

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FEBRUARY 20, 1902

NO. 1.

Open for Business....

We will be open for business with a bran new stock of Dry Goods, at the old stand, February 27th.

Watch for us! Wait for us!

The Star Store.

At the Old Stand,

MERKEL, TEXAS.

A Tripple Hanging.

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

Come and see our new mouldings. Latest styles.
W. P. Browning & Co.

How to Succeed in Business.

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

If you want to increase your trade, advertise.

The Higher Life

Success or Failure.

From the Sunday-School Times.

One of the commonest mistakes, and one of the costliest, is thinking that success is due to some genius, some magic—something or other which we do not possess. Success is generally due to holding on and failure to let go. You decide to learn a language, study music, take a course of reading, train yourself physically, work with the bible. Will it be success or failure? It depends upon how much pluck and perseverance that word "decide" contains. The decision that nothing can overrule, the grip that nothing can detach, will bring success. Remember the Chinese proverb: "With time and patience the mulberry leaf becomes satin."

The Evils of Debt.

From the Presbyterian.

Debt is a troublesome factor in human life. It is easier to get into it than it is to get out of it. Wisdom says, avoid it; run not into hastily or suddenly; or if it has been incurred, pay it off as soon as possible and keep out of it. Every man thinks he is the best judge of his circumstances and does not take kindly to advice from outsiders, but the wisest of us would do well to heed the voice of experience. Thousands have suffered because they thought themselves wiser than others. Ruined reputations and business follow heedlessness about going into debt. Numbers

contract a habit of borrowing, and with the multiplication of their wants, larger and larger sums are obtained until complete disaster overtakes them, or if some of them manage to keep things afloat during their lifetime by various expedients, they leave bankrupt estates behind them and financial ruin to their dependents. Debt is one of the crying evils of the day. Churches and homes suffer from it as well as society and business. There is no need to emphathize anew Paul's practical principle: "Owe no man anything, but to love another."

Consecrated Culture Needed.

From Success.

The larger a man becomes, the keener and finer are his needs. Every enlargement of his capabilities by the sharpening of his faculties, by culture, by thinking and contemplation, not only increases his own demands for a greater variety of moral and mental food, but also increases his obligations to the world, for he has more to give to others. There is little hope for the world from selfish nature. The boy or girl who goes to college for his or her selfish ends, to satisfy ambition or vanity, or to gain social position, will have very little to give to others. It is only consecrated culture that counts. The man who does not feel throbbing within him the desire to be of service to the world, to make the community in which he lives better and nobler, has missed the true aim of education, of life itself. The secret of Henry

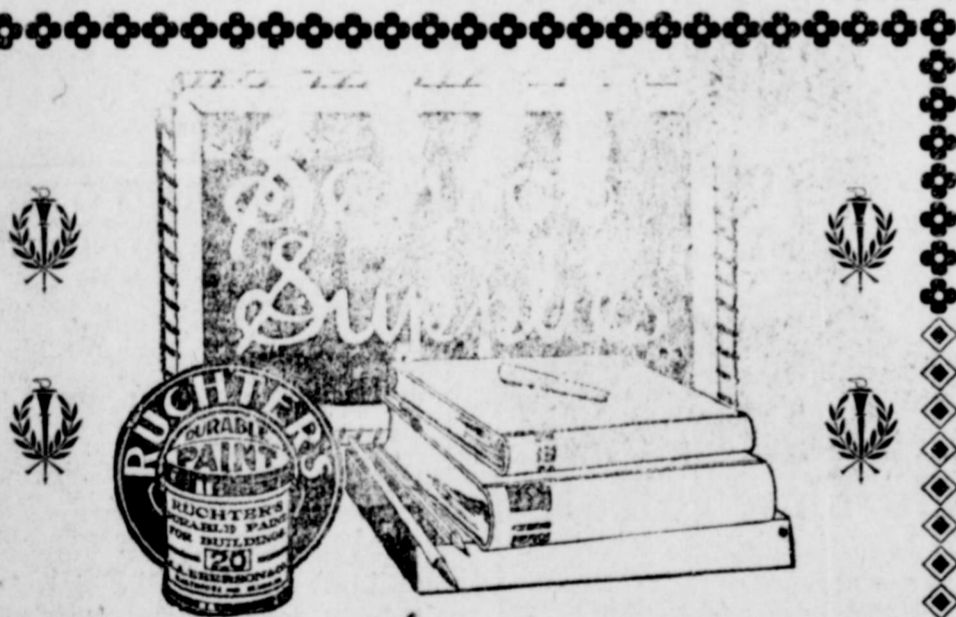
Drummond's great power was that his learning was consecrated to the services of others. It was so transfused with love for mankind that "The Greatest Thing in the World" was the natural and legitimate outcome of his broader culture.

Christ's Sympathy.

Rev. T. De Witt Talmage.

Christ shows himself especially sympathetic with questions of domesticity, as when at the wedding in Cana He alleviated a housekeeper's predicament, as when tears rushed forth at the broken home of Mary and Martha and Lazarus. Men are sometimes ashamed to weep. There are men who, if the tears start, will conceal them. They think it is unmanly to cry. They do not seem to understand it is manliness and evidence of a great heart. I am afraid of a man who does not know how to cry. The Christ of the text was not ashamed to cry over human misfortune. Look at that deep lake of tears opened by the two words, "Jesus wept!" Behold Christ on the only day of His early triumph marching on Jerusalem, the glittering domes obliterated by the blinding rain of tears in His eyes and on His cheek, for when He beheld the city He wept over it. O man of the many trials. O woman of the heartbreak, why do you not touch Him?

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.



STATIONERY..

All the Latest....

Styles Effects Tints

Prices, 'way down Low.

RUST & PITTARD
THE DRUGGISTS.

The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEEMAN, 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 number

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:
J. V. CUNNINGHAM.
(re-election.)

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

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

For County Attorney:
T. A. BLEDSOE.
(re-election.)

For County Judge:
W. W. KIRK.

For Tax Collector:
BAYLOR CRAWFORD.

For District Clerk:
V. F. WOMACK.

For Justice of Peace, Pre. 5, and
Commissioner Pre. 2:
J. J. MILLER.
(re-election.)

For Hide and Animal Inspector:
ROSS G. HALL.

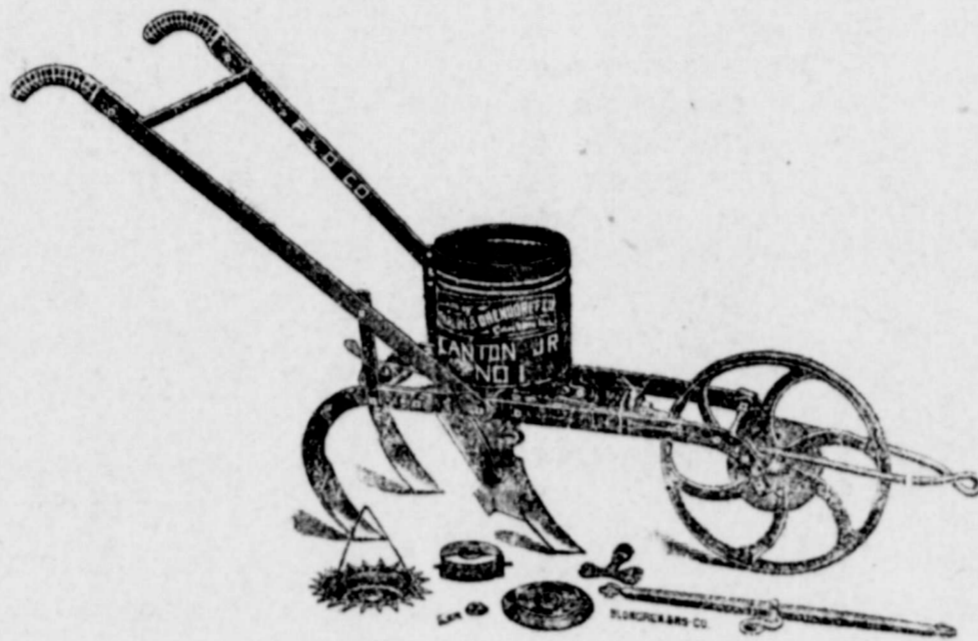
For Public Weigher at Merkel:
T. F. COMPTON.
T. D. WIMAN.
T. H. CHRISTOPHER.
W. H. BROWN.
G. W. DUNNING.

