

# THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, APRIL 3, 1902.

NO. 7.

## The Star Store is the Fashion Center

In addition to the gathering of Fashionable Goods in a Progressive Manner, the Company demands that the same Close-Price Principle, which marks all its dealings in Staple Merchandise, must apply also to goods affected by Style. ∴ ∴ ∴

### New Era Shirts

Handsome colors, attractive designs, fabrics that will wear. The kind of a shirt that a collar will fit. See our handsome display.

### Star Brand Shoes

Soft shoes for tender feet feel comfortable the first day; all kinds.

### Handsome Shirt Waists

Fine Persian Lawn Waists, trimmed with embroidery and lace whipped bands, with soft stacks and cuff, at \$1.00

### Gloves and Corsets

We are headquarters for these goods, and the prices are right.

### Latest Dress Goods

Ask the question: Who shows the most Fashionable Goods? Who shows them first and sells them cheapest. THE STAR STORE.

### Men's Furnishing Goods

Style, Quality and Price makes this the Popular Store for men...

Our collection of Wash Goods is the largest we have ever shown. They consist of all the newest things in Laws, Dimities, Mercerized Silk Zephyr, Leon Fancies, Tolle de Nords, etc. Everything that is new for Waists and Dresses. ∴ ∴ ∴

## Merkel Mercantile Co.

GOODS SOLD ON FALL TIME TO RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

### To The Public:

Hereafter people wanting to buy exchange or make remittances to any point in the U. S., we have decided not to make any charges on anything amounting to \$50 or less.

Very respectfully,  
The First National Bank,  
By Geo. S. Berry.

We have the finest line of Carpets and matting ever shown in the town.

W. P. Browning & Co.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

### So Sweet and Pleasing in Taste!

Mrs. C. Peterson, 625 Lake St., Topeka, Kan., speaking of Ballard's Horehound Syrup, says: "It has never failed to give entire satisfaction, and of all cough remedies, it is my favorite, and I must confess to my many friends that it will do, and has done, what is claimed for it—to speedily cure a cough or a cold; and it is so sweet and pleasing in taste." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 bottles at Rust & Pittard's.

Try reading The Mail and see if you don't feel better.

### The Higher Life

"Don't worry. Fortune is a dame  
You have to woo with smiles.  
Whate'er her mood, you must not blame  
Nor criticise her wiles.  
Trust God in shadow and in sun,  
And luck will come your way,  
But never, since old Time begun,  
Has worry won the day."  
—Selected.

### Christ's Work.

"Concerning the person and work of Christ methodists have been growing less inclined to exact dogmatic statements in recent years," says the Congregationist of Boston. "They have appreciated the difficulty of affirming that Jesus had consciously all the attributes of God and yet that he had a real childhood, youth and manhood. They have been growing toward the position that the consciousness of the Christ was not strictly of the omniscient and infinite order, but they cannot be said to be united on any one theory which explains his person. Concerning the atoning work of Christ, methodists are also not agreed on any one theory, but avoid the idea of any antithesis between the attitude of the Father and that of the Son toward the sinful human race. Many of them hold the governmental theory, that God through the sufferings of Christ honored the dignity of his law while forgiving the penitent sinner. Others

incline toward the moral influence theory, that God in the sacrifice of Christ displayed his great love for the sinners and thus wins them to Himself."

### A Christian Life.

The Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, Presbyterian, New York.

What Christ did and said, what Christ thought and felt and was, constitute the sum and substance of what we, as Christians, need to consider and know. The sharpening of our faculties, the whetting of them, may be secured by studying that which is theoretic, or even that which is impersonal.

But when it comes to the matter of enriching our life and deepening the springs of our life, and, still more, when it comes to the point of being recreated into a new life, then theory does not touch it, abstractions are not in it, the impersonal has no relation to it.

### Crowned with Beauty.

The Rev. Dr. Hillis, Congregationist, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The soul that is crowned with the beauty of the Lord our God stands forth unchanged and unchangeable. Therefore, adorn and make beautiful the doctrine of God our Saviour. Illustrate the Christian life in your beautiful character and career. Be a living sermon on the mount, clothed with flesh. Remember that Christian character represents the greatest achievement of the fine arts. The true Christian character must be as full of

color as is the spring, as full of fruit as the autumn, as perfect in His purity as is the white cloud.

### The Christian World.

The Rev. Dr. Smith, Episcopalian, Hartford, Conn.  
The Christian world stands forth today endowed with greater wealth and power than at any period of which we have any record. The Lord has laid bare his holy arm and men participated in his omnipotence. It is his power which works through men who are engaged in the newer industries of today. Thousands of voices never heard before this generation are humming God's praises for His greatness, His majesty, His power and His goodness to the sons of men.

### Obedience.

The Rev. E. F. Hallenbeck, Albany, N. Y.

Obedience—how slow we are to appreciate its value, and we are still more slow to work it into our conduct. It is easier to choose our own path. It is far more comfortable to do our own will. But God requires this of his friend. There is no other path that leads to these splendid heights of privilege. Many of us are missing the portion that God holds for us because we are unwilling to obey.

Judge D. G. Hill, candidate for county judge, will speak in the interest of his candidacy, at Nubia, Friday night, April 4. Merkel, Saturday night, April 5. Everybody invited.

## Real Estate & Insurance Agency

Liverpool, London & Globe Insurance Company. New Hampshire Fire Insurance Company. Fire Association of Philadelphia.

I represent the above companies and solicit a share of your business.

Farm and Ranch lands bought and sold on commission. If you have any lands for sale list them with me.

I have a block of seven acres in Merkel, south side, which will be sold at a bargain. Good building place. If you are going to build and want plenty of room investigate this.

I write all kinds of Insurance, Deeds, Mortgages, Commercial and Negotiable Papers. If you think of buying property in town, see what I have to offer.

Notary Public in office.

T. A. JOHNSON.

Office in First National Bank.

# 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 Clerk:  
S. H. GARRISON.  
(re-election.)

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

For County Judge:  
W. W. KIRK.  
D. G. HILL.

For Tax Collector:  
BAYLOR CRAWFORD.  
ED DICKERSON.

For District Clerk:  
V. F. WOMACK.  
E. B. BYNUM.  
J. A. CHAPMAN.

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

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.

Now for for the most prosperous year we have ever enjoyed.

Roosevelt has lost none of his strenuousness through contact with the Presidency.

The West is unusually dry at this time and the sandstorms are very disagreeable, but compare it, if you will to the flood-stricken districts of the Eastern States. At least our lives and property is safe here, and that should appeal to our sense of home pride.

The County Democratic Executive Committee is called to meet at Abilene Monday.

Second hand store and tin shop: Wants to repair tinware. Will pay cash for all second hand goods. All kinds of goods sold and exchanged. Sewing machines and attachments. Come and see. JNO. B. BELL, Jr.

