

Subscription price, \$1 a year. Any newsdealer, newspaper or postmaster will receive your subscription, or you may mail it direct to

The Republic,
St. Louis, Mo.

'Phone 43 when you want fresh meats and groceries.

If you want to increase your trade, advertise.

Smith & Davis can furnish you with what you want to eat. 'Phone No. 43.

Head-ache.

Sick headache, nervous headache, tired headache, neuralgic headache, catarrhal headache, headache from excitement, in fact, headaches of all kinds are quickly and surely cured with

DR. MILES' Pain Pills.

Also all pains such as backache, neuralgia, sciatica, rheumatic pains, monthly pains, etc.

"Dr. Miles' Pain Pills are worth their weight in gold," says Mr. W. D. Kreamer, of Arkansas City, Kan. "They cured my wife of chronic headache when nothing else would."

"Dr. Miles' Pain Pills drive away pain as if by magic. I am never without a supply, and think everyone should keep them handy. One or two pills taken on approach of headache will prevent it every time."

Mrs. JUDGE JOHNSON, Chicago, Ill.

Through their use thousands of people have been enabled to attend social and religious functions, travel, enjoy amusements, etc., with comfort. As a preventive, when taken on the approach of a recurring attack, they are excellent.

Sold by
25 Cents
Dr. Miles

ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

...Wind Mills, Pumps and Water Supply Good

We keep in stock the Star steel mill, direct stroke and back Eclipse wood mill, Dandy and Aermotor steel mills; a full ment of pumps, piping from 1/4 to 2 in., plain and galvaniz cylinders and working barrels from 2 to 4 in. We buy in car and can make Fort Worth prices on anything in our line.

ARE YOU DEAF?



ANY HEAD NOISES?

ALL CASES OF DEAFNESS OR HARD HEARING ARE NOW CURABLE

by our new invention. Only those born deaf are incurable.

HEAD NOISES CEASE IMMEDIATELY.

F. A. WERMAN, OF BALTIMORE, SAYS:

BALTIMORE, Md., March 30, 1901.
Gentlemen:—Being entirely cured of deafness, thanks to your treatment, I will now give you a full history of my case, to be used at your discretion.
About five years ago my right ear began to ring, and this kept on getting worse, until I lost my hearing in this ear entirely.
I underwent a treatment for catarrh, for three months, without any success, consulted a number of physicians, among others, the most eminent ear specialist of this city, who told me that only an operation could help me, and even that only temporarily, that the head noises would then cease, but the hearing in the affected ear would be lost forever.
I then saw your advertisement accidentally in a New York paper, and ordered your treatment. After I had used it only a few days according to your directions, the noises ceased, and to-day, after five weeks, my hearing in the diseased ear has been entirely restored. I thank you heartily and beg to remain
Very truly yours,
F. A. WERMAN, 730 S. Broadway, Baltimore, Md.

Our treatment does not interfere with your usual occupation. Examination and advice free. YOU CAN CURE YOURSELF AT HOME at a nominal cost. INTERNATIONAL AURAL CLINIC, 596 LA SALLE AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.

The Mail is authorized, this week, to announce Hon. John T. Tucker as a candidate for treasurer of Taylor county, subject to the action of the democratic party. Mr. Tucker is too well known to require any eulogy from this paper. He served two terms in the State Legislature and made an enviable record. His qualifications for this office can not be questioned. Mr. Tucker did not enter the race at the solicitation of friends, but wants and needs the office and will use every honorable means to secure the nomination. We bespeak for his candidacy your earnest consideration.

W. A. Cozart leaves tonight for Cooper, being an attached witness in the Luttrell murder case, and this is his sixth or seventh trip there. Mr. Cozart says he hopes small pox will be less conspicuous this time. On his return from the last trip he took sick and having had small pox nightmares during his absence he naturally supposed the disease had caught him. To avoid exposing his family to the disease he built a 2x4 shack out in the middle of the farm and wrestled with it—the grip—for two weeks.

Come and see our new mouldings. Latest styles.

W. P. Browning & Co.

J. M. Daugherty of Abilene has purchased the Hall estate in El Paso county, which includes about 300 sections of land and 6,000 head of stock cattle. The price paid was \$150,000.

Democratic Call.

To the Committee:

The Democratic Executive Committee of Taylor county are hereby requested to meet at the court house in the city of Abilene at 1:30 p. m., Jan. 25, 1902, for the purpose of transacting such business as may properly come before said committee.

D. G. Hill,
Chair. Dem. Ex. Com. Taylor, Co.

Rev. Lee Scarborough was in the city from Abilene Tuesday and preached an able sermon at the Baptist church that night.

We have a nice line of carpets. Come and see them.

W. P. Browning & Co.

NOTICE.

Dr. T. S. Hollis, Dentist, will be here Feb. 3, 4, 5 and 6—four days. This is his last trip until in the fall. This trip he brings complete outfit to do all the latest methods in dentistry. Will stop at Alsbrook hotel. 3t

Bank Election.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank Tuesday, the following officers were elected for the year:

J. T. Warren, Pres.
G. F. West, Vice-Pres.
Geo. S. Berry, Cashier.
C. M. Coggin, Assist. Cashier.
J. O. Hamilton was added to the list of directors, all the old members being retained.

Dora Dots.

T. C. Jenkins and wife went to Merkel Friday.

John McCoy went to Merkel Friday.

Several of the young people enjoyed a social at Mr. and Mrs. Clark's Friday night.

Miss Kate Elliott returned from Callahan county Friday where she has been visiting during Christmas.

Preaching Sunday night at Rev. Bates of the Methodist faith.

Preaching Sunday evening by Rev. Cooper of Abilene.

J. M. Bryson and wife went to Winngate Sunday.

Singing Sunday night at Mr. A. R. Sanders'.

Mr. Linn went to Sweetwater Monday after a load of goods for his store.

G. W. Broswell went to Merkel Tuesday.

Kat Klaw.

Bed Rock Prices!

In order to close out my stock of

Saddles, Harness, &

within a reasonable time, I have marked everything down to Bed Rock Prices.

You will save money by on me before buying else Respectful

Z. F. GREE

How to Succeed in Business.

Keep your liver in good condition by using Simmons' Liver Tonic (tin box.) It corrects indigestion, cures indigestion, dizziness, stops headache, gets heart in the right place so you can smile at your neighbors.

For your accommodation the Texas & Pacific Railway Company will run a Special train, account of the

MIDWINTER CARNIVAL, to El Paso on January 13th 1902. This train will carry through sleeper and chair cars and will leave Terrell 5:09 a. m., Dallas 6:50 a. m., Ft. Worth 8:40 a. m., Weatherford 10:03 a. m., Thunder Junction 12:20 p. m., Cisco 2:06 p. m., Abilene 4:14 p. m., Colorado 6:56 p. m., Big Springs 8:45 p. m., Midland 10:19 p. m., arriving at El Paso early next morning.

A round trip ticket from Terrell, Sherman and intermediate stations east of Cisco will cost

ONLY \$15.00,

and from Cisco and stations west one fare for the round trip and may be used for return on special train leaving El Paso Saturday, January 18, or to leave El Paso on any regular train between the date of purchase and as late as Jan. 30, 1902.

The attractions at El Paso are numerous and this is an exceptional opportunity to see the Great West at a nominal cost.

See any ticket agent of the Texas & Pacific Railway Company or write E. P. Turner, G. P. & T. A., Dallas, Texas.

Belmont's Ten-Story Collar.

Oliver H. P. Belmont is wearing in Washington—perhaps because it was not constructed in time for the New York Horse show—a stand-up collar three inches high in the back with flaring points in front which conceal his chin almost completely. The affair looks like the neckwear attributed to Gladstone by the cartoonists of London Punch.

Gaskell's Marked Progeny.

Mr. and Mrs. Zacheus Gaskell, of Dresbach, Minn., have ten children, and five of them possess twelve fingers and as many toes. It is equally curious that every alternate child in point of age has an extra finger, those who are not blessed in that direction having six toes and only the normal number of fingers.