Lessons in State Government.

The Controller of public accounts is elected by the people. He receives a salary of \$2,500 a year. He is not only the chief accounting and auditing officer of the State, but also the superintendent of its fiscal affairs. All payments to the treasury are made upon warrants, and no money can be drawn from the treasury except upon his warrant. He examines all accounts against the State and passes upon their validity. He keeps an account with all other departments and officers of the State government who receive, handle or disburse funds of the State, and has authority to prescribe the mode of accounting and the forms to be used. He has general supervision of the assessment of property for taxation and of the collection of taxes, and makes settlement with all Tax Collectors. He is required to pass upon the fee bills of all officers, witnesses, etc. He is required to register city and county bonds when their validity has been attested by the

CLOSING OUT!

In order to make room for other goods that we expect to buy, we are very anxious to CLOSE OUT what we have on hand as soon as possible. In fact, the sooner we CLOSE OUT what we have the sooner we will buy more. And in order to accomplish this much desired end, we will sell our



.....ENTIRE STOCK AT COST.....

and carriage and a small per cent for ourselves. WE MEAN IT. Come and see our large stock of HARDWARE and GROCERIES; also Buggies, Wagons, Plows, Planters, and Cultivators.

G. F. WEST.

When it comes to Feed,
we've got it....

Attorney General. The Controller is also authorized to receive taxes from non-resident property owners and is charged with various other duties in line with those enumerated. The Controller's staff consists of forty-six clerks, who are paid \$50,475 per annum and two porters and messengers who receive \$360.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office is elected. He receives a salary of \$2,500. He has charge of the land affairs of the State generally, preventing trespass thereon, surveying and classifying the lands, selling and leasing them. His position is unique, for Texas is the only State in the Union that has a public domain, all other public lands in the United States belonging to the Federal Government. Properly speaking, Texas now has no public domain left, the public lands now on hand belonging to the school, university and asylum funds. To these funds there now belongs about 17,000,000 acres of land. To pass upon applications for purchase or lease, to keep up with forfeitures, etc., makes a great deal of work. The Commissioner's staff consists of sixty employes, clerks, draftsmen, field agents, porters and watchmen.

The Railroad Commission of Texas, established in 1891, consists of three Commissioners, now elective, each of whom receives a salary of \$4,000 a year. Their work is the most comprehensive and intricate perhaps of any in the State government. They are clothed with and exercise the power of prescribing the rates which the railroads and express companies shall charge for transportation; with placing a value upon all railroads, and no bonds can be issued without their approval. They are also charged with preventing discrimination. These duties thus briefly stated comprehend a vast amount of detail. Other duties have from time to time been given to the Commission by the Legislature, in fact pretty nearly everything pertaining to railroads is referred to it. It is charged with inquiring into the operation of trains with more than one engine (double-headers) and is authorized to

prevent same when [the practice is considered more hazardous than the use of a single engine. It is likewise charged with the matter of requiring the railroads to install interlocking devices at crossings with other lines and to prescribe the character of crossing to be used by new lines. The scope of the Commission's duties has gradually enlarged with the enactment of new laws and as complaints have been made to it by citizens. Its staff consists of eight employes, namely, a secretary, auditor, two expert rate men, one engineer, two clerks and a porter who are paid \$14,580 per annum.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction is elected and receives a salary of \$2,500 a year. He has general charge of the public free schools of the State; prescribes the requirements for teachers' examinations and formulates the questions to be asked them and has jurisdiction of appeals arising from County Superintendents and local boards of trustees. His office staff consists of seven clerks and a porter who are paid \$8,180 per annum.

The Department of Agriculture, Insurance, Statistics and History is not now so comprehensive as its name would indicate nor as it formerly was. The head of the department is a commissioner appointed by the Governor, who receives a salary of \$2000 a year. He has general supervision of insurance business in the State, inquiring into the standing and operations of the companies, issuing permits to them, causing them to comply with the law and collecting from them such taxes as are prescribed by law. This is now the principal work of that department. The commissioner is also charged with collecting valuable historical matter and books which are cared for in a division known as the State library. Very little has been done in the "agriculture" and "statistics" lines since 1895 when the Legislature ceased to make appropriations for that purpose. Prior to that time valuable and complete statistics relating to farming and other industries were collected through the County Tax Assessors, annually, and

the information thus secured was considered valuable and beneficial to the State. Now, the only statistics pertain to livestock, which is required by law to be separately assessed. The Commissioner has from time to time recommended that appropriations be made for the prosecution of this work, and various agricultural associations and business organizations have indorsed the suggestion, but the Legislature has failed to do anything in the premises. The staff of the Commissioner consists of five clerks and a porter whose salaries aggregate \$6,600 per annum.

The State Purchasing Agent is appointed by the Governor, the office having been created by the 27th Legislature upon recommendation of Gov. Sayers. He is paid \$2,000 and his two clerks \$1,900 a year. The State Purchasing Agent buys all supplies for the State eleemosynary institutions, advertising for bids and letting the contracts to the lowest and best bidders.

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 specialty 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.

Send prepaid to any address in the United States or Canada on receipt of One Dollar. Address Dept. 1, EDWIN B. GILES & Co., 2830 and 2832, Market St., Philadelphia.
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Something That Will Do You Good.

We know of no way in which we can be of more service to our readers than to tell them of something that will be of real good to them. For this reason we want to acquaint them with what we consider one of the very best remedies on the market for coughs, colds, and that alarming complaint, croup. We refer to Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. We have used it with good results in our family so long that it has become a household necessity. By its prompt use we haven't any doubt that it has time and again prevented croup. The testimony is given upon our own experience, and we suggest that our readers, especially those who have small children, always keep it in their homes as a safeguard against croup.—Camden (S. C.) Messenger. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Try reading The Mail.

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



No Time to Lose

You cannot afford to disregard the warnings of a weak and diseased heart and put off taking the prescription of the world's greatest authority on heart and nervous disorders—

Dr. Miles' Heart Cure.

If your heart palpitates, flutters, or you are short of breath, have smothering spells, pain in left side, shoulder or arm, you have heart trouble and are liable to drop dead any moment.

Major J. W. Woodcock, one of the best known operators in the country dropped dead from heart disease recently, at his home in Portland, Ind., while mowing his lawn.—The Press.

Mrs. M. A. Birdsall, Watkins, N. Y., whose portrait heads this advertisement, says: "I write this through gratitude for benefits I received from Dr. Miles' Heart Cure. I had palpitation of the heart, severe pains under the left shoulder, and my general health was miserable. A few bottles of Dr. Miles' Heart Cure cured me entirely."

Sold by all Druggists.
Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

**A. Johnson's
Real Estate Column.**

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE.....

72 lots in Sheppard addition to Merkel, ranging in price from \$20 to \$50. Call at my office and see plat and select your lots. I have full control of this property.