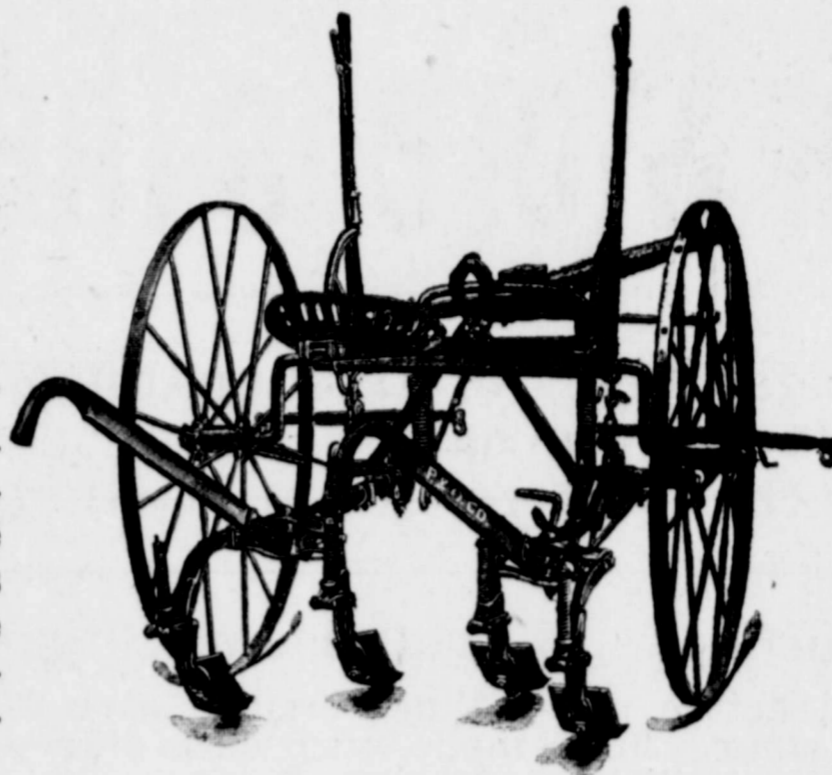
# YOU WANT THE BEST..

When you get anything in the "P. & O. Canton Line" of Farming Implements, you get THE BEST....

...THE....

Success Sulky,  
Canton Single  
Row Planter,  
Canton Two Row  
Planter,  
Victor Cultivator..

Have no equals, as evidenced by their growing popularity. We've handled these goods for 10 years because they are what the successful farmer demands--THE BEST.



We also carry a full line of...

GROCERIES,  
GRAIN and  
FEED.....



If you need a  
BUGGY  
call on us

## G. F. WEST

### Great Floods in Tennessee.

Portions of Tennessee have been visited by most disastrous floods the past week and the property damage is estimated at over a million dollars. The following shows the condition in Giles county, which will be of interest to many readers of The Mail, as there is quite a batch of Giles county people in this vicinity:

Further developments show that the recent flood damage in Giles county has been underestimated. The Chambers mills at Vinta, the store of Chambers Bros. and Drew Chambers' dwelling are all gone. Hagan & Howels' store on Sugar Creek is gone. The dam of Peach Roller Mills is gone. Hall & Kelton's store at Peach is filled with mud, as is every other country store. Wade Bros.' store at Wales and J. S. Hart's at Riverburg are filled with mud. The station at Wales is wrecked.

Out of thirty-five iron bridges in the county, thirty are gone. The only covered bridge was at Kelley's Ford, on Richland Creek. This was loosed at both ends and balanced on the middle pier, up and down stream, where it yet stands. Wade Bros. and Yancy lost a large number of bales of cotton. Some of Mrs. Wade's clothing and furniture was found in the creek at Pulaski today. There is no trace yet of the store or stock of Short Bros., at Wales. They carried a stock worth \$15,000.

D. R. Wade rescued a family of neighbors Friday night by swimming a saddle horse into the backwater to their dwelling and bringing them off one at a time. Western Union connection was restored this afternoon, but there are no telephones throughout the county north of here.

The universal sentiment is that the County Court will at once be compelled to issue bonds and rebuild the bridges. It is likewise probable that the three-wire fence law will be applied to this county for the balance of this year. Money estimates of the losses are mere guesswork. This county never before experienced such devastation.

'Phone the news to No. 31.

### Bank Drafts or Money Orders.

This is the safest, simplest, cheapest and best way to send money.

These orders can be cashed anywhere.

No written application required. No limit to the time in which they must be presented as with postoffice and express orders.

If lost, money refunded, or a duplicate issued without charge. Paid on presentation at any of the 8,000 banks in United States. Merchants cash them.

Orders sold payable in any foreign countries.

#### COMPARE THESE PRICES:

Postoffice and Express Orders cost—	Bank Money Orders Cost—
\$ 5 ..... 5 cts	\$ 5 ..... 5 cts
10 ..... 8 cts	10 ..... 8 cts
20 ..... 10 cts	20 ..... 10 cts
30 ..... 12 cts	30 ..... 10 cts
40 ..... 15 cts	40 ..... 15 cts
50 ..... 18 cts	50 ..... 15 cts
60 ..... 20 cts	60 ..... 15 cts
75 ..... 25 cts	75 ..... 20 cts
100 ..... 30 cts	100 ..... 25 cts

Get them at Warnick's Bank.

J. F. Pilkinton happened to quite a serious accident Saturday which will confine him to his bed for several days. He drove out to the country and when opposite the Dudley place his horse became frightened and threw him out against the fence. He was bruised up considerably, particularly about the head, but he is not dangerously hurt and will be up and about, we hope, in a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Jobson of Mesquite are visiting the family of J. F. Pilkinton. They are here for the benefit of Mrs. Jobson's health.

Ustick has a nice lot of new jewelry. Call and see it.

Dr. I. E. Smith, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist of Weatherford, will be in Merkel Saturday, April 5th.

Dr. Leeman reports a case of scarlatina in the family of Mr. Keller in the north edge of town, the victim being a little child. It has been very sick, but is improving right along now.

Miss Dota Garoutte went to Abilene Saturday night to attend the Miller-Milner nuptials Easter evening.

For Sale—Cooking stove, dining table, iron bedstead, all as good as new. See

S. W. Sheppard.

### A GOOD THING.

German Syrup is the special prescription of Dr. A. Boschee, a celebrated German Physician, and 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.

If you want the best that is going in the jewelry line, cheap, see Ustick.



## Uncle Sam's Mail Service

requires physical and mental ability of a high degree to withstand its hard labors. The high tension to which the nervous system is constantly subjected, has a depressing effect, and soon headache, backache, neuralgia, rheumatism, sciatica, etc., develop in severe form. Such was the case of Mail Carrier S. F. Sweinhart, of Huntsville, Ala., he says:

"An attack of pneumonia left me with muscular rheumatism, headache, and pains that seemed to be all over me. I was scarcely able to move for about a month when I decided to give Dr. Miles' Pain Pills and Nerve Plasters a trial. In three days I was again on my route and in two weeks I was free from pain and gaining in flesh and strength."

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

All jewelry is good, bad or indifferent. The kind Ustick has is good—and cheap.

We have a nice line of Go-Carts and Baby Buggies.  
W. P. Browning & Co.

### A Good Time to Eat.

The ladies of the Baptist church will serve a square meal for 25c on primary election day, Saturday, April 12. Eat with them. At Dye's carpenter shop.

For sale at a Bargain:—Our large iron safe.

The Star Store.

## A New Firm.

We are pleased to learn that we now have in our midst a first-class wholesale and retail music store, under the firm name of Basham, Shepherd & Co. S. H. Basham, it is needless to say, has been in business here several years. He has done an immense business, having sold pianos and organs over a large territory, embracing many counties—in fact, he has had the largest trade in his line of any concern this far west. His success is due to the fact that he sold instruments at a reasonable price and dealt honestly and fairly with all customers. J. H. Shepherd is well known here. Coming to this country for his health several years ago, he was compelled to sever his connection with one of the largest wholesale music houses in the State, so is well prepared to take his part in the firm.