A Youthful Professor.

Xenophon de Kalamatiano, 19 years of age, a native of St. Petersburg, Russia, has been made a professor in the modern language department of the University of Chicago, where he will fill the chair of Russian language. Kalamatiano will give the first course in Russian ever offered at the university.

His Plea is Abatement.

A correspondent of Law Notes sends it the following unique petition: "This is to certify to the Honorable Supreme Court of Mississippi, at Jackson, Miss., Greeting. I pray said Honorable Court on Examination of an application for admission to the Bar at —, Miss., on October 28th, 1901, to please excuse my bad work for I was sick all the time while I wear thear at work with a fever. I also father pray said Honorable Supreme Court that they may recamend that I be licened to practices Law in the State of Mississippi as the Law directs, thear wear one other person examined at the same time. My work incorporated the questions in the examination like (old) What is Rale property. at perty is any property that arpent fixed and immovable a. not be carried out of its pl. yes further remain Yaldo truly send,

THE FUTURE OF MERKEL

Demands the Hearty Co-Operation of the People.

SOME PERTINENT SUGGESTIONS

The year just closed has been the most prosperous in the history of the town, and to keep up the pace during 1902, it behooves every citizen to lay aside the little prejudices and bickerings, pull off his coat, roll up his sleeves and join with his neighbor in the laudable effort to promote the industrial interests of the town.

Merkel will grow and prosper in proportion to the enterprise displayed by her citizens. If we show a disposition to beautify the town, make it clean and a "joy forever," and pull for those enterprises which are the offspring of push and energy, we can hope to maintain the phenomenal growth of last year. In this connection the enumeration of our needs at this time—those things which are necessary to our progress along all lines and which can be secured by a determined effort—will not be out of place.

First, we need a new school building. This is the crowning need of all. It means more for the town than any other one item that could be enumerated. However, this is one of the dead sure things that will be crowded into our growth during 1902.

The next in line is a city hall. There is not an available house in the town in which to hold public gatherings, and the need in this respect is seen at a glance.

A steam laundry would prove a paying investment for some man with a small capital at his command. Right here a few additional remarks are in order. A Houston capitalist has expressed a desire to locate in some small, healthy town, having in view the establishment of a steam laundry and electric light plant combined. Merkel, as an enterprising town, has appealed to him, and he desires to come here and look over the situation if given the right kind of encouragement. He has the means at hand to establish such an enterprise. This is a matter that should be promptly looked into by our citizens.

A cotton seed oil mill would be a profitable investment and it could be secured by the right efforts.

We need an immigration agent.

We need a commercial club or board of trade to promote the industrial interests of the town.

A new depot would add wonderfully to the looks of the town and give an impetus to industrial progress. If the citizens would put their heads together on this proposition and go about the matter in a systematic way, this contemplated improvement would be materially hastened.

There is another matter, and a very important one, which is that the business men of Merkel could bring more trade to the town through legitimate advertising methods—not the spasmodic kind, but keeping everlastingly at it.

The importance of these suggestions is imperative. The town has just now reached the stage of its progress where it will take a long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether to develop its resources as the rapid settlement of the country demands. Any other course will result in industrial stagnation. Concerted action is badly needed. Let us suggest a close perusal of these remarks, to the end that some good may be accomplished for the town.

Lane's Gift to Harvard.

Mr. Gardiner M. Lane, class of '81, has made a gift to the Harvard corporation that will enable the classical department to invite eminent European scholars to lecture at the university on subjects connected with Greek and Latin literature.

Greatest Woman's Ranch.

Mrs. C. N. Whitman, of Denver, owns the largest ranch of any woman in the world. It is located in Texas, near Tascosa, and is called the L. S. ranch, from Lucien Scott, the first owner. The ranch is thirty-overalls square, and hundreds of employed upon it.

Women Office Seekers Aggressive.

Women office-seekers are more aggressive and persistent than men. The other day, says a correspondent, just after the senate had been called to order, two women sent in their cards and a letter of introduction to a Western senator. The moment he appeared in the door of the marble room, where senators receive constituents, these women, although strangers, leaped at him and each caught him firmly by the arm. They dragged him into a corner and did not for an instant relax their hold on his arms until he had promised in a positive term to find clerkships for them.

HAVE A LOOK

And you will be convinced we have the best all-around general line in the country, consisting of

- John Deere Walking Plows :: Standard Disc Plows
- John Deere Sulkey Plows :: Standard Cultivators
- John Deere Cultivators :: and
- John Deere Disc Harrows :: Hancock Disc Plows

The Old Reliable

Studebaker Wagons,

Are the Best.

Buggies, Phaetons, Surries and hacks.

All Grades and Kinds. We have some Genuine Bargains.

LOOK at OUR FURNITURE COOK STOVES HEATING STOVES All kinds HARDWARE

Our Motto:—

Prices Below Our Competitors

...GEO. L. PAXTON, Abilene

DR. JOS. H. WARNICK, PRES. WM. H. DUNNING, CASHIER.

JOS. H. WARNICK,

...BANKER...

Responsibility, = = = \$20,000

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A FREE PATTERN

(your own selection) to every subscriber. Only 50 cents a year.

McCALL'S MAGAZINE

A LADIES' MAGAZINE.

A gem; beautiful colored plates; latest fashions; dressmaking economies; fancy work; household hints; fiction, etc. Subscribe to-day, or send 5c. for latest copy. Lady agents wanted. Send for terms. Stylish, Reliable, Simple, Up-to-date, Economical and Absolutely Perfect-Fitting Paper Patterns.

McCALL BAZAR PATTERNS

All Seams Allowed and Perforations show the Basting and Sewing Lines. Only 10 and 15 cents each—none higher. Ask for them. Sold in nearly every city and town, or by mail from

THE McCALL CO., 113-115-117 West 31st St., NEW YORK.

How to Succeed in Business.

Keep your liver in good condition by using Simmons' Liver Tonic (tin box.) It corrects indigestion, cures indigestion, nervousness, stops headache, gets heart in the right place so you can smile at your neighbors.

Your accommodation the Texas & Pacific Railway Company will run a Special train, account of the

MIDWINTER CARNIVAL, to El Paso on January 13th 1902. This train will carry through sleeper and chair cars and will leave Terrell 5:09 a. m., Dallas 6:50 a. m., Ft. Worth 8:40 a. m., Weatherford 10:03 a. m., Thunder Junction 12:20 p. m., Cisco 2:06 p. m., Abilene 4:14 p. m., Colorado 6:56 p. m., Big Springs 8:45 p. m., Midland 10:19 p. m., arriving at El Paso early next morning.

A round trip ticket from Terrell, Sherman and intermediate stations east of Cisco will cost ONLY \$15.00,

and from Cisco and stations west one fare for the round trip and may be used for return on special train leaving El Paso Saturday, January 18, or to leave El Paso on any regular train between the date of purchase and as late as Jan. 30, 1902.

The attractions at El Paso are numerous and this is an exceptional opportunity to see the Great West at a nominal cost.

See any ticket agent of the Texas & Pacific Railway Company or write E. P. Turner, G. P. & T. A., Dallas, Texas.

Belmont's Ten-Story Collar.

Oliver H. P. Belmont is wearing in Washington—perhaps because it was not constructed in time for the New York Horse show—a stand-up collar three inches high in the back with flaring points in front which conceal his chin almost completely. The affair looks like the neckwear attributed to Gladstone by the cartoonists of London Punch.

Gaskell's Marked Progeny.

Mr. and Mrs. Zacheus Gaskell, of Dressbach, Minn., have ten children, and five of them possess twelve fingers and as many toes. It is equally curious that every alternate child in point of age has an extra finger, those who are not blessed in that direction having six toes and only the normal number of fingers.

A Youthful Professor.

Xenophon de Kalamatiano, 19 years of age, a native of St. Petersburg, Russia, has been made a professor in the modern language department of the University of Chicago, where he will fill the chair of Russian language. Kalamatiano will give the first course in Russian ever offered at the university.

His Plea is Abatement.