12 lots, 7 room house, windmill and out-houses. Fine location and an elegant residence. Close in. \$1800.

1 lot, 3 room frame house, east front, well, barn, &c. Close to business part. \$425

3 business lots 25x140, west front, Block 20. Price them.

10 lots, block 26. College addition, \$30 to \$40. Also 4 lots and 3-room residence, same block, east front cheap

1/2 a., good 6-room frame residence, good well, &c., in Southwest Merkel, \$800.

2a. land, 4-room house, good well &c., north side, price \$425.

Lots 3, 4, 5, 6, block 23, College addition, 6-room residence, east front and a bargain at \$650.

1a. land, 3-room frame residence, well and barn, south side. Price \$600.

2 lots, east front, 3-room frame residence, well and barn. North side close to business part. A bargain if taken at once. Price for a short time only, \$325.

160 acres of land adjoining town on east, 80 or 90 acres in cultivation, ordinary improvements. This will be valuable property in a short time and is a good investment for some one.

141 acres, good farm, modern improvements. This is a fine body of land, a fine home and will be a profitable investment. Southwest of and adjoining city.

160 acres, 65 in cultivation, all fenced, 3-room residence, good barn, plenty of water, 2 miles from Nubia. Price \$1350, \$250 cash, plenty of time on balance.

160 acres all under fence, near Stith postoffice, 4-room house, fine water, 70 acres in cultivation. Every acre of this is good farming land. Price per acre, \$13.

640 acres 5 miles southwest of Merkel, all under fence, 50 acres in cultivation and ordinary farm improvements. Other lands adjoining this are held at \$12.50 per acre. This can be bought now for \$8 per acre.

I write all kinds of Fire, Tornado, Life, Accident and Health Insurance. Also Deeds, Mortgages and Contracts of all kinds. All business entrusted to me will be highly appreciated and will receive prompt attention. Office in First Nat'l Bank. Notary Public in office.

Yours truly,

T. A. JOHNSON

To the Merchants.

We have on hand and ready for inspection a complete assortment of Fans and other advertising novelties, and a full line of maps. Calendars will soon arrive. We can supply your wants kind of advertising matter prices that can not be by foreign concerns. Our line and let us have orders.

Saved Her Child's Life.

"In three weeks our chubby little boy was changed by pneumonia almost to a skeleton," writes Mrs. W. Watkins of Pleasant City, O. "A terrible cough set in, that, in spite of a good doctor's treatment for several weeks, grew worse every day. We then used Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, and our darling was soon sound and well. We are sure this grand medicine saved his life." Millions know its the only sure cure for coughs, colds and all lung troubles. Rust & Pittard guarantee satisfaction. 50c, \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

Ross G. Hall announces this week for Hide and Animal Inspector, subject to Democratic primary. Mr. Hall has held the office two terms, and his friends say he has made an enviable record. Give his candidacy due consideration.

Two descriptive letters, written by Misses Annie Smith and Birdie Collins, of the public school, were handed in for publication this week, but were too long for our limited space. They possessed great merit.

It Was in the Paint.

It was in one of Boston's art galleries, where there was an exhibition of the late J. Appleton Brown's pictures, relates the Herald. There was a fine array of beautiful landscapes with that mellow and radiant atmosphere that characterized all of Mr. Brown's work on canvas. The meadows were green, the foliage was rich and full, and the blossoms were true to Nature at her best. A lady came into the gallery to enjoy the pictures, and as she stood gazing at the wealth of beauty on the walls she exclaimed rapturously: "How perfectly enchanting! I declare I can almost smell the sweet perfume of those apple blossoms." "What you smell, madame," said the matter of fact attendant, with no poetry in his soul, "is something of an odiferous character which the artists mix with their paints nowadays. It wears off in time after the varnishing." This was art dealing in Boston.

Skyscraper List Scaled Down.

A Chicago alderman, who has counted them, says there are three buildings and no more in his city that are seventeen or more stories in height. One of the three is the Masonic temple. Of sixteen-story buildings there are in the city seven, of fifteen-story three, of fourteen-story six, and of thirteen-story seven buildings. A renewed attempt is being made to prohibit the exceeding of the present limit of height in future building operations.

Cut Out the "Dreary Drivel."

A Philadelphia lawyer was one of the guests at the annual dinner of the Episcopalian Club in Boston the other evening, and bluntly told the assembled ministers that too much of the preaching heard in the pulpit nowadays is "dreary drivel," and that too many of the preachers seem to be in the business because they are "paid to holler." He said it all so good naturedly that the assembled ministers, who perhaps thought they were not of that kind, applauded him.

Uncle Russell Has a Bouncer.

Russell Sage employs a "bouncer" nowadays—a giant who stands within reach of everyone admitted to the aged millionaire's private office. The other day a man while talking to Mr. Sage reached for his hip pocket. The bouncer had him in an iron grip in about a second. The man was only reaching for a handkerchief.

**THE
FIRST NATIONAL
BANK**

OF MERKEL

J. T. WARREN, PRES.
G. F. WEST, VICE PRES.
GEO. S. BERRY, CASHIER.
C. M. COGGIN, ASST. CASHIER.

YOUR PATRONAGE WILL BE HIGHLY APPRECIATED

**CAPITAL, - \$30,000
SURPLUS, - \$ 5,000**

The detail of Accounts receive the personal attention of an officer of the bank. We guarantee prompt, accurate, and economical service, and as liberal accommodations as are warranted by the account and prudent banking. Correspondence and personal interviews invited.

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.

Uncle Sam's Costly Timepieces.

Scattered throughout the various departments at Washington are hundreds of clocks and chronometers, which cost the government annually thousands of dollars. The chronometers are the most expensive clocks in existence, and they are to be found on board every warship of the United States. These timepieces cost \$400 each. The ones most consulted are those in the marble room of the senate and in the speaker's lobby of the house. Hundreds of people daily correct their watches by them.

Silly Sully.

Sully Prudhomme, of the French academy, is going to turn the \$200,000 Nobel prize, which he has just received, into a fund for the anonymous publication of poems by young poets who cannot find a publisher. The Societe des Gens de Lettres will have to pick out the poems.

Their Present of Cloth.

Since 1377 the aldermen of London have annually presented to the high officers of the state, such as lord chancellor, the lord chief justice, the home secretary and the foreign secretary, as well as certain officials of the city, pieces of cloth, which, in the case of the town clerk, reaches the maximum of twelve yards. The custom of guilds and corporations clothing their members led, it is said, to the origin of the liveries of the various companies.

Shatue's Resounding Vest.

Nothing quite so violent has been seen of late in Washington as the waistcoat now affected by Congressman Glatton, of Ohio. It is held around the wearer's expansive front by enormous buttons and throws a glow like an iron furnace.

Emergency Coffins Aboard.

The transport Buford which the government has just started for Manila, loaded with soldiers and supplies, introduced a new departure in one respect. She carried twenty coffins, that were placed carefully out of sight. They were taken so that in case of death en voyage, there need be no burial at sea, but the body be returned to the friends at home.

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.

**JOS. H. WARNICK,
...BANKER...**

**Capital = \$15,000.00
Surplus and Profits \$ 1,707.53**

We will appreciate your business, however small, and guarantee satisfaction to every customer. Give us a trial.

ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

...Wind Mills, Pumps and Water Supply Goods...