The new firm, we learn, will handle a large line of various makes and styles of pianos and organs from the best factories in America, shipped direct to them. At the present they have eleven men selling instruments in various towns. This enables them to buy goods in large quantities, and they of course get the lowest possible prices. This is a great advantage to those wishing to buy instruments. They have the goods and intend to sell them at reasonable prices, giving just and honest treatment to all, and any favors consistent with sound business principles. All goods will be fully warranted and every warrant made good by them without expense to the purchaser.

# We Are Ready to Serve you

And want your trade and promise to give you the best values possible for your money. Our stock is COMPLETE IN EVERY RESPECT, and we are prepared to take care of your trade,

## BOTH CASH AND CREDIT

When in Merkel don't fail to come and see us. You'll find us next door to Dickson's.

# THE GLOBE.

THE DEPENDABLE STORE, Merkel, Texas.

### A Nearly Fatal Runaway

Started a horrible ulcer on the leg of J. B. Ornerl Franklin Grove, Ill., which defied doctors and all remedies for four years. Then Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured him. Just as good for boils, burns, bruises, cuts, corns, scalds, skin eruptions and piles. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

### The Great Dismal Swamp

Of Virginia is a breeding ground of malaria germs. So is low, wet or marshy ground everywhere. These germs cause weakness, chills and fever, aches in the bones and muscles, and may induce dangerous maladies. But Electric Bitters never fail to destroy them and cure malarial troubles. They will surely prevent typhoid. "We tried many remedies for malaria and stomach and liver troubles," writes John Charleston, of Byesville, O., "but never found anything as good as Electric Bitters." Try them. Only 50c. Rust & Pittard guarantee satisfaction

3 pound Standard Tomatoes 10c per can.

J. T. Warren.

### Rhodes Didn't Say It.

Cecil Rhodes' latest biographer contradicts the story that Rhodes ever used the phrase "I never met a man whom I could not buy." The germ of this fiction is said to be found in the fact that one day, when discussing his proposed telegraph wire across Africa, somebody asked him how he proposed to carry it across the Sudan. "Oh, leave it to me," Rhodes answered. "I never met the man yet that I could not come to an agreement with, and I shall fix things up with the khalifa when the time comes."

### Odd Gift to Prince.

It remained for a Philadelphia woman to carry off the palm in the matter of odd gifts to Prince Henry. She canvasses for an accident insurance company, and the other day she sent to the Prince, with her compliments, an accident policy for \$3,000, covering the period of his sojourn. She is much chagrined because she received no acknowledgment from the distinguished visitor.

### Cabby's Wit Won Him the Fare.

United States Senator Quay walked out of the Broad street station in Philadelphia the other day, relates a local newspaper, and started down past the line of waiting cabbies. He was spotted as a "sure fare." "Walton, senator?" cried the first man, touching his hat. Quay never turned to right or left. "Stratford? Right here for Stratford," cabby No. 2 ventured. Quay walked on. "Bellevue?" asked a third. Quay was oblivious. It looked as if the fare was lost. All depended on the last man in the line. "Deaf and dumb asylum? Step right in. Going right up." This was too much for Quay. He smiled, stepped into the cab and was whirled away. But not to the asylum.

## 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.

Easter services at both the Methodist and Presbyterian churches Sunday were very beautiful and appropriate. The song services were especially good, while the little ones in their recitations gave a happy touch to the program that added to its enjoyment. The anniversary of the resurrection of Christ should call forth our most earnest praise and devotion. It is a day for worship and prayer.

The Board of Trustees held a meeting Saturday night and canvassed the returns of the election of the Tuesday previous. It was found all right. Several applicants for positions in the public school are on file, but no selections have been made so far.

Mr. Chenault left Monday night for Hico on business.

R. O. Brown, southwest of town, was in to see us Tuesday. The rain of two weeks ago was of incalculable benefit to his section. He is plowing his corn this week which is growing off nicely and sorghum and other forage crops are promising,

## WINCHESTER

FACTORY LOADED SHOTGUN SHELLS  
"New Rival" "Leader" "Repeater"

IF you are looking for reliable shotgun ammunition, the kind that shoots where you point your gun, buy Winchester Factory Loaded Shotgun Shells: "New Rival," loaded with Black powder; "Leader" and "Repeater," loaded with Smokeless. Insist upon having Winchester Factory Loaded Shells, and accept no others.  
ALL DEALERS KEEP THEM

## 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

For the Annual Reunion Confederate Veterans to be held at Dallas, Texas, April 22 to 25, inclusive, 1902, the Texas & Pacific Railway Company will sell round trip tickets from stations on its line in Texas at exceedingly low rates, in fact at lower rates than have been announced to Dallas for a long time.

Tickets will be on sale from points in Texas, also Shreveport and Greenwood, La., on April 21, 22 and 23, 1902, limited for


return to leave Dallas April 1902.

Any one of our agents will glad to arrange for sleeping accommodations and explain to you any points connected with the trip, or we will be glad to have you write direct to us for further information.

H. P. Hughes, E. P. Turner,  
T. P. A., G. P. A.  
Ft. Worth, Tex. Dallas, Tex.

Judge E. E. Solomon of Baird was in the city yesterday.

Old hunters say  
The MARLIN  
has so many things to commend it. The top of the action is always closed, the mechanism the most simple, the finish elegant, the form attractive. It seems to throw its bullets a little more accurately and plant them with a little more force than any other rifle. For deer take a 38-55 or 30-30. 120-page catalog, 360 illustrations, colored cover by Remington, for 3 stamps.  
MARLIN FIRE ARMS CO.  
NEW HAVEN, CONN.



## PHOTOS ALL KINDS

My new gallery is now complete, in which I am prepared to do all kinds of Photo and Button work from Stamps up, at prices to suit the times. All work guaranteed, and I remember I am here to stay. Call and see my fine line of samples. Gallery north of J. P. Sharp's store, Merkel.

W. A. Barnhill.

## Tired Out

"I was very poorly and could hardly get about the house. I was tired out all the time. Then I tried Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and it only took two bottles to make me feel perfectly well."—Mrs. N. S. Swinney, Princeton, Mo.

Tired when you go to bed, tired when you get up, tired all the time. Why? Your blood is impure, that's the reason. You are living on the border line of nerve exhaustion. Take Ayer's Sarsaparilla and be quickly cured.  
\$1.90 a bottle.  
All druggists.

Ask your doctor what he thinks of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. He knows all about this grand old family medicine. Follow his advice and we will be satisfied.  
J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

# Our New Goods

We want to talk to you about our New Goods. We bought them cheap by paying cash on the spot, and we are proud of them because they were bought right which enables us to sell them right. They were purchased with confidence, resting our claims in the belief that the people want Bright, Fresh, New Goods, not hackneyed out of date "job lot" stuff that seems cheap only when advertised. Every article in our house is as bright as a dollar. We invite the critical inspection of all as to

## ..PRICE AND QUALITY..

### Good Clothing.

We still hold the fort in men's and boys' Clothing. All good dressers come to us for their Clothing, Neckwear, Underwear, Shoes, Shirts, Gloves, Hats, etc. We're leaders in Quality and Price.