A correspondent of Law Notes sends it the following unique petition: "This is to certify to the Honorable Supreme Court of Mississippi, at Jackson, Miss., Greeting. I pray said Honorable Court on Examination of an application for admission to the Bar at —, Miss., on October 28th, 1901, to please excuse my bad work for I was sick all the time while I wear tear at work with a fever. I also father pray said Honorable Supreme Court that they may recommend that I be licensed to practice Law in the State of Mississippi as the Law directs, they wear one other person examined at the same time. My work incorporated the questions in the examination like 1) What is Rale property. Rale property is any property that is not fixed and immovable and cannot be carried out of its place. I further remain your obedient servant, J. P. True, Abilene, Tex."

THE FUTURE OF MERKEL

Demands the Harty Co-Operation of the People.

SOME PERTINENT SUGGESTIONS

The year just closed has been the most prosperous in the history of the town, and to keep up the pace during 1902, it behooves every citizen to lay aside the little prejudices and bickerings, pull off his coat, roll up his sleeves and join with his neighbor in the laudable effort to promote the industrial interests of the town.

Merkel will grow and prosper in proportion to the enterprise displayed by her citizens. If we show a disposition to beautify the town, make it clean and a "joy forever," and pull for those enterprises which are the offspring of push and energy, we can hope to maintain the phenomenal growth of last year. In this connection the enumeration of our needs at this time—those things which are necessary to our progress along all lines and which can be secured by a determined effort—will not be out of place.

First, we need a new school building. This is the crowning need of all. It means more for the town than any other one item that could be enumerated. However, this is one of the dead sure things that will be crowded into our growth during 1902.

The next in line is a city hall. There is not an available house in the town in which to hold public gatherings, and the need in this respect is seen at a glance.

A steam laundry would prove a paying investment for some man with a small capital at his command. Right here a few additional remarks are in order. A Houston capitalist has expressed a desire to locate in some small, healthy town, having in view the establishment of a steam laundry and electric light plant combined. Merkel, as an enterprising town, has appealed to him, and he desires to come here and look over the situation if given the right kind of encouragement. He has the means at hand to establish such an enterprise. This is a matter that should be promptly looked into by our citizens.

A cotton seed oil mill would be a profitable investment and it could be secured by the right efforts.

We need an immigration agent.

We need a commercial club or board of trade to promote the industrial interests of the town.

A new depot would add wonderfully to the looks of the town and give an impetus to industrial progress. If the citizens would put their heads together on this proposition and go about the matter in a systematic way, this contemplated improvement would be materially hastened.

There is another matter, and a very important one, which is that the business men of Merkel could bring more trade to the town through legitimate advertising methods—not the spasmodic kind, but keeping everlastingly at it.

The importance of these suggestions is imperative. The town has just now reached the stage of its progress where it will take a long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether to develop its resources as the rapid settlement of the country demands. Any other course will result in industrial stagnation. Concerted action is badly needed. Let us suggest a close perusal of these remarks, to the end that some good may be accomplished for the town.

Lane's Gift to Harvard.

Mr. Gardiner M. Lane, class of '81, has made a gift to the Harvard corporation that will enable the classical department to invite eminent European scholars to lecture at the university on subjects connected with Greek and Latin literature.

Greatest Woman's Ranch.

Mrs. C. N. Whitman, of Denver, owns the largest ranch of any woman in the world. It is located in Texas, near Tascosa, and is called the L. S. ranch, from Lucien Scott, the first owner. The ranch is thirty square miles, and hundreds of men are employed upon it.

Women Office Seekers Aggressive.

Women office-seekers are more aggressive and persistent than men. The other day, says a correspondent, just after the senate had been called to order, two women sent in their cards and a letter of introduction to a Western senator. The moment he appeared in the door of the marble room, where senators receive constituents, these women, although strangers, leaped at him and each caught him firmly by the arm. They dragged him into a corner and did not for an instant relax their hold on his arms until he had promised in a positive term to find clerkships for them.

HAVE A LOOK
And you will be convinced we have the best all-around general line in the country, consisting of
John Deere Working Plows :: Standard Disc Plows
John Deere Sulkey Plows :: Standard Cultivators
John Deere Cultivators :: and
John Deere Disc Harrows :: Hancock Disc Plows
The Old Reliable
Studebaker Wagons,
Are the Best.
Buggies, Phaetons, Surries and hacks.
All Grades and Kinds. We have some Genuine Bargains.
LOOK at OUR FURNITURE COOK STOVES HEATING STOVES All kinds HARDWARE
Our Motto:—
Prices Below Our Competitors
...GEO. L. PAXTON, Abilene

DR. JOS. H. WARNICK, PRES. WM. H. DUNNING, CASHIER.
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To Our Customers and Friends

We extend to you our sincere thanks for the patronage given us the past year. We have done all that was possible for us to do in your behalf, and we assure you that we shall look well to your future business. We have always sold goods on a close and legitimate margin, and have always carried a high-grade, well assorted stock of Dry Goods, and you have shown your appreciation by the trade you have

FITTS
= & =
SMITH

SPOT: CASH
Merchants
MERKEL, - - TEXAS

given us. We call special attention to the fact that the people in our territory are wearing a much higher grade of goods than before we came here, less than a year ago, that they see it is Economy to buy Good Goods. We will always try to retain the high standard which we have placed before you.

To those who are not our customers we ask, give us a chance to satisfy you that our methods of doing business are the best, and then you will be a firm believer in Merkel as a first-class trade center.

Yours truly,

...FITTS & SMITH.

EXCLUSIVE DRY GOODS.....

THE MERKEL MAIL.

ED J. LEEMAN,
 EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

Entered in the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as second-class mail matter.

Subscription Rates:

One year	\$1.00
Six months	.50
Three months	.25
Invariably in advance.	

ADVERTISING RATES per month

One inch space	\$.50
Two inch space	1.00
Quarter column (4 1/2 inches)	2.50
Half column (9 inches)	4.00
One column (18 inches)	7.50

Four issues constitute a month. All advertisements run and charged for until ordered out, unless limit is specified when insertion is made. Special prices on time contracts. Local notices, 5 cents per line, each insertion.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Communications to insure publication must bear the signature of the writer, as well as the name of the place under which they write. This is required merely as a guarantee of good faith. Obituaries, Cards of Thanks, etc., are inserted at one-half the regular advertising rates. Positively no deviation from this rule.

THE NEGRO A BEAST.

The Mail is in receipt of a curious literary effort, or, rather, a new version of the inequality of the races. The author prefaces his remarks with this quotation from the Bible: "There is a Beast whereby man can associate himself with and produce offspring," and continues:

"Was there a female child born on earth when Cain went to the land of Nod and took unto himself a wife? Five thousand dollars will be given to any man who will prove, by the Bible, that there was a female child on earth when Cain went into the land of Nod and took unto himself a wife. Whom did Cain marry? He married a Negress (a Beast) for which God cast him out of the line of kinship with the Adamic family 'for going after strange flesh.'"

The author then goes on to give reasons for the faith that is in him, and asks:

"Was Adam a Negro? Did the

Negro spring from Adam and Eve? The question is answered by asking, does 'like beget like?' If 'like does not beget like,' then the Negro may be an offspring of Adam and Eve. If 'like does not beget like' and the Negro is an offspring of Adam and Eve, then there was no necessity of God creating Adam in his own image, for why should Adam be created in God's image, and then immediately contradict God's injunction that 'like begets like' and at once produce a Negro, which is not in the image of God or Adam. If the Negro is human, then he is of the same blood and flesh as Adam and Eve, for Adam was the only representative of God. Now, if Adam and Eve are the parents of the Negro, you cannot get around the fact that you have Negro blood in your veins."