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

"I have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for a number of years and have no hesitancy in saying it is the best remedy for coughs, colds and croup I have ever used in my family. I have not words to express my confidence in this remedy.—Mrs. J. A. Moore, North Star, Mich. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Four kinds of weather in one day is the record for Tuesday. The west is nothing if not original.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The best and most famous compound in the world to conquer aches and kill pains. Cures cuts, heals burns and bruises, subdues inflammation, masters piles. Millions of boxes sold yearly. Works wonders in boils, ulcers, felons, skin eruptions. It cures or no pay. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

The finishing touches are being made to the Grinnet building. It will be an improvement on the old building.

To the Trading Public!



IN ORDER TO CLOSE OUT PRESENT STOCK TO MAKE ROOM for Advance Shipments of New Goods, soon to arrive, we have placed all Winter Goods on the Bargain Counter. They must go. Most of the goods will do for Summer Wear, and the prices are

SPEEDY MOVERS!

Come in and get suited before the stock is entirely picked over.

SHOES!

We have just received a large shipment of Fine Shoes for Men, Women and Children. This gives us the largest stock of Good Shoes for Little Money in the town. We can suit you in Style, Quality and Price, and should be glad to show them to you.

Respectfully,

FITTS & SMITH.

SPOT CASH MERCHANTS, - Merkel, Texas.



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	8.50
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 nom de plume 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.

It is a great mistake to expect uniformity of opinion in this world. All people may be created free and equal, but all do not have the same minds nor do they see things exactly in the same light. But, after all, every man has his own individual existence; he has his own life to live, for which he alone is accountable. He should sit down and meditate by himself, and make up his mind as to the course which he wishes to pursue in the world. Having done this he should enter upon the execution of his plans with a determination to accomplish what he undertakes, without reference to the opinions of others. No man is of any real account in the world unless he is something in and of himself. A little advice now and then is an excellent narcotic, and oftentimes such advice smooths the rough places and acts as an incentive to greater efforts, but it is noticed that the successful men of the age are those who have followed

their own inclinations in the pursuit of wealth and power. And success will crown the efforts of every man who enters upon the discharge of his duties in an honest, straightforward way and shirks no responsibility. Use self for inspiration.

Cottonseed meal is one of our cheapest and best feeds this year, as, in fact, is always the case when corn approaches 40, 50 and 60 cents a bushel, says Wallace's Farmer. We would be neglecting our duty, however, if we failed to advise our readers that there is danger in feeding it in large amounts, say seven or eight pounds a day, over sixty days to cattle. Just why it kills hogs no person has as yet been able to discover, nor do we know why men fed in these large amounts for a long time to cattle it produces what the Texas farmers, we believe, call "cotton sickness." There is no danger in feeding it to the extent of three or four pounds per day to cattle in connection with other feed for a long period, nor is there in feeding six or seven pounds per day for sixty days, nor is there any danger in feeding it quite liberally to cattle on grass even for a long time. Our readers will find it to their advantage to use it, but they must keep in view the dangers incident to its use.

The west is no longer a vast cattle ranch, and each succeeding year clearly demonstrates its adaptability to agricultural pursuits. There is not a more fertile country, nor one which has brighter prospects, under the canopy of high heaven. The Merkel Country is the oasis. The land that was thought to be created especially for grazing pur-

poses is now in a high state of cultivation, and where one cow then grazed is now made to grow feed enough for ten cows. Let the farmers divide their land into pastures and farms. Raise cattle, hogs, forage, grain, cotton, fruits and vegetables. Industry is the father of prosperity and diversification is the happy medium through which prosperity is created.

It is rumored that about twenty insurance companies are seriously considering withdrawing from the State as a result of the anti-trust law. Eleven have already done so. The law requires that the company applying for a permit to do business in the State shall make affidavit that it is in no pool for the regulation of prices either in this or any other State, and here is the rub. No pool has been formed in this State so far as known, but most companies are in pools in other States, and rather than brush up against the anti-trust law they may decide to withdraw from the State altogether.

There has been some wanton neglect of duty by the officers of Tarrant county, which has called for criticism from the grand jury. The evils are not public property, however, as the newspapers which desired to publish the report of the grand jury were very frankly told that if they did so they would be handled for libel, and few publishers care to run up against this iniquitous law. Therefore, the people will not be informed of the rottenness existing in Denmark. They have a right to know, but how are they to find it out?

Whisky causes the downfall of more men than any other, ten

agencies combined. The whisky habit comes of evil associations. Therefore, nine-tenths of every murder committed, of every theft, of every robbery, are traceable to the whisky habit. Enquire of the criminal to what he owes his downfall and he will tell you whisky was to blame. Charge it up to whisky, and while you are charging turn over to the credit side and make an entry that will attest your manhood.

Judge Reagan may decline the invitation to enter the race for Governor. No man has a greater hold on the hearts of the people of Texas, but the Judge has passed the hey-dey of life, and the duties of Governor are too great for a man of his age to assume. Let him round out his career in a less trying position.

The town of Merkel has been created into a special road district and we can now hope to have good streets as soon as the district is properly created. Let the overseer see to it that every hour is utilized to the best advantage. Good streets are absolutely necessary to the growth of a town.

The destruction of the oleomargarine industry means a loss of a half million dollars yearly to the cattle industry of this state. The main objection to the product seems to be its color, but nothing is said of the creamery butter which is doctored in pretty much the same way.

That twelve foot snow up in New York State is not a thing to be envied by Southern people, particularly those of Texas. A snow would be acceptable, but it is best in broken doses.

If February keeps up its pres-

A New Tin Shop and Galvanized Iron Works.

Patronize home industry, and buy your Tinware, Well Casing, Well Buckets, Guttering, Spouting Roofing, Flues, Ventilators, Rain Proofs, Galvanized Iron Cisterns, Filters, Stock Tanks—in fact, everything usually kept in a first class Tin Shop. Repairing a Specialty.

Yours for Business,

REGISTER & BELL.

ent lick of fires, railroad wrecks and mine horrors, the public will rejoice that the unlucky month has but twenty-eight days. Its record has been horrible.

We need no apology for a man in office in this county, and it is gratifying to know that only good men have offered themselves for sacrifice. The trouble is in choosing between them.

There's a young man of Hines, Who's particularly fond of wines.

But he drank Peruna And got too spoony, And now he's laying out the fines.

Some people can't run fast enough to get up a sweat, let alone warm the race course.

It is doubtful if President Roosevelt can see any policy in giving justice to Schley.

Every loyal citizen will think a long time before opposing school house proposition.

Mrs. Jefferson Davis pro selling the old homestead t State of Mississippi.

FEED—4 carloads—at West's. Will be to your interest to see them before buying.

Alec Harris is busy at work moving the Blanchard gin to Trent. There is a rumor that another gin is spoken of up there, some of the farmers being at the head of the move, but it is hardly likely that it will materialize.

See F. P. McGuffin for fresh meats. Fish Saturdays and Sundays. Phone No. 61.

J. L. Tubb has moved his family to Anson, where he will engage in the confectionery business.

Call on G. M. Sharp for cane seed and seed corn.

No Truth in It.

There is no foundation for truth in the report that the location of the school house will be changed should the district be bonded. The report probably hatched out in the fertile imagination of some one opposed to the move. If the bond election carries, which we sincerely hope and believe it will do, the new building will be located on the present site. This is the best place for it, and there has been no talk of locating it anywhere else. The idea is preposterous, for it is a well known fact that few people would care to have a school house located near their premises.

Don't pay any attention to any such reports as this, but rather discourage them. And do not fail to speak a good word for the proposed bond election.

When pain or irritation exists on any part of the body the application of Ballard's Snow Liment will give prompt relief. 25 and 50c at F. M. Davis'.

Mrs. Warren and children visited in Abilene the first of the week.

FOR SALE.

4 good male calves at \$25 each. At my barn till Feb. 25th.