### We Want Your Cash Trade.

We propose to give you more bright, snappy, fresh merchandise than you ever bought before for the same money. Every dollar invested with us means a few coins more for your purse.

Remember: One Price, Spot Cash. Your money back if not satisfied.



Only, per pair.....\$1.00

We are exclusive agents for

Heart and Arrow Brand Shoes.

They are unquestionably the best shoes on the market to-day.



A large line of Dress Goods. All the latest patterns and newest shades.

You can come to us with the assurance that your wants will be carefully looked after. A trial WILL convince you.

# The Fitts & Smith Store.

## The Merkel Mail

ED J. LEEMAN, Editor and Prop'r.

Entered at 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 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.

A. S. Hardwicke, of Abilene, has announced for District Attorney of this district. Senate has the confidence of the people of his home county, where he grew to manhood, which is the best evidence of his fitness for the office to which he aspires. A young man of sterling integrity, honest, capable, and with all a good lawyer and a high-toned Christian gentleman, he would make an ideal attorney. Add to this his experience in criminal practice and his record as County Attorney of this county, where he was a terror to evil doers, and we have in him the peer of any man who has heretofore occupied the position. Senate has a good show to be elected. The Mail earnestly champions his cause, because we believe him to be worthy of every confidence and any gift that the people can bestow upon him.

We smile complacently at the

Hottentot whose pride is centered in the tawdy ring he wears in his nose, says Edwin Markham in Success, yet how much are we raised above this savage, we who prostrate ourselves before the minted gold of the millionaire? In our absurd money-worship, we have reached a stage where a golden calf, instead of a royal eagle, might well be the symbol of our national spirit. We are holding the Almighty Dollar so close to our eyes that we are obscuring Almighty God. In our old catechism we are asked, "What is the chief end of man?" The up-to-date reply would be, "The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy it forever."

The Mail believes in reciprocity. The "you tickle me and I'll tickle you" policy is a good one. It should be universally practiced. The people who live here, who take an active interest in the progress and welfare of the town, who support its institutions and spend their earning here are entitled to some consideration. If The Mail could get to do all the job work that is used in the town it could live very comfortably and existence would not be such a hand to mouth affair. The people will not have the paper that they ought to have until they learn to patronize home industries in preference to all others.

One sin is as great as another in the eyes of God, for every act is based on the principle of omission or commission. We are either perfect or imperfect—there is no half way ground. God requires full atonement or no atonement. A complete surrender is demanded if we are to

enjoy eternal life. Measured from this standard, man is a frail bark on a turbulent sea; his anchorage is insecure. On the other hand, it is as easy to do good as evil, and every man has it within his power to accomplish something in this world, whether it be great or small. Do your mite toward the uplifting and elevation of humanity.

The politicians have succeeded in killing the Texas anti-trust law; at least they have found a congenial spirit in the District Judge of Travis county who was made to declare that the State can not make out a case of violations of that law against "certain interests." This decision may or may not cut any ice in the constitutionality of the law. Certain it is that if the District Attorney had done his duty the law might have been upheld. The people of Texas will not submit without a struggle to the domination of politicians and sympathetic district officers who fight shy of their duties. It is time to call a halt.

The Colorado Clipper made a "bull" in copying the article which appeared in The Mail two issues back anent the Congressional race. Where it was stated that "The east-enders are not it by any manner of means," the little word "in" was inserted before "it," thus changing the meaning of the sentence entirely. The east-enders are not "it"—there are others,—but they are very much "in it," and The Mail don't care to dampen their ardor in the least.

In the past The Mail has yelled itself hoarse for piehunters, but that is a past folly. When we

are asked to do the yelling act, it is generally understood that it is for a consideration. If a man is not able to toot his own horn, let him pay somebody to toot it for him. That's strictly a business proposition.

The late rains have not been general, but a greater portion of the country has been blessed and the balance is awaiting its turn. West Texas is a land of variable weather. We know not today what tomorrow will bring forth, but ceaseless fretting will not help the matter.

Judge Smith for Congress is sweeping the western end of the district, while Maxwell is still holding up his end of the district, and both are sanguine of success. Evidently the fight will be long drawn out and fought to a finish.

The ring at Austin is being given publicity. Even Lanham is classe as belonging to it. But it is noticed that the people have endorsed it in their primaries and conventions, and if there is such a ring, it evidently embraces the entire state.

Just what effect Judge Morris' decision will have upon the anti-trust statute is not known, but it is certain that it will give an impetus to the avariciousness of allied capital in this State. The octopus will profit by it.

Easter has come and gone and with it all fears of frost. This means that the fruit crop is safe. It promises a magnificent yield and will add no little to the prosperity of the country.

When a man lets his passions run away with his better judge-

## 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,

J. R. REGISTER.

ment he is sure to come to some bad end. To learn to subdue our passions is a cardinal virtue.

Hanna will avoid the unpleasant contingency of a rough and tumble fight for the Presidential nomination by bracing Congress for a ship subsidy.

The Roosevelt-Miles episode is liable to overshadow the Sohley grievance. When two bull heads come together the fur is likely to fly.

Hanna has denied all designs upon the Presidency. But then a multiplicity of denials is akin to an acceptance.

At least there is some consolation in the thought that Neely and Rathbone have felt the chastening rod.

This is fine growing weather. Even the patches on the editor's pants are growing larger.

If good things all come high, then the Philippines ought to be a desirable possession.

## FRANK BACCUS KILLED

G. R. PETTIS IS IN JAIL CHARGED WITH MURDER.

Cause Can be Assigned for the Deed. A 38 Calibre Winchester Used.

Frank Baccus, a farmer who lived eight miles south of town, was shot and killed by G. R. Pettis Monday morning. Two shots were fired from a 38 calibre Winchester, one taking effect in the arm near the elbow and the other penetrated the lower extremities of the bowels and lodged in the hip bone. The shooting occurred at about 11 o'clock, the victim dying three hours later in great agony.

The trouble which brought on the shooting was of long standing and originated from family affairs. At least, this is the supposition. The Mail does not wish to say anything that would have a tendency to prejudice the public mind in either direction, and for that reason we have taken particular pains to get the facts in the case. From Buck Moore, who was an eye witness to the tragedy, we learn the following particulars which are given in Mr. Moore's own words as near as we can remember them:

"Frank and myself were putting up some fence posts and Mr. Pettis was stretching wire at the corner of the field, to which point we were working. Just before reaching the corner Mr. Forrester drove up and was talking to Pettis. Baccus walked ahead a few steps and commenced to dig another hole, when Pettis reached in his wagon and got his Winchester, then walked to within about ten steps of Baccus, calling out as he advanced, 'Baccus, you have disgraced my family.' He then threw the gun to his shoulder and fired. Baccus yelled and he fired again. No other words were spoken. Baccus did not speak to Pettis. Pettis raised his gun to shoot again, but his boy begged him not to shoot. By this time I was perhaps a hundred yards away and really expected a shot in my direction. I walked by Baccus' house and told his wife what had happened, then went home and saddled my horse and came to town after a doctor. My house is fully half a mile from where the shooting took place, but I could plainly hear Baccus groaning."