The editor of The Mail is not versed in Biblical lore, consequently we shall not dispute the author's assertions and take upon ourself the burden of trying to explain our relation to the Negro. That the Negro was created or just "happened so," is a foregone conclusion. But how and by what route he came into the world is uncertain of proper analysis, and to this good day his manner of ingress is an unsolved problem. Climatic conditions may have had something to do with his color, or it may be due to the kind of dirt used in his creation. We have noticed that prairie dogs vary in color in proportion to the change in soil—that is to say, a dog raised on sandy land is of a grayish color, while his brother, who had strayed off into the red lands, has the appearance of being red-headed. But all dogs look alike and all

coons look alike, too, and there may have been a similarity in the creation of both, for all we know. This Negro question is hard of solution and fraught with many vexations. The only possible excuse for his creation lies with either God or the devil. We hope with the latter. If all men are created free and equal, then there was a mistake made in the bleaching process, and the retention of the pungent odor, which forever and eternally precludes the possibility of an equality of the races.

If one should start out to kill every man he encountered who has the "blues" over the prevailing dry weather, there would not be enough left to cut wood for the women folks. It is very dry—too dry for comfort and likewise for the breaking of land—but that is nothing unusual for the time of year in this country. We can count ourselves lucky if the rains descend before the first of April, and we can not with any certainty hope for a snow or artificial moisture, as the saying goes. During a close observation of the weather in this country, extending over a period of ten years, we have noticed that winter rains are few and far between, and that only in one out of about four years can we expect a snow of any consequence. Therefore, while the dry weather is enough to make long faces, we see no reason for unusual alarm. Similar complaints are heard in all parts of the State, and in many localities conditions are much more unfavorable than here. Keep up your courage and live in hopes if you die in despair.

The high protective tariff is the

most unjust legislation ever perpetrated by a political party. It aids and abets class legislation. It encourages inordinate profits, all taken from the pockets of the people, and adding to the cost of living. In other words, it levies a tax on the workingman's wages. That the tariff will become an issue in the next national campaign, is a foregone conclusion; and that the precipitation of this fight will result in a modification of Republican views on the tariff, is also a fact.

State Treasurer Robbins is a candidate for re-election. Mr. Robbins has a hard fight on his hands. He is the man who "broke a precedent" by depositing money in a bank which belonged to the State. The bank went defunct and Mr. Robbins was left with the sack to hold. However, the affairs of the bank have been straightened out and the State will come out whole.

Dry weather does not seem to have much effect upon immigration to this country, for they are still coming in droves. Another year like the last will result in such a complete settlement of the country that the Chinese exclusion act will have to be brought into use to prevent a jam. However, there is plenty of room to squeeze up.

Editor Grogan of Sweetwater is an avowed candidate for the Senate from this district. He is in favor of maintaining the quarantine line and administering the law as now administered. In other words, he wants all the ticks to remain below the line.

To speak of bad roads now would be a crime, but should we run up against such an

bility as a wet spell of weather, the roads leading into town, or some of them at least, would soon become almost impassable.

The retirement of Lieutenant Hobson to the shades of politics will afford full sway to his oscillatory talents. In political skirmishes this is a necessary adjunct to a candidate's success.

The time of year is approaching when it behooves every citizen to clean up the premises around his home. Merkel is a clean town, but it is not perfection by any means.

A newspaper is expected to feel every pain that chases across the spinal column of some people, and if the destination of the pain is not forecasted, shoel is to pay.

Plant a few shade and ornamental trees around your property. It will add fifty per cent to the looks of things, not to mention the increase in value.

Plant everything this year that will add to the comforts of home and the enlargement of your pocketbook.

The candidates are maintaining a safe distance and the people are pursuing the even tenor of their way.

The Taylor county campaign is in full blast and promises to be a warm proposition.

A few dabs of the paint brush would help the looks of the town wonderfully.

J. J. Terrell of Wise cc wants to be Land Commissi

time for the dry we back and sit dow

ne fragile babe and the grow-child are strengthened by ite's Cream Vermifuge. It boys worms, gets digestion at, and so rebuilds the body. 25c at F. M. Davis'.

your Grain, Hay and from G. M. Sharp, the only exclusive Grain Dealer in Merkel.

The Mail's 'phone is 31. If you know any item of news, or if friends or relatives are visiting you, or if you are going or have been off on a visit, please let us know. It will be a great favor.

Dr. and Mrs. King have a new daughter at their home.

Miss Birdie Cox of Sweetwater is visiting in the city.

Misses Laura Herring, Lucy Leeman, Allie Jennings and Jessie Boring have been elected sponsors and maids of honor for the Merkel camp, U. C. V., to attend the national reunion at Dallas in April.

Sam Wallace has been transferred to Van Horn for a few days.

Grandma Lagroon presented her daughters, Mesdames T. P. Gibson and J. W. Bounds, with a handsome organ each as a New Year's gift. No doubt they are highly prized.

The wind mill tower in front of the Star Store has been raised several feet, a large tank erected, and a large main pipe laid the full length of the street. In case of a fire the apparatus will afford considerable protection. A few more such conveniences would greatly facilitate the handling of a fire should one occur, and we hope to see others make such provisions.

There is a time for all things. The time to take Simon's Cough Syrup is when afflicted with sore throat, hoarseness, coughs or colds. It is guaranteed to cure you. Price 25 and 50 cents.

W. N. M. Grimmet is preparing to rebuild the only remaining relic of the fire. Rock is being placed on the ground and work will commence at once and the building pushed to rapid completion. Mr. Grimmet has suffered great loss lately, but seems yet full of pluck. The Mail hopes he will be more fortunate in the future.

John Davis was here from Abilene Monday. John is fast falling in love with the best town in the county.

County Attorney Bledsoe was in the city Monday.

Asa Sheppard is off to El Paso to attend the carnival.

W. W. Cypert was in the city Monday and called at The Mail office. Mr. Cypert has bought the Pannel farm, three miles northwest of town, and will move here sometime during the year. He is a substantial citizen and The Mail welcomes him to a residence among the best people on earth.

Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt, crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely, and with too high a spirit to be cumbered with old nonsense. This day is it is good and fair. It is war, with its hopes and inspirations, to waste a moment on yesterdays.—Ralph Waldo son.

Herbine should be used to enrich and purify the blood; it cures all forms of blood disorders, is especially useful in fevers, skin eruptions, boils, pimples, blackheads, scrofula, salt rheum and every form of blood impurity; it is a safe and effectual cure. Price, 50c at F. M. Davis'.

The continued dry weather is becoming a serious menace to health and public comfort throughout the state. From east, west, north, south come complaints of the dry weather. It is confined to no certain section, but is state-wide, and considerable uneasiness is felt that we are on the eve of another drouthy year.

Phone G. M. Sharp when you want feed.

The crowning glory of a town is its schools. Remember this when the time to vote upon incorporation rolls around.

When you want meats, vegetables or fruits 'phone 43.

W. N. M. Grimmet was able to be down town Saturday for the first time since he was injured a couple of weeks ago.

When wanting anything to eat 'phone 43.

Miss Jernigan left Friday for her home at Lordsburg, N. M. She was accompanied by her cousin, Miss Maud Richardson, who will visit her.

We are showing the best \$1.50 hat that ever happened.

J. T. Warren.

Life is a building. It rises slowly, day by day, through the years. Every new lesson we learn lays a block on the edifice which is rising silently within us. Every influence that impresses us, every book we read, every conversation we have, every act of our commonest days adds something to the invisible building.—Miller.

The Mail hopes to report several new business ventures soon.

See G. M. Sharp for your seed oats, free of Johnson grass.

An Object Lesson.

The Mail is informed that the school is overcrowded with pupils and the teachers are very much dissatisfied with the work of "teaching the young ideas how to shoot" under such trying circumstances. One of the young lady teachers has over 75 pupils, and the other rooms are almost as badly crowded. From this it will be seen that they are placed at a great disadvantage. A teacher burdened with an overplus of pupils can not hope to do efficient work in the school room. It is an utter impossibility. More than this, it is an injustice to them, not alone because of the severe strain to both mind and body, but from the fact that they can not promote each pupil as its advancement deserves.