J. T. Warren.

G. W. Dunning announces for public weigher at Merkel subject to the primary election, April 12. Mr. Dunning has been here a long time, needs the office, feels that he is qualified to discharge its duties, and asks an earnest consideration of his candidacy. Give his claims due attention.

When you want grain or any kind of field seed, see G. M. Sharp.

A Mother's Love.

A pathetic instance of affection that could confront death rather than separation from loved ones was that of Martha Russell, who a short time ago died of starvation. She was the mother of four children, and, after being assisted for more than two years by the township where she lived, she was threatened with separation from her children. Being unable to earn more than what would buy food for the children, she supplied their needs and went without food herself. When found, the children were all well cared for and in good condition.

Couldn't Footpad the Judge.

Judge Daniel Armstrong demonstrated to his fellow residents of Tarrytown, N. Y., the other evening that he possesses great presence of mind becoming a justice. He was returning from prayer meeting when a footpad stepped up and demanded his money. In any edge promptly knocked the thief down. The thief said, "beaten, I don't know it was you, judge, see, wouldn't have bothered you, your men fled."

You can help any one whom you find suffering from inflamed throat; laryngeal trouble, bronchitis, coughs, colds, etc., by advising the use of Ballard's Horehound Syrup; the great remedy for coughs and colds. Price 25c and 50c at F. M. Davis'.

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

Baylor Crawford, candidate for collector, made his initial trip to the western metropolis Friday.

When wanting anything to eat 'phone 43.

G. W. Jones reports a number of cases of "blues" in his neighborhood, northeast of town, but he himself is very well satisfied, believing that the rains will come in time. He says a wet winter following a dry summer has been known but very few times in Texas, and he was prepared to take things as they come.

Top prices paid for green and dry hides.

F. P. McGuffin.

T. J. Parton says the recent snow put his land in pretty good shape for plowing, and he is "making hay" while the sun shines.

BRAN at West's. Best and cheapest.

Farmers are still industrially turning the soil and many of them are about through plowing and are ready for a rain to begin planting. The ground is too dry for planting except with a disc or similar plow.

J. T. Warren is showing some nice things in Men's Fine Shirts, which he has just received from the McDonald Factory.

The Methodist quarterly conference was in session here Saturday and the usual routine of business common to such gatherings was transacted. The reports were very good, everything considered, except in the matter of the pastor's salary which came up slim. Presiding Elder Smith was in attendance and preached an interesting sermon that night.

East Texas and Louisiana Ribbon Cane in 1 gal. cans, 5 gal. kegs and 50 gal. barrels.

J. T. Warren.

V. F. Womack of Abilene announces this week for the office of district clerk, subject to Democratic primary election. Mr. Womack is a new comer to the county, but seems a very pleasant gentleman. He has served in the capacity of clerk under his father who was for several years clerk of Grimes county and the duties of the office are not new to him. He asks a careful consideration of his candidacy by the voters.

We sell Hamilton & Brown Shoes exclusively. They are best and cheapest in the end.

J. T. Warren.

Miss Ina Long came up from Eastland Sunday to visit her aunt, Mrs. I. S. Allen.

We have a few Duck Coats, Blankets, Comforts and Ladies' Capes and Jackets to close at a bargain. Don't care to summer them.

J. T. Warren.

T. J. Dudley is at Abilene aiding in the construction work on the epileptic colony.

Cow Boys and any Boys try our Hamilton-Brown Shelby Shop Work \$6 Boots.

J. T. Warren.

CORN at West's. Price it right. Corn sound.

IT'S THE CUT MAKING QUALITY of GOODS



That Creates the Demand for

McDonald Fine Shirts, Work Shirts, Overalls, Jumpers.

We have just received from the factory quite a shipment of these goods. We are better fixed on Men's and Boys' Fine Shirts than ever before, and are glad of a chance to show them.

J. T. WARREN

There is probably no disease or condition of the human system that causes more suffering and distress than piles. Tabler's Buckeye Pile Ointment cures them quickly, without pain or detention from business. Price, 50c in bottles, tubes 75c. at F. M. Davis'.

C. P. Warren has just received 10 registered Hereford males which he has taken to his ranch north of town. J. T. Warren has come into possession of one of them and C. M. Largent two. They are beauties, all of them, and will be a valuable addition to the country. The day is not far distant when every herd in this country will be graded up to the highest notch.

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.

J. M. Hays called around Monday to enquire into the "Hugging Society," not that he wishes to become a member, but merely because he has an interest in the society. Mr. Hays entertained the force for an hour or more with reminiscences of war-time days. He has a storehouse of valuable information on this subject, and The Mail hopes he will give our readers the benefit of some of his experiences.

Dressmaking—cutting, fitting, trimming by a young lady of experience. Charges reasonable. Call at G. E. Comegys' residence. Miss Nora Crim.

HAY at West's. Price it. Try it.

Don't let the hand of time paint wrinkles on your face. Keep young, by keeping the blood pure and the digestive organs in a healthful condition. Herbine will do this. Health is youth, disease and sickness brings old age. Price 50c at F. M. Davis'.

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

Mr. and Mrs. Harkrider visited in Abilene Sunday.

Car of Alfalfa hay just arrived at G. M. Sharp's.

Jno. A. Jones of Utica, Miss., has The Mail's thanks for cash on subscription. He has been a valuable reader for a number of years, having at one time resided here, we believe.

FOR SALE.

240 acres, 7½ miles northwest of Merkel. 150 acres in cultivation, 2 good wells, 3-room house, barn, orchard, and other improvements. Price \$10.00 per acre, \$1500 cash, balance on easy terms. Apply to

T. B. Story.

F. M. Davis and family arrived from Cameron Saturday and have taken up residence in North Merkel. Mr. Davis is the druggist. The Mail gladly welcomes them to Merkel.

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

Mumps and whooping cough are prevalent in the town.

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.

Are you nervous, run down, weak and dispirited? Take a few doses of Herbine. It will infuse new energy, new life into the exhausted nerves, the overworked brain or muscular system, and put a new face on life and business. Price 50c at F. M. Davis'.

Lewis Martin has bought the Clark stock of groceries, and would be pleased to have his friends call on him. He promises courteous, generous treatment.

W. J. O'Zee left Tuesday for Vernon where he hopes to strike a lengthy run of carpenter work.

Millions Put to Work.

The wonderful activity of the new century is shown by an enormous demand for the world's best workers—Dr. King's New Life Pills. For constipation, sick headache biliousness, or any trouble of stomach, liver or kidneys they're unrivaled. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

New spring goods are beginning to arrive at the various stores.

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

S. J. Patterson pays for The Mail for his son-in-law, Joe Stovall of Longstreet, Texas.

Miss Lillard of Sweetwater is visiting her sister, Mrs. Thurmond.

Peace-Maker Flour never gets old. It sells too fast.

J. T. Warren.

Mrs. H. A. Reading of Abilene was the guest of Mrs. Geo. S. Berry a part of the week.

An Ideal Trading Place...

**New Goods
Arriving
Daily.
Stock is
Complete...**

People Who Trade Here

Go away Satisfied at the treatment received at our hands. They are delighted at the Prices, too, and the Quality of the Goods sold them, and are almost sure to come again. If you are not satisfied with your present trading place, come to us. WE STRIVE TO PLEASE....

J. P. SHARP & COMPANY.

TOWN and COUNTRY.. NEWS

WEEKLY BUDGET OF HAPPENINGS THROUGH THE COUNTY...

ABILENE.

AROUND THE COURT HOUSE

The commissioner's finished their work and adjourned last Saturday after a very busy week spent for the benefit of the county. To report all they did would require too much space so we only give a portion of the most important business transacted.