Neighbors soon gathered and carried the wounded man home, where he died a few hours later. He was conscious to the last, but made no statement other than that he had not spoken to Pettis for over a year. The deathbed scene was one of the most pitiful ever witnessed in this country. Five or six little children were clamoring for a last look at the dear face, all crying and begging for a last word. It is a desolate home now. Mr. Baccus' last words were, "I am going blind; the end is near."

Immediately after the shooting Pettis drove to Abilene and surrendered to officers, where he is now in jail.

The tragedy is deeply regretted in the community. Both men were good citizens and quiet, peaceable neighbors. No possible excuse can be made for the crime, but the examining trial is yet to be held and there is no telling what will come to light. Mr. Pettis lived in town last year and was in the ice business. He

is a prominent Mason. The Mail esteemed both men highly and deprecates the crime and any motive that could have led to its perpetration. It is best to draw a veil over the sad scene for the present.

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.

Milo Maize and Red Top Cane seed at

J. T. Warren's.

J. W. Jordon of Bartow, Fla., arrived Sunday for a visit to his family. Mr. Jordon is a son-in-law of J. R. Dye.

Two men, a preacher and a layman, got into an argument recently, which branched off into anger as all such arguments usually do. Finally the layman's anger got the best of him and he slapped the preacher's jaws, whereupon the other cheek was turned to him. But the Biblical injunction to turn the other cheek for a smite seemed to restrain the irate layman from further anger and he accepted the apology with good grace. Most men would have taken advantage of the opportunity and biffed the good brother with all the force at his command.

Mrs. H. C. Williams and the girls, Misses May and Eva, arrived from Missouri last Thursday where the girls have been in school the past eight months. Their friends are glad to have them back.

Miss Nora Crim came in from Alvord Sunday.

### Children's Coughs and Colds.

Mrs. Joe McGrath, 327 E. 1st St., Hutchinson, Kan., writes: "I have given Ballard's Horehound Syrup to my children for coughs and colds for the past four years, and find it the best medicine I ever used." Unlike many cough syrups, it contains no opium, but will soothe and heal any disease of the throat and lungs quicker than any remedy. 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

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

Harry Tom King and Miss Lona Hale were to have been married at the residence of the bride's father at Anson yesterday. Miss Hale is a sister of Mrs. Pittard of this place. She is a young lady of many graces and has many friends here, all of whom will join The Mail in sincere good wishes.

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

Dr. Adkisson has moved to the Chastain residence just south of the Presbyterian church which he recently purchased.

Call on G. M. Sharp for cane seed.

A girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Wims, north of town, Sunday.

McDonald Jumpers for working men. They save shirts as well as washing.

J. T. Warren.

Work will commence on W. P. Thurmond's new residence next week if not sooner. It will be modern in every respect.

### A Physician Writes.

"I am desirous of knowing if the profession can obtain Herbine in bulk for prescribing purposes? It has been of great use to me in treating cases of dyspepsia brought on by excesses or overwork. I have never known it to fail in restoring the organs affected, to their healthful activity." 50c bottles at Rust & Pittard's.

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

You can exchange eggs for dry goods or groceries at J. T. Warren's.

The old hardshell Baptists are not quite so numerous as they used to be and the country is none the better off because of their disappearance. An old brother of this stripe used to say that Texas was the grandest state in the Union. "It had more creeks and less water, more cows and less milk, and more churches and less religion than any state on the face of the globe," was one of his favorite expressions. And he was not far from right, either.

McDonald Overalls fit like Sunday pants.

J. T. Warren.

Saturday, April 5th, is the day for holding all country elections for school trustees.

Miss Eva Martin of Roscoe is visiting friends and relatives in the city.

Look at our French Balbriggan Underwear at \$1.00 a suit. No better made for the money.

J. T. Warren.

### Cures Sciatic Rheumatism.

Mrs. A. E. Simpson, 509 Craig St., Knoxville, Tenn., writes, June 10, 1899: "I have been trying the baths of Hot Springs, Ark., for sciatic rheumatism, but I get more relief from Ballard's Snow Liniment than any medicine or anything I have ever tried. Enclosed find post office order for \$1.00. Send me a large bottle by Southern Express." Sold by Rust & Pittard.

Sixteen ounces of satisfaction in every pound of Peace-Maker Flour at

J. T. Warren's.

Mrs. Hoople's millinery opening Friday and Saturday was a pronounced success. Large crowds of women and children were on hand both days and the displays of feminine headgear were very beautiful, calling forth many exclamations of delight and pleasure. These openings are necessary adjuncts to civilization. They are something that is necessary to the happiness and well being of the fair sex. And while they are hard on slim pocketbooks, few men can find it in their hearts to condemn them, let alone to refuse to enter into the enjoyment of the occasion. Few lovelier openings have ever been seen in Merkel. It was just too beautiful for anything—in fact, it was a paradise of hats and ribbons and flowers and furbelows and frills and the many other choice bits of unnameable things which go to make up such a conglomeration of feminine fancies. But it was a success just the same.

Buy "Topsy" Hosiery.

J. T. Warren

A fine girl was born to and Mrs. Geo. S. Berry the 20th. The Mail extends congratulations.

The Mail was misinformed as to the action of the Baptist church in accepting the resignation of Rev. Caperton. Action has not yet been taken in the premises.

Mr. Moore of Weatherford was here yesterday in the interest of the Foresters of America, an organization which is becoming popular throughout the country. It is a benefit organization and stands alone as to its object in promoting the welfare of its members.

G. E. Comegys has had some nice improvements added to his residence which helps its looks wonderfully. There are few more convenient homes in the west.

J. H. Thornton was up from Abilene Monday looking after his political fences.

H. C. Williams seems to be the happiest man in town since the return of his folks.

Partial showers of rain fell over the country Friday. North and west of town the fall was especially heavy and at many places considerable hail fell. The rain was light here, but generally it was sufficient to break the crust and will aid greatly in farm work. A general rain, a regular gully-washer and trash-mover, is badly needed.

Three cases of smallpox developed among the Texas & Pacific bridge gang at Sweetwater last week, but it is thought that the disease will be confined to this number, the balance of the crew having been vaccinated and the cases isolated.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Shell entertained a few couples with dominoes Monday evening.

# The War In South Africa..

## Cuts No Ice at This Store.

Our sympathies are for the people of this Country. We realize the fact that you have had a short crop year and must buy goods **CHEAP**; therefore, we have reduced the prices on our goods in every department. Come in and see us and inspect our goods. We will save you money on everything you buy at this store.

## J. P. SHARP & CO.

### TOWN and COUNTRY.. NEWS

### WEEKLY BUDGET OF HAPPENINGS THROUGH THE COUNTY...

#### ABILENE.

District court closed here Saturday. Cocaine Bill, a negro, was sentenced to four years in the penitentiary for theft from the person.

A. Z. Sewell of Haskell was jailed here Saturday night for safe keeping. He was convicted at the last term of the District Court of Haskell county and given 30 in the penitentiary for

marriage license were issued this week to R. L. Miller and Miss Aline Milner; S. C. Childers and Miss Margie D. Smith.

Mrs. Gilbreth, mother of Jim Gilbreth, died at Potosi Tuesday. A little child of Sam Smothers also died there.

Rev. Wesley Smith, aged 88 years, died here Tuesday and was buried here Wednesday. He belonged to the superannuated list of Methodist preachers.