The enrollment shows an increase of about 100 over the scholastic census, and the attendance is daily becoming larger. This will necessitate the employment of two extra teachers this year. Herein lies a problem that is hard of solution, unless we build that school house and have it ready for occupancy by the time school opens; for the present building is inadequate to the demands upon it. Will we do it? The Mail believes so, and urges all possible speed with that end in view.

Buy McDonald Shirts and Overalls.

J. T. Warren.

To MAKE ROOM

Not Money.

Below we give a few items which we propose to sell to make room== NOT MONEY:

Blankets,
Comforts,
Capes,
Jackets,
Duck Coats,
Heavy Woolen Over Shirts,
and Winter Dress Goods.

J. T. WARREN

Many a bright and happy household has been thrown into sadness and sorrow because of the death of a loved one from a neglected cold. Ballard's Horehound Syrup is the great cure for coughs, colds and all pulmonary ailments. Price, 25 and 50c at F. M. Davis'.

We are selling some stuff to make room, not money.

J. T. Warren.

We are now in a position to remit money for you direct to the State Treasurer or General Land Office. Please call at this bank when wanting to transact business of this kind.

The First National Bank.

Mr. W. D. Smith was a pleasant caller Saturday and entered his name for The Mail and News. Mr. Smith is a prosperous stock-farmer and is looking forward to a good crop year.

Second-hand disc plow for sale. \$12.50. 5 miles south-east of Merkel.

T. P. Gibson.

Dr. Smith of Weatherford removed enlarged tonsils from two children Friday, one from Mr. Tubb's little boy and the other from the little child of Mr. Wadkins of the Canyon. The use of tonsils has always been a puzzle to the medical profession, hence their removal is attended with no serious consequences.

Top prices for green and dry hides.

F. P. McGuffin.

Whosoever has suffered from piles knows how painful and troublesome they are. Tabler's Buckeye Pile Ointment is guaranteed to cure piles. Price 50c in bottles. Tubes, 75c at F. M. Davis'.

LOST—Three head of sheep in a flock, one with bell on. Will pay liberal reward for information leading to their recovery.

F. P. McGuffin.

A. R. Carnes, representing the Dallas News, was in the city Saturday.

Delinquent tax payers should remember that a 10 per cent penalty will be added to all taxes remaining unpaid Jan. 31st. This is the law, and to avoid extra cost all should pay their taxes before that time.

Go to G. M. Sharp for your bran, oats and wheat chops.

The West Texas Farmer's Institute holds its second meeting in Abilene to-morrow. Every farmer in this country should be on hand.

Miss Stephenson of Abilene was the guest of Miss Clara Browning Sunday.

Use Peace-Maker Flour,
J. T. Warren.

Jno. S. Hughes has the thanks of The Mail for a renewal of his allegiance to the best paper in the county. John is one of our best friends.

5 gallons Pickles and Kraut \$1.50.

J. T. Warren.

The properties of Ballard's Snow Liniment possess a range of usefulness greater than any other remedy. A day seldom passes in every household, especially where there are children, that it is not needed. Price, 25 and 50c at F. M. Davis'.

I have added the handling of livestock to my business and would appreciate anything in this line.

H. C. Williams.

A case of small pox is reported at or near Sweetwater. Many people were exposed and a general epidemic may result.

Mr. and Mrs. John Elliott are the proud parents of a fine boy.

Plenty of corn now at G. M. Sharp's.

Mrs. Nannie Wimberly of Weatherford spent a couple of days with Mrs. McCord this week.

Isaac N. Taylor was up from Abilene Sunday. His friends will be glad to know of his prosperity.

East Texas and Louisiana Syrup.

J. T. Warren.

Miss Eva Martin has been elected teacher in the Roscoe public school. The Mail extends congratulations to both Roscoe and Miss Eva, for the appointment will no doubt prove eminently satisfactory.

F. P. McGuffin is selling choice steaks 10c per pound, roasts from 8 to 10c, other meats in proportion.

Now is the Time to Buy.

Having just finished invoicing after the most prosperous year of our business, we take time to wish our patrons A Happy and Prosperous 1902, and to promise every purchaser at The Reliable Store Better Values and larger lines to choose from than ever before. In the future, as in the past, we shall keep abreast of the times and shall strive to merit the confidence which the people of Taylor and adjoining counties have reposed in this store, by furnishing only Reliable Goods at the Lowest Possible Prices. While invoicing we found ourselves overstocked on the following lines, which we now offer at Bargain Prices:

MEN'S UNDERWEAR.	MEN'S CLOTHING.	LADIES' CAPES.
To make room for new goods, we offer great reductions. A Bargain in every item.	We have more than we care to carry over and make Unusual Prices for 20 Days.	A few only left which you will need for the coming cold weather Yours at Low Prices.

In fact for the next 20 days we will offer unusual bargains in order to reduce stock and prepare for shipments of new goods now in transit
Yours truly,

COME AND BUY NOW...

J. P. SHARP & COMPANY.

Women Wanted the Saloon.

Women are generally regarded as the moral foes of the saloon, but the fair residents of South River, N. J., are exceptions to this rule, if rule it be. A man named Willetts wished to open a drinking resort, but met with opposition because of the number of saloons already doing business there. He has succeeded in getting up quite a lengthy petition on his behalf, all the signers being women.

Post Mortem Supervision.

Mrs. Corwin, of Long Island, died and left an estate of \$20,000. She bequeathed \$8,000 to friends, and directed that the remainder should be spent on lectures on spiritualism, to be delivered at stated intervals in the county of which she was a resident. Before her death intimated to a friend that she would come back occasionally to see the fund was being administered.

Kipling Was an Actor.

Rudyard Kipling, during his residence in India, was for long regarded as one of the best amateur actors in that country. He often took part in theatrical performances in Lahore, being particularly effective in comedy parts.

Gaskell's Marked Progeny.

Mr. and Mrs. Zaccheus Gaskell, of Dresbach, Minn., have ten children, and five of them possess twelve fingers and as many toes. It is equally curious that every alternate child in point of age has an extra finger, those who are not blessed in that direction having six toes and only the normal number of fingers.

A Youthful Professor.

Xenophon de Kalamatiano, 19 years of age, a native of St. Petersburg, Russia, has been made a professor in the modern language department of the University of Chicago, where he will fill the chair of Russian language. Kalamatiano will give the first course in Russian ever offered at the university.

Jam Pot Wagner Autographs.

Autograph letters of Wagner have been discovered in use as jam-pot covers. A German journalist found them at the house of two maiden ladies, sisters of a musician long since deceased, who had formerly been in intimate correspondence with the author of "Parsifal." The ladies were exhibiting to him with much pride their cupboards full of jam, when the journalist saw some writing on the covers which he recognized as that of Wagner. The superior thickness of the paper, which almost resembles parchment, had supplied the reason for its application to this domestic use.

Many of the blotches, pimples and other affections of the skin are caused by the failure of the liver and kidneys to cast off impurities, which remain in the system. Herbine will stimulate the liver and kidneys, and cleanse the system of all impurities. Price, 50c at F. M. Davis'.

One Hundred Years Ago.

The London Times reprints from its issue of November 23, 1801, the following curious items: "A milliner advertises that she will not be visited on foot, and assures her customers that her father kept his own coach. This is very true—No. 305, and drove it also." "A great change is announced in the Sporting world. Powder is utterly out of fashion, and a Gentleman would scorn to knock down a partridge with anything but an airgun, always excepting the low bow, with which so many of our best shots kill their game." "Among the Lay Sportsmen the contest lies, who shall kill the most head of game; but your Sporting parsons have had a shot at the Squire." "An odd circumstance occurred the other day in —church, in Leicestershire. The Lord of the Manor has brought an action against the Parson for shooting upon his lands and imagining himself to be addressed 'from the desk in the words, O Lord, forgive us our trespasses,' the Squire rose in a fury, and swore he would see him d—d first." "On Friday a coal porter exhibited his wife in Smithfield with a halter around her neck, for sale; he demanded a guinea for her, but she hung on hand for some time, until a man of good appearance made the purchase, and packing her, halter and all, into a hackney coach, drove for Blackfriars bridge, amidst the huzzas of the mob."