J. C. Leughlin et al., petition for voting box, granted and designated as No. 12. Also the petition of J. L. Sleight et al., for the same purpose was granted and designated as No. 13.

The voting place for district No. 14 was placed at C. A. Roberson's residence.

The following road overseers filed their report in addition to those reported last week: Bob Johnson, Fred Brookerson, Homer Latta, W. L. Kincaid, Clarence Corning, Lon Standard, Jud Sheppard and J. L. Sleight.

Considerable changes in road districts were ordered principally among them: District 8 and 39 were consolidated and numbered 39. Road districts 33 and 34 were also consolidated and designated as 33 with same boundary lines except the following changes: 34 shall stop at the south boundary line of Merkel and 33 at the east boundary line of the college addition to Merkel; also ordered that districts 37 and 38 be consolidated and known as 34 with same boundary lines except 37 shall stop at south boundary of Merkel and 38 shall stop at west boundary line of college addition to Merkel. The following districts were also changed as noted on the road map: 24, 37, 40, 5 and 38.

The following are the road overseers appointed for the year:

District 2, W H Monk; 3 Will Adams; 4, Henry Swantes; 5, S E Friends; 6, Dayton Snow; 7, T J Pardon; 9, James McCormick; 10, Wm Pyeat; 11, Emmett Childers; 12, L B Elliott; 13, Henry Crow; 14, Clarence Peare; 15, Bud Eager; 16, A F McDonald; 17, Will Holly; 18, W A Harris; 19, Chas Burks; 20, Rufe Jones; 22, Joe McBride; 23, M L Doby; 24, Jno Davenport; 25, Walter Morris; 26, C W Dye; 27, Warney May; 28, W B Hale; 29, Jim Ewing; 30, Loe Fletcher; 31, Will Hays; 32, J H Whitehead; 33, L A

Matthews; 34, Will Campbell; 35, Ben Marsh; 36, Geo Moore; 37, J G Bradley; 38, Allen Cook; 39, Ed Compton; 40, J L Casey; 41, S E Millard; 42, Jesse Cope; 43, W A Kelly; 44, Joe Forrest; 45, Frank Knaus; 46, H Smith. R. C. Lyon was appointed election manager at Buffalo Gap. Oscar Wilson in precinct 12, and Robert Malone in precinct 14.

The following are election managers for school trustees:

School district 1, Jno Brown, J T Evans and — Sheppard.

2, T A Milner, H H Allison and J Q Adams.

3, B F Hawkins, Will Reddell and Will Pyeat.

4, R A Rippey, W A Franks and L B Elliott.

5, T W McCormick, R F Ivey and John Graham.

6, B M Burks, W J Floyd and K K Brewer.

7, J C Pilleon, V A Childers and J S Allen.

8, S E Friend, A M Puckett and C M Curtes.

9, R Mitchell, Ben Graham and J H Deavers.

10, H West, W H Brown and Jim Tucker.

12, Jno Newberry, H R Wilson and Robt Malone.

13, D W Hawthorne, S M Wheat and J C Brown.

14, J E Lail, J W Webb and M E R Griffith.

15, Allen Williams, B E Holly and J F Badgett.

16, J P Cyphers, B I Lowe and W I Decker.

17, R G Love, Cort Donnell and W B Hale.

18, E A Martin, T E Henderson and J A Wilkerson.

19, S D McWhorter, A B Britton and J G Williams.

20, J H Savage, Joe Holly and Loe Fletcher.

21, C B Hunt, P R Henson and F M Blevins.

22, B W Middleton, George Fisher and George Sutton.

23, J T Price, E B Womack and — Montgomery.

24, J P Wood, Jno Middleton and G B Walden.

26, C L McNeas, W P Moore and J W Bounds.

27, B J Riney, M L Sellman and J F Randolph.

28, Sam Butman, Ed Blackburn and Zack Turner.

30, C P Lisman, Preton Clark and C Rains.

31, A Young, W H Knight

and H Morrow.

32, Wm Clark, Tom Speer and Wiley Dulin.

33, A J Sammons, W N Haynie and W P Cannon.

34, A W Cook, M F Turney and Wilson Norton.

35, Tom Toombs, A W Hunter and Joe Blackburn.

36, J R Pee, C D Sears and Charles Douglass.

37, Jno Drummon, J J Hinds and R M Jones.

38, D R McMahan, Wm Kincaid and — Adams.

39, — Olive, — Ellard and A F McDonald.

The following special school tax was levied by the court for districts named: Districts 1, 2, 29 and 39, 10 cents; 4, 18, 25 and 30, 15 cents; 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, and 40, 20 cents on the \$100 valuation.

Following is the regular tax levy for the year 1902: Advalorem, 20 cents; jail, 5 cents; court house, 8 cents; road and bridge, 15 cents, and poll 25 cents.

John Winship, of Jones county, filed a petition of bankruptcy before Referee Leggett this week with assets to the amount of \$4,832.00, liabilities to the amount of \$5,812.05.

Granvill M. Girand, a former citizen of Abilene, died at Terrell last Friday and was buried Sunday.

The county candidates have been on a speech-making tour in the county precincts the past week.

An effort is being made to organize an artillery company of thirty men. About half the number has already been secured.

work on the federal building is progressing nicely. The foundation is about done and brick laying will soon begin in earnest.

Several new candidates for county offices are out this week. District clerk is the much sought for office just now.

In the county court this week the case of Alexander & Kennedy vs. Felton Bros., resulted in a judgement in favor of the plaintiffs for \$66.35. E. F. and W. B. Elkin vs. S. A. Murdock, suit for debt, judgement was rendered for plaintiff by default.

District court commences Monday week.

NUBIA.

John Walker and family, son of T. J. Walker, have come to the west to live.

N. L. and E. M. Blackburn

went to Abilene Tuesday.

Chas. C. Brown was in Nubia Monday.

A. R. Toombs went to Abilene Tuesday.

E. R. Walker went to Merkel Saturday.

Oscar Walker was in Nubia Tuesday.

J. M. Blackburn and wife visited F. M. Dudley Sunday.

Milford Martin made a pleasant call at F. M. Dudley's Sunday eve.

The Primitive Baptists failed to have their meeting Saturday or Sunday.

Nubia has another doctor, and also a druggist. Hurrah, for Nubia.

Arthur West of near White Church was in Nubia Tuesday.

J. R. Toombs has been on the sick list the past week.

Ed Pribble and wife of Hunt county, have come back to the Canyon. He is the same old "Ed."

Ross Harris was in Nubia Sunday.

C. W. Harris and family were in Nubia Saturday.

J. M. Blackburn happened to a little bad luck Monday, as a horse kicked him on the foot.

Rosebud.

DORA.

Dry, dry, dry; farms needing rain.

Farmers have begun to sow oats.

Mr. and Mrs. Fitts came out from Merkel Friday to visit their daughter, who is teaching the Dora school.

Jasper McCoy and Mr. Bowman went to the Canyon Friday.

Misses Annie and Liddie Jackson visited at Valley Creek Friday.

Mrs. Sewell of Valley Creek was on the Divide Saturday.

The young people enjoyed a social and musical at Mr. & Mrs. Ground's Saturday night.

Mr. Linn and daughter, Miss Ivy, went to Nolan Saturday.

Preaching Sunday morning and evening by Rev. Elliott of Sweetwater.

Preaching Sunday night by Rev. Roberson of Buffalo Gap.

Charlie Whitaker and wife and Miss Nettle Hawkins went to Abilene Monday.

Mr. Gregg, representing a Chicago dry goods establishment was in Dora Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ensminger of Merkel were on the Divide Monday.