#### Last Survivors.

Hiram Cronk, the last survivor of the War of 1812, is now living in Ava, Oneida county, New York, at the age of one hundred and three. Congress recently passed an act to raise his pension to an amount which will keep him in comparative comfort for the rest of his days.

The last survivor of the Revolution was Daniel F. Bakeman, who died in 1869, at the age of one hundred and nine. Few persons born since 1860 have therefore ever seen a soldier of the Revolution. James Russell Lowell, in one of his essays, tells how plentiful these veterans were in his boyhood, and how well remembered among the people were the every-day incidents which they related of that struggle.

Webster, when the cornerstone of the Bunker Hill Monument was dedicated, just half a century after the battle, addressed the survivors of the Revolution who were the guests of honor there as: "Venerable men; you have come down to us from a former generation." But none have come down to us.

Of Mexican War veterans there are now seven thousand on the pension rolls. Although the number is decreasing at the rate of about eight hundred per annum, it will probably be many years before the name of the last survivor of that war will disap-

pear from the pension roll.

With the soldiers of the Civil War the present generation is familiar. Nearly three-quarters of a million of those who served in the Union armies draw pensions. The average age to-day of the surviving participants of that war is about sixty years. It 1865 it was twenty-eight years, showing the youthfulness of such volunteer armies as the country depends upon in its greatest struggles. "The boys in blue" and "the boys in gray" correctly characterized the soldiers who bore arms in the sixties.—Youth's Companion.

#### Stamp Photos.

We have secured the plates of the Chicago Photo Co. All who had stamp pictures taken can now have them made at 10c per dozen. Leave orders with H. West.

#### Leeman & West.

#### Notice.

All persons interested are hereby notified that all of the obligations given for Grimes County School Lands, have been placed in my hands for collection. I have positive instructions from the Commissioner's Court to bring suit on all notes upon which the interest remains unpaid. All persons who have failed to pay interest will be sued if the interest is not paid within the next 30 days. As a number of owners of this property are in arrears, it will be well for them to look into the matter at once.

Respectfully,  
Haynes Shannon,  
County Attorney, Grimes County, Texas.

The Kale or Onion Ridge school, Alonzo Bickley teacher, will close next Tuesday, and on Friday night, the 11th, a concert will be given. Everybody invited. A nice program has been arranged.

Four cases of chickenpox were sent home from school Monday. Now let some long tongue start the report that it was smallpox.

Rev. Leach was on the streets last week. He does not seem any the worse after his tussle with the smallpox.

The new depot is a long time materializing. It ought to be a daisy when it does come.

#### Wields a Sharp Ax.

Millions marvel at the multitude of maladies cut off by Dr. King's New Life Pills—the most distressing too. Stomach, liver and bowel troubles, dyspepsia, loss of appetite, jaundice, biliousness, fever, malaria, all fall before these wonder workers. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Zade Polk is a new subscriber. Even the boys know a good thing when they see it.

The examining trial of G. R. Pettis, charged with the murder of Frank Baccus, will be held here Saturday.

#### Blind Luck.

In the Northern Pacific panic a young New York man of leisure cleared some \$200,000, the story of which has thus been told: Years before that eventful 9th of May, Blue Thursday, he had been induced to buy 300 shares of Northern Pacific at \$26 outright and lay them away in a safe deposit vault. This investment of \$7,800 was forgotten until the afternoon of May 8, when an old friend in the street said to the boy: "Where is that Northern Pacific you bought in '07? I think you said you had several hundred shares. It is likely to raise the sky in th street tomorrow. It is lending over night at 80 per cent., and I expect to see the price go above 200." The boy found his guardian and got the stock out of the vault one minute before it closed for the day. On Thursday he sold it for \$750 a share, realizing \$225,000. He managed to do this because he was rich already and did not need the money.

#### Bested the Ootopus.

Emil Andres, a retailer of oil, has put the Standard Oil company to rout in Jeffersonville, Ind. He used to buy his supplies from the Rockefeller concern, but lately changed to an independent company in Louisville. Then the Standard proceeded to ruin him in the usual way—cutting prices below profit line—but the citizens stood by him, preferring to pay the higher figure. He charged 10 cents a gallon, though the Standard vainly offered it at half that price.

#### Train Orders by Telephone.

Transmission of train orders by telephone on the Illinois Central road is pronounced a success. In one test the Chicago operator of the road talked with a train crew 400 miles down the line in Kentucky, the telephone instruments being attached to regular telegraph wires over which telegraph messages, it is found, can be transmitted at the same time.

#### A Doctor's Bad Plight.

"Two years ago, as a result of a severe cold, I lost my voices," writes Dr. M. L. Scarbrough, of Hebron, Ohio, "then began an obstinate cough. Every remedy known to me as a practicing physician for 35 years, failed, and I daily grew worse. Being urged to try Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption, coughs and colds, I found quick relief, and for last ten days felt better than for two years." Positively guaranteed for throat and lung troubles by Rust & Pittard. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

Jos. Winter says the rain of last Friday wet the ground down about two inches at his place, northwest of town. At the Cook farm, north of town, the fall was much heavier, and farm work has been given a great impetus as a result.

The professional card of Dr. E. B. Gilbert of Abilene appears in this issue. The doctor occupies the top notch in his profession, that of specialist for the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, and besides his superiority in this respect he is a pleasant, affable gentleman. Drop in to see him when in Abilene.

John Elliott spent a part of the week in Fisher county putting up wind mills.

J. T. Ford adds his name to The Mail's subscription list. We hope it will be of pleasure and profit to him.

An early Easter is said to presage an early spring, but the past few days have been quite chilly. Winter is lingering in the lap of spring without due regard for its past follies.

The practical joker got in his work "all Fool's Day." But perhaps the most ludicrous freak of the occasion was the prank played upon Prof. Chastain by his class of young girls. He enjoys a joke as well as the next one, but what met his gaze upon his return from dinner Tuesday was enough to stagger most anyone. Written on the blackboard were these woras: "We have 'went;' will be back to-morrow." This meant that he was left in the soup with a very slim attendance of pupils. The girls had gone out on an outing. But we will wager a ginger cake against a stack of black cats that the young ladies did penance for their folly the following morning.

## 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.

## Groceries...

I have purchased the Smith & Davis stock of Groceries, which has been added to and enlarged and is now most complete. I am in a position to save you money on your monthly bill of supplies.

Give me a trial order.

'Phone 39...

C. E. DAVIS

### 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 awhile you'll like it. It holds the attention. It is specially edited, that's why. Brains and not hap-hazard go into The News' make-up.

### 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. Subscribe now.

Come and see our new mouldings. Latest styles.

W. P. Browning & Co.

Fine watch repairing is the kind you want. That's the kind Ustick does. Guaranteed.

**ern Fawning Before Wealth.**

Lawin Markham in April Success  
The chief evil, nowadays, lies in the well-nigh universal fawning and covering before wealth, the blind scramble for fortune or favor. We are taught to act a part, when we should embody a principle. We stoop over and walk on all fours, when we should stand erect, remembering the stars above us.

Many of the hangers-on of the millionaire are mere fawners and flatterers seeking to push their way into the social swim. Other classes who bend at his feet are working people, who are dependent upon him for food and shelter. What is the way out of this social tangle? The answer is not clear. But one thing is certain: we all need a keener sense of values. We need to set up character (not money,) as the one ideal of life that is best worth while.