Would Have It Forgotten.

Senator James K. Jones, general manager of both the presidential campaigns of William Jennings Bryan, seems to have concluded that the dead past should bury its dead. In his self-prepared biography in the new edition of the Congressional Directory, it is said, he has omitted the line which formerly said that he was chairman of the Democratic national committee in 1896 and in 1900.

Cigarette Smokers Spanked.

It seems that girls, as well as boys, of Reykjavik, Iceland, have contracted the habit of smoking cigarettes, and the law allows any adult man or woman who finds a boy or girl smoking to give the young offender a sound spanking and to seize and destroy any cigarette found in his or her possession.

The Secret of Long Life

Consists in keeping all the main organs of the body in healthy, regular action, and in quickly destroying deadly disease germs. Electric Bitters regulate stomach, liver and kidneys, purify the blood, and give a splendid appetite. They work wonders in curing kidney troubles, female complaints, nervous diseases, constipation, dyspepsia, and malaria. Vigorous health and strength always follow their use. Only 50c, guaranteed by Rust & Pittard.

The Christian Name.

"What is your Christian name?" one man quoted by Victor Smith asked of another to whom he had just been introduced. "Edgewood," was the reply. "Edgewood, Edgewood? Rather a remarkable name for a Christian name. What is your surname?" Edgewood, sir!" "Then you are Mr. Edgewood Edgewood?" "Not necessarily. Edgewood is Christian name, whether it be a family name, a baptismal name or a binary name. But sir, I regard 'Christian' as a misnomer when applied to names. Why not say 'Christening name' and stop your fooling? The mere fact that they call me Peter does not mean that they have given to me a Christian name."

Began as a Railroader.

Edwin Charles Madden, the third assistant postmaster general, is a Michigander. His great-great-uncle was Lord Nelson, the hero of Trafalgar. He entered the railroad business at the age of 16, and continued until January, 1891, serving thirteen years as a locomotive engineer. He was then appointed to the position of registry clerk in the Detroit postoffice, and was rapidly promoted until President McKinley appointed him to the present position.

Money for Refilling the Box.

"I stacked up against a new one the other evening," said a Philadelphia man recently. "I dropped in on an old friend of mine who always smokes good cigars, and, of course, he produced a box. There were only about a dozen cigars left, but in the box I noticed a lot of coins, nickles, dimes, quarters and halves. 'What's this?' I said. 'Do I pay for my smoke?' 'Not a bit of it,' he said. 'That's just my own little system. Every morning before I leave home I empty the contents of my trousers pocket into the cigar box, reserving only the price of car fare. Thus I get rid of an accumulation of 'chicken feed,' and at the same time when my cigar box is empty there is a fund all ready to replenish it."

They never did fail; they never will fail. What? Cheatham's Laxative Tablets—to cure a cold at once. Carry them in your vest pocket. Always ready. Guaranteed. Price 25 cents.

Caught in his Own Trap.

A Springfield, Mass., bridal couple who planned to outwit their tormentors recently were victims of their own cleverness. They went to the railroad station by separate routes and it was also in their plan to get into separate cars. The bridegroom comfortably located in the smoker and the bride sought an inconspicuous seat in a passenger coach. The bride, however, in her flurry, got the wrong train and, unaware of her mistake, went on to Pittsfield, while the groom went unsuspectingly north and arrived at Northampton.

Home News Across the Water.

"Quite a new disease," says the Globe, of London, "has been discovered in New York. It consists of the 'tunnel knee,' and its origin is the continual blasting operations carried on in making the new underground railways. It is said that nearly all the inhabitants of Harlem have grown weak in the knees and that everybody goes about on tiptoe anticipating a fresh shock. 'Tunnel knee' should arrive in London shortly, and will prove a pleasant change from vaccinated arm."

The Christian Name.

"What is your Christian name?" one man quoted by Victor Smith asked of another to whom he had just been introduced. "Edgewood," was the reply. "Edgewood, Edgewood? Rather a remarkable name for a Christian name. What is your surname?" Edgewood, sir!" "Then you are Mr. Edgewood Edgewood?" "Not necessarily. Edgewood is Christian name, whether it be a family name, a baptismal name or a binary name. But sir, I regard 'Christian' as a misnomer when applied to names. Why not say 'Christening name' and stop your fooling? The mere fact that they call me Peter does not mean that they have given to me a Christian name."

Used Corpse in Revival Service.

A remarkable burial service was held at the Separate Baptist church of Kokomo, Ind., the other night over the body of young Claude Gallimore. In connection with a revival service, penitents were asked to bow at the chancel rail about the burial casket. The body of the young man was used as a leverage to persuade sinners to seek salvation. It was kept in the church all night, and was conspicuous throughout the all-night service.

Fortune Knocks Once at Every Man's Door

and this may be the rap that will tempt you to court the fair goddess that rules the world.

The days of '49 were a wild scramble of the adventurer to find the yellow metal that has brought prosperity in its wake wherever found and made more millionaires than any other one industry. Mining for precious metals has been gradually narrowing down to a science until today it is considered the safest avenue for the investment of money with almost surely the largest returns.

INTELLIGENT INVESTMENT

of small sums in the co-operative plan of mining has put not a few men and women on the road to prosperity. The company doing this advertising has four undeveloped but promising claims in a proven mining district and offers an attractive proposition to secure the co-operation of money to be used in the development of its property. It is now placing the first installment of treasury stock on the market at a nominal figure, and if you are interested, write for prospectus and other information. Address

Spanish Gulch Gold Mining Co., The Dalles, Ore.

DRUGS..

EVERYTHING NEW!

I have opened up a stock of Pure, Fresh Drugs, Patent Medicines, Paints, Oils, Wall Paper, Sundries, Etc., next door to First National Bank, and invite the patronage of all.

All Prescription Work is done by a Registered Pharmacist, insuring best results

Nicest line of Christmas Goods in the town.

F. M. DAVIS.

You've got the real thing when you get Hunt's Lightning Oil! Burns, bruises, cuts or sprain. The most penetrating and healing liniment known. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50 cents.

A GOOD THING.

erman Syrup is the special
ription of Dr. A. Boschee, a
rated German Physician,
is acknowledged to be one of
most fortunate discoveries in
icine. It quickly cures
hs, Colds and all Lung
oubles of the severest nature,
removing, as it does, the cause
of the affection and leaving the
parts in a strong and healthy
condition. It is not an experi-
mental medicine, but has stood
the test of years, giving satisfac-
tion in every case, which its rap-
idly increasing sale every season
confirms. Two million bottles
sold annually. Boschee's Ger-
man Syrup was introduced in the
United States in 1868, and is now
sold in every town and village in
the civilized world. Three doses
will relieve any ordinary cough.
Price 75c at Rust & Pittard's.
Get Green's Prize Almanac.

The organization of the wives,
sons and daughters of Confed-
erate Veterans as an auxiliary to
Merkel Camp U. C. V., will take
place at the Presbyterian church
Sunday at 3.30 p. m. All mem-
bers and those who contemplate
joining the organization are urg-
ed to be on hand.

A Good Move.

The following petition is in cir-
culation this week:
To the Honorable Commissioners
Court of Taylor County:

We, your petitioners, would
respectfully represent that the
streets of Merkel are in a deplor-
able condition, owing to the fact
that the overseers of the different
public roads fail and refuse to
work the streets of our town;
and in rainy weather the streets
in places are almost impassable.
Therefore, in view of these facts,
we respectfully ask your honorable
body to create a special dis-
trict, to be known as the Merkel
district, and to be composed of
all those living within the town
limits subject to road duty, to
work and keep in good order the
streets of the town.

The petition will be presented
at the next sitting of the Com-
missioners' Court.

We handle the New Royal
Sewing Machine at \$20.

W. P. Browning & Co.

Joe Billings of this place and
Miss Bessie Howell of Trent sur-
prised their friends Sunday even-
ing by driving to the residence of
Rev. A. J. Leach, who, in a few
well chosen words, pronounced
them man and wife. They were
married while sitting in a buggy.
The Mail joins the numerous
friends of this worthy couple in
congratulations and best wishes.