Kat Klaw.

A. H. Herring of Abilene and W. H. Herring of Truby were in the city Tuesday.

THE HOME GOLD CURE.

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

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

It is now generally known and understood that Drunkenness is a disease and not weakness. A body filled with poison and nerves completely shattered by periodical or constant use of intoxicating liquors, requires an antidote capable of neutralizing and eradicating this poison, and destroying the craving for intoxicants. Sufferers may now cure themselves at home without publicity or loss of time from business by this wonderful "HOME GOLD CURE" which has been perfected after many years of close study and treatment of inebriates. The faithful use according to directions of this wonderful discovery 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. 330 and 332 Market St., Philadelphia.

All correspondence strictly confidential.

E 126

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 Druggists' Sundries in the town.

F. M. DAVIS.

NOTICE.

I will do your scavenger work, clean your yard and plow your garden.

Would be glad to do your work and will appreciate it.

GEO. WORKMAN

'Phone the news to No. 31.

A GOOD THING

erman Syrup is the special description of Dr. A. Boschee, a noted German Physician, is acknowledged to be one of the most fortunate discoveries in medicine. It quickly cures coughs, Colds and all Lung troubles 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 experimental medicine, but has stood the test of years, giving satisfaction in every case, which its rapidly increasing sale every season confirms. Two million bottles sold annually. Boschee's German 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.

Will the Philippines Pay?

Senator Bacon, of Georgia, who has just returned from a tour of study in the Philippines, has written for The Saturday Evening Post, of Philadelphia, a valuable paper on the business aspect of our insular affairs. He comes to the conclusion that our account with the Philippines must for an indefinite time, be on the wrong side of the ledger. This article will appear in the issue of Feb. 22.

Other features of this number will be: Frictional Electricity, a clever humorous story by Max Adeler. How Trusts Promote Men, by Paul Latzke. When O'Connor Draws His Pay, by Holman F. Day. The Captain of the Gray Horse Troop, by Hamlin Garland. How Albert Edward Saw America, by Rene Bache. Letters from a Self-Made Merchant to His Son. Sophomores Abroad, by Charles Malcomb Flandrau. And the usual miscellany and departments.

Volume XIII.

With this issue The Mail enters upon its thirteenth volume. For twelve long years it has withstood the ravages of time, and now, as it enters its teens, prospects are very bright for a still greater career of usefulness in the future. It is a full-grown youngster; it has the promise of a lusty old age. This closes the seventh year of the paper under its present management. There are many things for which we are grateful, and our thanks are due the many friends who have stood by us in prosperity and adversity. We have no promises to make for the future, other than that the paper will be kept up to its present high standard and just a little in advance of the town.

My Hair

"I had a very severe sickness that took off all my hair. I purchased a bottle of Ayer's Hair Vigor and it brought all my hair back again."
W. D. Quinn, Marseilles, Ill.

One thing is certain,—Ayer's Hair Vigor makes the hair grow. This is because it is a hair food. It feeds the hair and the hair grows, that's all there is to it. It stops falling of the hair, too, and always restores color to gray hair.

\$1.00 a bottle. All druggists.

If your druggist cannot supply you, send us one dollar and we will express you a bottle. Be sure and give the name of your nearest express office. Address, J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

Hardware, Implements.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS:

I carry the best lines that money can buy. They are the best on the market. The prices are right.

A few of our specialties: Bible and Lansing Wagons, Bement Cultivators, Bement Planters, Yellow Kid Disc Plows, Bridge and Beach Stoves, Crockeryware, Queensware, Glassware, etc.

WE KNOW HOW TO APPRECIATE YOUR TRADE.....

W. H. DICKSON

Advertised Letters.

Following letters remain uncalled for in the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, and if not called for will be sent to the Dead Letter office Feb. 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

- Brady, Beulah Creek, L I
- Gallagher, Mrs T
- Hollingsworth, Jess
- Jones, Mrs Lula
- Miller, Minnie
- Nowell, Roxie
- Russell, F T
- Sartain, J B
- Warden, Mrs Carrie

Fix it if you can, but if you can't, take it to Ustick. All kinds of fine watch repairing.

The Mail acknowledges the receipt of a dollar from a former Merkel boy, Arthur Thornton, of Duke, Okla. Arthur is fat and sassy and getting rich fast.

If you want the best of everything in the jewelry line, go to Ustick.

Misses Tippett and Stephenson of Abilene are visiting Mrs. Harkrider.

Herbert Browning came in from Los Angeles, Cal., Tuesday night. Herbert has been sick since his departure from here less than a year ago, and the last few months he has been in the Soldier's Home. The Mail hopes he will rapidly regain his usual health under the benign influence of the West Texas atmosphere.

NEW SPRING GOODS.

My entire line of spring goods arrived this morning and are being arranged for inspection. The stock is bright and new and embraces all the latest creations and effects.

New dress goods.

New shoes and slippers.

New embroideries.

New laces.

Everything new.

Come and inspect my stock.

J. O. Hamilton.

The Bond Election.

The trustees held a meeting last night and received a petition from the citizens praying for an election to bond the district for school purposes. The election was called for March 24. Petition calls for \$8,000 of 15 and 20 year 5 per cent bonds. The Mail is gratified at the promptness with which this work has been handled, about which we will have more to say next week.

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 attention. It is specially edited, that's why. Brains and not 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 Complaint. More than seventy-five per cent of the people in the United States are afflicted with these two diseases, and their effects; such as Sour Stomach, Sick Headache, Habitual Costiveness, Palpitation of the Heart, Heart-burn, Waterbrash, Gnawing 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.

We handle the New Royal Sewing Machine at \$20.
W. P. Browning & Co.

Mr. Wheeler Got Rid of His Rheumatism.

"During the winter of 1891 I was so lame in my joints, in fact all over my body, that I could hardly hobble around, when I bought a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. From the first application I began to get well, and was cured and have worked steadily all the year.—R. Wheeler, Nortewood, N. Y. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

The best line of watches ever shown in Merkel at Ustick's.

We have a nice line of carpets. Come and see them.
W. P. Browning & Co.

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 Merchandise 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 brand 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

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:

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, accident ally 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, 736 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.**

**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 acknowledgments, 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.

*No Steaks,
No Cream
No Best Line
No from
Texas Point*

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

Nervous children are almost
always thin children. The "out-
dood-boy" is seldom nervous.
White's Cream Vermifuge is the
best preventive of nervousness.
It strengthens the system and
assists to that sort of flesh, which
creates strength and power of
endurance. 25c at F. M. Davis'.

The Mail reaches a class of
folks that read advertisements.

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.

Carnegie Talks to a Y. M. C. A.
"When I first became acquainted
with the railroad business," said
Mr. Carnegie, in a recent talk to a
Railroad Y. M. C. A. audience, "no
one could ride from Philadelphia
to Pittsburg by rail. By means of
some miles of staging between two
points, and a climb over the moun-
tains by ten inclined planes, the
passenger was enabled to reach
Philadelphia by rail. The rails on
the mountains were iron, in four-
teen foot lengths, imported from
England, lying on huge blocks of
stone, although the line passed
through the woods, and ties would
have cost but little, I was receiving
the enormous salary of \$25 a month
then, and Thomas A. Scott, the
superintendent, offered me \$35 a
month to become his secretary and
telegrapher. Mr. Scott received
\$125 a month—\$1500 a year—and
my wonder was that a man could
do with so much money. I had
not thought then of one use—he
might have given some of it away."