Thomas Hughes said, long ago, that we may not be able to hinder people in general from being helpless and vulgar,—from letting themselves fall into slavery to things about them, if they are rich, or from aping the habits and vices of the rich, if they are poor. But, as he says, we may live simple, manly lives, ourselves, speaking our own thoughts, paying our own way, and doing our own work, whatever that may be. We shall remain gentlemen as long as we follow these rules, even if we have to sweep a crossing for a livelihood. But we shall not remain gentlemen, in anything but the name, if we depart from these rules, though we may be set to govern a kingdom.

The mortal bane in all this money-worship, this toadyism, and timeserving, is the effect it has on the soul of the toady and timeserver. It calls his attention away from the real and the permanent in life to the false and the fleeting. It robs him of the idea that character is the chief glory of man. Character is the one thing whose foundations go down to the world's granite; and when to character we add culture we come into an inheritance more durable than time and richer than the kingdoms of this world.

**A Valuable Medicine For Coughs and Colds in Children.**

"I have not the slightest hesitancy in recommending Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to all who are suffering from coughs or colds," says Chas. M. Cramer, Esq., a well known watch maker, of Colombo, Ceylon. "It has been some two years since the City Dispensary first called my attention to this valuable medicine and I have repeatedly used it and it has always been beneficial. It has cured me quickly of all chest colds. It is especially affective for children and seldom takes more than one bottle to cure them of hoarseness. I have persuaded many to try this valuable medicine, and they are all as well pleased as myself over the results." For sale by Rust & Pittard.

A case or two of pneumonia is reported at the Williams farm, northeast of town.

Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Hall entertained a select company of young people Wednesday evening.

Grass is coming right along and the mesquite trees are budding. The hills and valleys are skirted with green, the flowers have raised their drooping heads and all nature has joined in the refrain, "spring is here."

# Farm Implements...

If you want to know what kind of Implements are THE BEST, call on W. H. DICKSON. He has handled the Bement goods for over 12 years, and they have stood the test. They are unquestionably the BEST. Call and see me and I will take a delight in explaining their merits.

## 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 May 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

- MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.  
Barton, T L            Barrett, J H  
Barrett, Mrs Eula    Brown, J R  
Cunningham, J C    Elliott, Arthur  
Hightower, T P    Mathish, John  
McGiboney, Mrs Nellie  
Privett, Miss Lula    Shelton, J W  
Smith, Miss Moriland  
Walraven, James

**Good for Rheumatism.**

Last fall I was taken with a severe attack of muscular rheumatism which caused me great pain and annoyance. After trying several prescriptions and rheumatic cures, I decided to use Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which I had seen advertised in the South Jerseyman. After two applications of this remedy I was much better, and after using one bottle, was completely cured. Sallie Harris, Salem, N. J. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

The Chicago Photo Company is at Roby this week.

Jud Sheppard left last night for Lordsburg, N. M. Jud is a model young man and his friends wish him well.

A light freeze visited this section Sunday night, but no damage was done to the fruit crop.

The city election in Abilene Tuesday was a pretty breezy affair, a great fight having been made on the treasurer's race. E. H. Boone and Walter Thompson were the contestants, Boone winning out.

Geo. S. Berry was in Abilene Tuesday.

Miss Alice Berry of Abilene is the guest of her brother's family in this city.

Dr. Legare of Abilene was in the city yesterday.

Jno. B. Bell has sold the two lots just west of his residence to a wealthy cattleman of Shreveport, La., the consideration being in the neighborhood of \$150 per lot. It is said he will build a handsome residence. This man wanted to get near a good school and was perhaps attracted here by the incorporation of the district for school purposes.

Mrs Sewell has been quite sick, but we are glad to note her rapid improvement.

**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.

**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 Sample Calendars will soon arrive. We can supply your wants in any kind of advertising matter and at prices that can not be beaten by foreign concerns. See our line and let us have your orders.

It is learned that G. B. Brown has absorbed both laundries at Abilene and will convert them into one mammoth concern.

**The Cork Output.**

The production of cork in the world, estimated at 1,000 metric tons (a metric ton equals 2,204 pounds avoirdupois), is confined to Portugal, Spain, France, Italy and North Africa (Tunis, Algeria and Morocco). The area of French forests, including those in North Africa, really producing cork is more than one-half of the total extent of cork forests. These forests are composed mainly of cork trees, intermixed with pines and evergreen oaks. The demand for cork increases from day to day, and it is added that France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Russia and the United States absorb 85 per cent. of the total production of cork.

**Saving up for the Magazines.**

The Washington Times says magazine articles have become so valuable a requisite of heads of departments and other high government officials that when the newspaper correspondent wants news of general interest, the private secretary tells him in strict confidence that "the chief" has had an order for a story on "What Happens to Me in a Week," and is saving up interesting incidents to make copy of—and so on.

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.

"A neighbor ran in with a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy when my son was suffering with severe cramps and was given up as beyond hope by my regular physician, who stands high in his profession. After administering three doses of it, my son regained consciousness and recovered entirely within twenty-four hours," says Mrs. Mary Haller, of Mt. Crawford, Va. This remedy is for sale by Rust & Pittard.

**Work Wanted.**

I ask the ladies of this city for their washing, ironing and all kinds of work which I can do and stay home at nights. I live in the Dickey house in southwest Merkel. Please give me work as I am in need.

Mrs. C. C. Wilson.

Miss Eva Martin lost her purse containing \$9.05, a few evenings since. If an honest person found the purse it will be returned to her.

**Meteor to Be Finished in England.**

The German emperor's yacht Meteor will be ready to sail for the other side much earlier than was at first expected. The main mast has been stepped and the riggers are pushing their work rapidly. It is believed that the yacht will be in cruising trim for the run across the Atlantic in about a week. A suit of working sails is being made for her and after her interior finishings have been completed in England she will be fitted with a suit of racing canvas.

**New York 'Change Seat Cheaper.**

For some unexplained reason there has been a decided "slump" in the price of seats on the New York Stock exchange. A seat sold last week for \$60,000, which is \$5,000 below the last sale reported, and \$15,000 below the high level price of two months ago. Brokers ascribe the break to the fact that the market now, and for some time past, has been wholly "professional," or, in other words, the speculative public standing aloof.

**Berlin's Adamless Ball.**

Every two years the artistic women of Berlin get up an Adamless ball called "the women painters' fete." These entertainments are not profaned by the presence of a single man, but, although the women lay stress on refusing admission to men, a large number of revelers don male attire, and one of the most striking features of the evening is the exuberant and frolicsome, not to say boisterous, fun these female "men" have with their partners. During the evening an orchestra of women in men's dress clothes performs, under the direction of an imitation of Herr Nickisch, the well known conductor. One of these balls has just been given and everyone who was present voted it an entire success. It lasted until nearly 6 in the morning.

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Latest Styles,  
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I can suit you  
in Price, Quality,  
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**THE MERKEL BARBERS.**  
Razors sharp,  
Towels clean.  
Bath room in connection.  
Your patronage solicited.