F. E. Allen was down from
Okota Monday night.

Queensware at Cost.

The holiday trade on Queensware was unusually heavy, but I still have a large stock, and during January you can buy anything in this line at ABSOLUTE COST. Come and look over and price my mammoth stock. At cost for 30 Days.

W. H. DICKSON HEADQUARTERS FOR... HARDWARE FARM IMPLEMENTS WAGONS WIRE NAILS ETC.

Advertised Letters.

Following letters remain un-
called for in the Post Office at
Merkel, Texas, and if not called
for will be sent to the Dead Let-
ter office Feb. 1. When call-
ing for them please state adver-
tised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.
Armstead, Della Hauze, P E
Jackson, Mrs Emma Lauglen, Joe
Jones, Miss Nettie Moore, Lillie
Montgomery, Mrs Mollie
" Rosa Peck, Dr. D C
Privette, Miss Julie Sewell, J W
Warnick, S H Wimberly, A M
Wasen, T J

Miss Lillie Lou Allen came in
from Lebanon, Texas, Sunday
morning on a visit to Mrs. C. M.
Largent.

New Century Comfort.

Millions are daily finding a
world of comfort in Bucklen's
Arnica Salve. It keeps pain
from burns, scalds, cuts, bruises;
conquers ulcers and fever sores;
cures eruptions, salt rheum, boils
and felons; removes corns and
warts. Best pile cure on earth.
Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Work has begun in earnest on
the Star Store building.

Oscar Wilson, mayor of Caps,
was in the city yesterday.

Governor a Thief.

Admitting that his picture is in
the rogue's gallery, and that for
a period of years he has been fam-
iliar with the "lowest depths of
New York opium joints," yet
pleading for mercy from the
courts, Franklin J. Moses, once
Governor of South Carolina, was
last week sentenced to four
months' imprisonment for the
larceny of an overcoat at Boston.

These are lovely, dull, delight-
ful, ugly days.

A Tripple Hanging.

Smith, Brown and Jones hang
all their hopes of recovery upon
Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tab-
lets. They will be around soon
shaking hands with friends. 25c.
No cure—no pay.

Edwards street from the War-
ren corner to the First National
Bank, will be cindered.

Hamlet: "Angels and minis-
ters of grace defend us: be thou
a spirit or health or goblin
damned," if I know a better place
to buy Wind Mills and pumps
than from Elliott & Mill

R. H. Collins
of the lubricant that
the wheels revolve at The M

**THE FACTS
IN THE CASE.**

When you read a thing you
like to feel that it's the truth.
The Dallas Semi-Weekly News
gives the facts in the case.

**SPECIALLY
EDITED.**

If you'll read The News a while
you'll like it. It holds the at-
tention. It is specially edited,
that's why. Brains and not hap-
hazzard go into the makeup of
The News.

**TWO PAPERS
YOU NEED.**

You need The Merkel Mail,
because it's your local paper.
It gives a class of news you can't
get elsewhere. You need The
News because it gives you all
the State news. The Merkel
Mail and The Semi-Weekly
News one year for only \$1.75,
cash in advance.

The News is promptly stopped
at expiration of time paid for.

GOOD ADVICE.

The most miserable beings in
the world are those suffering
from Dyspepsia and Liver Com-
plaint. More than seventy-five
per cent of the people in the
United States are afflicted with
these two diseases, and their ef-
fects; such as Sour Stomach,
Sick Headache, Habitual Costi-
veness, Palpitation of the Heart,
Heart-burn, Waterbrash, Gnaw-
ing and Burning Pains at the Pit
of the Stomach, Yellow Skin,
Coated Tongue and Disagreeable
Taste in the Mouth, Coming up
of Food after eating, Low Spirits
etc. Go to your Druggist and
get a bottle of August Flower for
75c. Two doses will relieve you.
Try it at Rust & Pittard's. Get
Green's Prize Almanac.

Money for Refilling the Box.

"I stacked up against a new one
the other evening," said a Philadel-
phia man recently. "I dropped in
on an old friend of mine who al-
ways smokes good cigars, and, of
course, he produced a box. There
were only about a dozen cigars left,
but in the box I noticed a lot of
coins, nickles, dimes, quarters and
halves. 'What's this?' I said.
'Do I pay for my smoke?' 'Not a
bit of it,' he said. 'That's just my
own little system. Every morning
before I leave home I empty the
contents of my trousers pocket into
the cigar box, reserving only the
price of car fare. Thus I get rid
of an accumulation of "chicken
feed," and at the same time when
my cigar box is empty there is a
fund all ready to replenish it."

Talk That Talks...

It's nice to do business with
plenty of nice, new goods
and plenty of appreciative
customers. We have the

Right Goods at Right Prices!

Our stock of General Mer-
chandise is complete, and
we should be glad to show
and price it to you.

J. O. HAMILTON.

Big Cut In Lumber Yard!

We have moved and remodeled our old sheds, erected a
new one in center of yard and have filled all with a bran new
stock of Lumber, Shingles, Sash Doors, Brick, Lime, Cement
Building Paper, etc.

This cut has widened our yard driveways all around,
which enables us to serve as many more of our customers at
the same time with the best material ever brought to Merkel.

Our Lumber is of all dimensions—short, wide and long,
Thick, but dry and bright, these things it takes, you know;
To make your home good tight and strong—
It is to your interest to buy of Burton-Lingo.

BURTON-LINGO CO.,

Lumber Dealers

J. S. Barnes,

Manager

Too Many Useless Words.

Senator Kearns, of Utah, not so
very long ago was working with a
pick and shovel for \$2 a day. Last
summer he and his partners refus-
ed \$14,000,000 for one of their
mines. The senator is used to life
in the open and the atmosphere of
the senate oppresses him. Last
Thursday he sat down beside Sena-
tor Heitfeld, also a Westerner, and
said, "Henry, what do you think of
this game, anyhow?" Heitfeld, be-
ing now schooled in the wiles of di-
plomacy. "Why do you ask?" he
said. "Oh," replied Kearns, "they
use too much language in their talk
to suit me. Why don't they say
what they mean instead of bundling
it all up in a lot of unnecessary
words?"

Phone the news to No. 31.

Two Brave Women.

When Mrs. Charles D. Parker, of
Chicago, found a burglar in her
apartments she lowered Mrs. James
T. Hackett, a friend, who happened
to be with her, down the dumb to
the basement. Mrs. Hackett noti-
fied the janitor, who came up and
caught the robber.

Mrs. Ward Is a Linguist.

Mrs. Humphry Ward is a mis-
tress of Spanish, French, Italian
and German. Her knowledge of
Spanish literature is such that when
only 18 she was asked to adjudicate
in a Spanish essay competition.

Was Postmaster Fifty Years.

Mr. Walter F. Howe, for fifty
years postmaster at North Leomin-
ster, Mass., resigned last Monday.
His present office has been in use
for the past thirty-seven years.

Mother

My mother was troubled with
cough for many years. At
last she was given up to die. Then
she took Ayer's Cherry Pectoral,
and was speedily cured.
D. P. Jolly, Avoca, N. Y.

No matter how hard
your cough or how long
you have had it, Ayer's
Cherry Pectoral is the
thing you can take.
It's too risky to wait
until you have consump-
tion. If you are coughing
badly, get a bottle of
Ayer's Pectoral at once.

Size: 25c, 50c, \$1. All druggists.

Consult your doctor. If he says take it,
do as he says. If he tells you not
to take it, then don't take it. He knows.
It's with him. We are willing
to stand by him.
J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

A. J. HILL,
BARBER.
Agent, Model Steam Laundry of
Abilene.

S. T. EASON, THE BARBER.
NORTH FRONT STREET.
A genteel shaving parlor for
genteel people.

J. M. PATE, BARBER.
NORTH FRONT STREET.
First class work and prompt and
polite attention to all.

DR. F. N. BROWN,
DENTIST.
Nitrous Oxide Gas Administered.
Office, Pine St. Abilene.