Might Have Made a Difference.
Captain Charles E. Clark, who is
at the coronation of King Edward,
came near to depriving this coun-
try of his services just before the
Spanish war by taking a drink of
whisky, Victor Smith says. In San
Francisco, where the Oregon was
lying, he went ashore for a couple
of days' visit with some friends
whose sideboard was not, as a rule,
owing to their principles, stocked
with the strong waters condemned
by old Adam in "As You Like It."
Knowing this fact and also feeling
that a sailor off duty may take a
sailor's grog in moderation with-
out impropriety, Captain Clark sent
to a liquor store for a small bottle
of whisky. One drink of it made
him the sickest man in San Francis-
co and investigation and analysis
showed that there was croton oil in
the whisky. Several drinks, or even
one stiff drink such as a sailor
might take for medicinal purposes
after going below in a hurricane,
might have changed history.

Board in New York.
One can live and be comfortable,
too, on a surprisingly small sum in
New York. The rates are varying.
The latest compilation puts the
minimum figure at \$8 a week for
board. The maximum flight is ter-
rific. In Madison avenue the high-
toned boarding mistresses ask \$30 a
week. Rooms alone can be had at
all prices. You pay in advance for
everything.

Gage's Musical Prodigy.
Secretary Gage has a protege, a
young violinist named Floridel
Reuter, 10 years old. He is said to
be second not even to Kibelik as
a violinist. Floridel was discov-
ered by Secretary Gage several
years ago and educated by him. He
has just completed a two years'
course of study abroad at the sec-
retary's expense, and has returned
to this country for a concert tour.

Senator Tinkers His Own Watch.
Senator Pettus, who will be 80
years old in July, scorns to employ
a watchmaker when his timepiece
gets out of order, but does his own
tinkering. The other day his
watch stopped while the senate was
in session. Mr. Pettus pulled his
spectacles down on his nose, took
the works out of the case and began
looking for the trouble. With a
pin he poked around among the
wheels until the machinery started
up again and everything seemed to
be in his liking. Then he placed the
works back in the case.

A Legacy of the Grip
Is often a rundown system.
Weakness, nervousness, lack of
appetite, energy and ambition,
with disorderly liver and kidneys
often follow an attack of this
wretched disease. The greatest
need then is Electric Bitters, the
splendid tonic, blood purifier and
regulator of stomach, liver and
kidneys. Thousands have proved
that they wonderfully strengthen
the nerves, build up the system,
and restore to health and good
spirits after an attack of grip. If
suffering, try them. Only 50c.
Perfect satisfaction guaranteed
by Rust & Pittard.

Temperate Tennessee.
"In spite of the popular belief to
the contrary, Tennessee is rapidly
becoming a prohibition state," said
a prominent man from there the
other day. "As a matter of fact,
Tennessee has been placed on the
drinking list entirely too quickly.
The people down there never were
enthusiastically in favor of open sa-
loons, and of late years they have
demonstrated clearly, by the laws
which they have caused to be en-
forced, that they are temperance
advocates. I will bet any amount
that there are not ten cities in West-
ern Tennessee in which legal sa-
loons are maintained—and don't
think you have the key to the situ-
ation when you jump to the conclu-
sion that there are a great many
illegal ones, for there are not. The
Tennessee law is peculiar. It pro-
vides that no saloon can operate
within four miles of a school house
in cities of less than 10,000 popu-
lation. The educational and probi-
tation people have seen to it that
school houses be constructed close
enough together to literally crowd
out the saloon except in the larger
cities."

Give That Eye a Rest.
An Iowa citizen temporarily re-
siding in Washington called on
Leslie Mortimer Shaw, the pros-
pective secretary of the treasury,
during the recent visit of that gen-
tleman to the capital. He recalled
the unusual daily publication in the
Iowa newspaper and that it was
intended to advertise the governors
presidential boom. He was greeted
as an old acquaintance. "Govern-
nor," said he, addressing Mr.
Shaw, "isn't it about time that mo-
to was taken out of the Des Moines
Register?" The governor didn't un-
derstand. "Why, I mean that leg-
end that they have been printing ev-
ery day for some time," continued
the visitor. "It says, 'Keep Your
Eye on Shaw.' It was all right
while we were talking of nominat-
ing you for president, but, now
that you are to have the custody
of \$700,000,000 or 800,000,000 of
the government's money, it's about
time to take that sign down. Peo-
ple will think we haven't confidence
in your integrity."

Hetty Green Snubbed.
While busily engaged in the
transaction of city business a day
or two ago Mayor Collins, the new
chief magistrate of Boston, was no-
tified that Mrs. Hetty Green wished
to see him on private business. The
mayor sent word that his office
hours were entirely given up to city
affairs and he could not see Mrs.
Green. "The richest woman in
America" was angry, but had to
submit.

Got What He Waited For.
Dr. Butler, the new president of
Columbia, is said to have declined
fourteen college presidencies be-
fore he got the offer that he
wanted. In all, fifteen offers—
which doubtless is the college "rec-
ord."

All in One

The Upper part contains
a 50-lb flour bin with sifter,
a moulding board,
a tilting sugar bin, with
close fitting lid,
three drawers, one with 6
partitions for spices.
In the lower part are
3 large drawers for table
linen, groceries, etc.,
ample cupboard room for
cooking utensils. Shelves, brackets, mirror and top piece
make the Cabinet as handsome as it is convenient. It is
mounted on the finest ball bearing casters. If you have any
reason to believe that your kitchen work would not be less-
ened and that you would not feel better and happier with a
Hoosier Kitchen Cabinet than without it, won't you kindly
tell us what is the reason? If there is none, may we not
have your order?
Yours truly,
ED S. HUGHES & CO.
Abilene, Texas

S. W. SHEPPARD

Groceries
Vegetables
Fruits
Country
Produce
and Fresh
Meats, etc.

We sell almost
everything afford-
ed by the market,
and sell at reason-
able prices. Come
to us for your gro-
ceries....

**Now Is THE TIME
TO KILL PRAIRIE DOGS**

AND BASS' PRAIRIE DOG POISON is the principal a-
gent of extermination. It is prepared especially for
the man who does not have enough dogs to employ an
expert. It is easy to use and costs about 1c per acre for the
poison. The dogs are easier to kill this winter than usual,
and you cannot afford to neglect them. A \$1.00 bottle pois-
ons a pece of grain. Ask your druggist for it.

Bass Bros. Drug Co.
Abilene, Texas....

Liver Wrong—All Wrong. It is im-
possible to have good health with a bad liver. It is nearly as impossible to have had health with a good
liver. It may be, as you think, that the stomach, the bowels, the kidneys or the
blood causes your bad health, but the liver
is back of every one of them, and in
nine cases out of ten, if you correct
the liver you correct

Herbina

is as sure
to correct the liver
as it is sure you have a
liver. Through the liver it cures Indis-
tion, Constipation, Malaria and those dis-
eases which arise from a lack of proper diges-
tion and assimilation of food. At druggists, 50 cents per bottle.

**MORE LIVES ARE SAVED
...BY USING...
Dr. King's New Discovery,
...FOR...
Consumption, Coughs and Colds
Than By All Other Throat And
Lung Remedies Combined.**

This wonderful medicine positively
cures Consumption, Coughs, Colds,
Bronchitis, Asthma, Pneumonia, Hay
Fever, Pleurisy, LaGrippe, Hoarseness,
Sore Throat, Croup and Whooping
Cough. **NO CURE. NO PAY.**
Price 50c. & \$1. Trial Bottle Free.

You've got the real thing when
you get Hunt's Lightning Oil for
burns, bruises, cuts or sprains.
The most penetrating and heal-
ing liniment known. Guar-
anteed. Price 25 and 50 cents.

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