J. J. MILLER,
Justice Peace and Notary Public
Also fire insurance agent. Will write deeds,
take acknowledgements, pay taxes on land, fur-
nish abstracts of title and transact all other
business entrusted to him.

I. O. O. F. LODGE
No. 355 meets every Friday
night. Visiting brethren cor-
dially invited to attend.
S. H. Basham, N.G.
T. F. Compton, Sec.

DR. T. S. HOLLIS,
THE DENTIST
Office over Harris' Drugstore, Abilene, Texas.

H. C. WILLIAMS,
Real Estate and Insurance Agent
Notary Public
Takes Acknowledgments, Draws up Deeds, Etc.
OFFICE AT WARNICK'S BANK

J. A. LEEMAN
Physician and Surgeon.
Office, Davis' Drug Store.

G. H. RICHARDSON
Physician and Surgeon.
Residence, West Merkel.

BEST
PASSENGER SERVICE
IN TEXAS.
4-IMPORTANT GATEWAYS-4



NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

*The Strakest
Cleanest
and Best
Line
from
San Antonio*

P. TURNER,
GEN'L PASS'G AND TICKET AGENT,
DALLAS, TEXAS.

Heads Should Never Ache.
Never endure this trouble.
Use at once the remedy that
stopped it for Mrs. N. A. Web-
ster, of Winnie, Va., she writes
"Dr. King's New Life Pills
wholly cured me of sick head-
aches I had suffered from for
two years." Cures headache,
constipation, biliousness. 25c at
Rust & Pittard's drug store.

Hunt's Cure is not a misnomer.
It does cure iten, ringworm, ecze-
ma, tetter and all similar skin
diseases. A wonderful remedy.
Guaranteed. Price 50 cents.

Moore's Historic Mirror.
Charles Moore, clerk of the sen-
ate committee on the District of
Columbia, has resurrected from the
lumber room of the capitol a mirror
that every vice president of the
United States, with the exception
of Theodore Roosevelt, is said to
have looked into. The mirror, a
small one, is in a gilt frame and
was bought by John Adams, the
first vice president, for use in the
vice president's room. Adams paid
\$40 for it, and there was a three-
day debate in the senate as to
whether the item should be allowed,
the claim being made that to pay
\$40 for a mirror was gross extrava-
gance. The curtains in the senate
finance committee room now cost
\$600 a pair. Finally the bill was
paid. The mirror was handed along
from vice president to vice presi-
dent until it reached Garrett A. Ho-
bart. After Mr. Hobart's death the
mirror was taken to the lumber
room of the capitol. This last sum-
mer, after Mr. Roosevelt had left
Washington and before he came
back as president, Mr. Moore got
out the mirror and had it regilded,
intending to give it to Mr. Roose-
velt.

A Good Voice Very Rare.
The Vocal Physiologist says:
"More money is thrown away on
the education of the human voice
than on the support of government.
Of every 10,000 voices one may be
listened to without pain; of every
100,000 voices one may be listened
to with patience; of every 1,000,
000 voices one may be listened to
with satisfaction; of every 10,000,
000 voices one may be listened to
with sensations of joy. In all the
millions of male singers there is
but one Jean De Reszke. Of all
the millions of female singers there
has appeared none to equal or ap-
proach Patti. Yet, wonderful to
tell, nearly every young man and
woman on earth believes he or she
has a fine latent voice which needs
only cultivation to set the universe
a-quiver with its quality. To agree
with such a person, to maintain
that the voice is there in embryo
and must be trained and developed,
is to gratify its possessor, to engen-
der false hopes, to throw in the way
of the vocal teacher, and to disap-
point a career."

The Two Blind Chaplains.
The two blind chaplains are
among the most picturesque person-
alities in congress. Rev. Dr. Mil-
burn, of the senate, with his long
gray whiskers and his black slouch
hat, is a familiar figure. He walks
upon the arm of his daughter, gen-
tly feeling his way with a cane, and
is always in his appointed place at
the hour of noon, no matter whether
it rains or snows, blows. His
prayers are models of exquisite ex-
pression, and are uttered in a deep,
musical, impressive voice. The
newspapers are read to him every
morning before he goes to the capi-
tol, so that if there is any great
event which needs to be mentioned
in his prayer it is not overlooked.
After prayer he is led around the
chamber and shakes hands with the
senators. Despite his lack of
sight, he is a man of acute percep-
tion, and his talk upon "What a
Blind Man Saw in Europe" is said
to be extremely interesting. Rev.
Dr. Couden, the chaplain of the
house, hides his eyes beneath dark
blue glasses. He is tall and digni-
fied, and, like his colleague in the
senate, is eloquent. His prayers
are brief, but they condense a great
deal into very few words.

A Cure for Lumbago.
W. C. Williamson, of Amherst,
Va., says: "For more than a
year I suffered from lumbago.
I finally tried Chamberlain's
Pain Balm and it gave me entire
relief, which all other remedies
had failed to do." Sold by Rust
& Pittard.

Queer Changes in Names.
Peerless street, in London, is a
corruption of Perilous Pool. Gold-
en square was originally Gelding
square, and the name was changed
at the wish of the inhabitants. Fet-
ter lane has nothing to do with fet-
ters, but only with fewsters, idle
fellows, who once loafed in the
neighborhood. Gutter lane, in the
city, is really Gutheron's lane.
Duck's Foot lane, near Cannon
street, should be named Duke's
Foot lane, being so named after the
Dukes of Suffolk. Cannon street
had nothing to do with guns, but
everything with candles, which were
made in it when it passed as Can-
dlewick street.

The Kentuckian Took Pie.
Senator Fairbanks, of Indiana,
and Governor Shaw (before they
had won their present titles) were
stumping Kentucky and were in-
vited into a barroom by a Louis-
ville man. Fairbanks asked for
Apollinaris and Shaw ordered a
glass of buttermilk. The Ken-
tuckian's native courtesy was not
proof against action on the visitor's
part. He looked from one to the
other and then said to the barten-
der: "Under the circumstances,
you may give me a piece of pie."

The Only Negro Mayor.
Isaiah T. Montgomery, of Mound
Bayou, Miss., is the only colored
mayor in the United States. He is
the wealthiest man in the city
named, and, indeed, owns nearly
the whole place. At a convention
he gained prominence because of the
clearness of his views on the negro
question. Montgomery was born
a slave on the plantation of Jeff-
erson Davis.

Voice Audible 18 Miles.
Eighteen miles is said to be the
longest distance on record at which
a man's voice has been heard. This
occurred in the Grand Canyon of
the Colorado, where one man shout-
ed the name "Bob" at one end his
voice was plainly heard at the oth-
er end, which is eighteen miles
away. Dr. Young records that at
Gibraltar the human voice has been
heard at a distance of ten miles.

Abbey's Grail Pictures.
The second series of Edwin A.
Abbey's paintings of the quest of
the Holy Grail are to be seen at the
American Art galleries in New
York city for two weeks. There
are fifteen pictures, and they carry
on Sir Galahad's adventures from
the time of his failure in the castle
of the Grail to the moment when,
as king of the holy city of Sarras,
he beholds the Grail borne by
Joseph, of Arimathea, and a com-
pany of angels, and his crown and
scepter fall from him, since they
are now meaningless, as he has at-
tained his spiritual quest.

Oldest Organ to Be Exhibited.
The organ in the chapel of the
Episcopal church, on State street,
in Portsmouth, N. H., is to be taken
to Boston to be placed on exhibi-
tion, being the oldest in America.
The organ was brought from Lon-
don in 1713 and placed in King's
chapel, Boston. While it was in
Boston, Benjamin Franklin was the
organist. It was sold to Newbury-
port some eighty years afterward,
and in 1836 it was purchased by
Rev. Dr. Chy. Burroughs and
presented to the chapel in Ports-
mouth.

All in One!

The Upper part contains
a 50-lb flour bin with sift
a moulding board,
a tilting sugar bin, with
close fitting lid,
three drawers, one with 6
partitions for spices.
In the lower part are
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