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

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**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 cordially  
invited to attend.  
N. HARRISON, N. G.  
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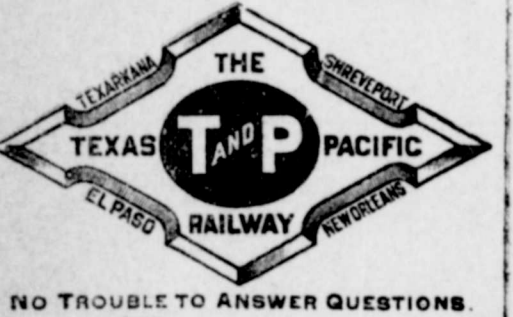
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NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

*The Doctor's  
has cured  
my  
throat  
and  
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from  
the  
worst  
cough  
I  
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**MORE LIVES ARE SAVED  
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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.

**No Nobel Prizes for Americans.**  
It would be highly interesting to  
know what American names, if any,  
suggests Victor Smith, in the New  
York Press, were presented to the  
Swedish academy as candidates for  
the Nobel prizes. It was Mr. No-  
bel's express wish that nationality  
should not be considered, so that  
the prize might accrue to the most  
worthy, whether he be Scandina-  
vian or not. In the first distribu-  
tion, which occurred last December,  
the five prizes, amounting to over  
\$40,000 each, were awarded to a  
French poet, a German physician,  
a Dutch chemist, a Dutch physician,  
a Swiss physician and a French sav-  
ant, that for the person doing most  
for universal peace being divided  
between the Swiss physician and  
the French savant. So far as we  
are informed, America was un-  
noticed.

**New Diamond Find.**  
The South African millionaires  
may find a whole lot of trouble on  
their hands, even if the Boer war  
is ended, said a New Yorker, re-  
cently back from the diamond fields  
to an interviewer the other day. "I  
left British Guiana about two  
months ago, and at that time the  
country was in a wild state of ex-  
citement over the discovery of dia-  
monds on the upper waters of the  
Mazaruni, a tributary of the Es-  
sequibo. As the district where the  
diamonds are found is far up in the  
mountains, it is difficult of access  
for the present, but if the gems can  
be located in any quantity there will  
be no difficulty on the transporta-  
tion question. Some of the mines,  
which are little more than pros-  
pects, are in the hands of New  
Yorkers, and parties of men have  
been sent up there in the mountains  
at great cost to carry on the work.  
Most of the diamonds are small,  
but when you figure that ten men  
in six weeks secured over 8,000 of  
the little sparklers, you can see that  
it will soon run up into money.  
The diamonds thus far secured  
have been shipped to New York, al-  
though I do not know whether they  
have yet arrived there."

**The Engaged Girl Barred.**  
London doctors and matrons en-  
ertain a strong suspicion that not  
a few of the would-be trained  
nurses uniform seek the privilege  
of wearing a uniform, with all the  
attraction it possesses, for the pur-  
poses primarily of working havoc  
among the hearts of medical stu-  
dents and others with the view of  
speedy marriage. An argument  
used on the other side is that even  
young women who are engaged to  
be married would derive inestima-  
ble advantage from passing a year  
or two among nurses and learning  
something about how to treat sim-  
ple maladies such as occur fre-  
quent in households. That may be  
so, say the doctors, but nursing is  
now a recognized profession, and  
those engaged in it do not look fa-  
vorably on those whom they regard  
as matrimonial interlopers. So the  
physicians and matrons in the Brit-  
ish metropolis have adopted a  
slogan which slightly paraphrases  
the anti-Chinese cry common in  
California years ago: "The en-  
gaged girl must go."

**Connecticut's Fast Day.**  
Governor McLean, of Connecti-  
cut, has named Friday, March 28,  
as a day of fasting and prayer.  
This is Good Friday, the date that  
is usually chosen in Connecticut  
for the annual fast day. The gov-  
ernor recommends that the people  
of the state on that day "in their  
homes and churches, devoutly turn  
their thoughts and desires from the  
things that perish with the using to  
those imperishable treasures that  
bring to the children of men peace  
and honor and happiness and a  
faith that know no fear."

**Want the "Cheese" Spared.**  
One of the English papers is  
much stirred up over a story in re-  
gard to something that the presi-  
dent of the steel trust, Charles M.  
Schwab, did while in London. Like  
most visitors, he dined at the "She-  
shfre Cheese," and ate a portion of  
the famous pudding. He called up  
the manager, Mr. Moore, and asked  
him how many he could feed with  
one pudding. Mr. Moore thought  
that he could provide for 100 per-  
sons, and Mr. Schwab at once of-  
fered him \$2,500 to go to New  
York with one of those puddings,  
which he was to serve in a New  
York clubhouse to a dinner of some  
hundred millionaires. Mr. Moore  
asked for time to consider the propo-  
sition. Mr. Schwab also pur-  
chased a quantity of the old  
sack served at the "Cheshire  
Cheese," and the price paid was said  
to be a guinea a bottle. This Lon-  
don paper appeals to Mr. Schwab  
to keep his hands off the long-cher-  
ished "Cheshire Cheese" and its fa-  
mous pudding, even if he must cap-  
ture the British iron markets.

**Sublime Nerve.**  
"Speaking about nerve," said  
Commissioner of Pensions Evans  
to a Washington interviewer re-  
cently, "I have just been in contact  
with an acute case. When I first  
assumed office as commissioner of  
pensions I had a great deal of trou-  
ble with an attorney who was en-  
gaged in all kinds of fraudulent  
practices. After a long period of  
worryment and great difficulty the  
attorney was finally given a three-  
year term in the penitentiary. The  
other day I received a letter from  
the same man saying he was about  
to be released from imprisonment  
and asking me as a personal favor  
to secure a railroad pass for him to  
California."

**Practical Criminologist's Theory.**  
Jailer John L. Whitman, of Chi-  
cago, said the other day in a lecture  
before a woman's club on "The  
Cook County Jail as a Moral Hos-  
pital," that in his opinion, if the  
family history of a bank defaulter  
were examined it is probable that  
some one of his ancestors would be  
found to have been a short-weight  
grocer or a petty criminal against  
society. "Crime," he added is a  
disease, and its only cure is kind  
treatment—not punishment, which  
has the appearance of revenge."

**Two New Roses Shown.**  
The third annual exhibition of  
the American Rose Society is in  
progress in New York. The new  
roses, which are always introduced  
at these affairs, bear this year the  
names of Helen Gould and Alice  
Roosevelt. The former is a blood  
red rose to rival the American  
Beauty. The later is of the bright-  
est hue and not so large. The  
Helen Gould is of German origin  
and has been under culture in his  
country for several seasons, though  
this is the first time it has been  
placed on public exhibition. The  
Alice Roosevelt looks very beautiful  
under artificial light and will doubt-  
less be used extensively for table  
decorations.

**Sarah Balks on English.**  
After a determined effort lasting  
over a period of months Sarah  
Bernhardt has given up trying to  
learn English. All her brilliant  
talent was not sufficient to give her  
mastery over or even fair profici-  
ency in the composite language.  
Mme. Bernhardt at first attempted  
the task without aid, but soon found  
it was more difficult than she had  
imagined. Then she secured as tu-  
tor an American actress. The lat-  
ter worked along and faithfully  
with the tragedienne, whom, to her  
amazement, she found a stupid pu-  
pil. Bernhardt tried very hard, but  
it was no use.

**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.**  
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and sell at reason-  
able prices. Come  
to us for your gro-  
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TO KILL PRAIRIE DOGS**

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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.

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We are receiving our New  
Spring Goods. They embrace  
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market, and we are pleased  
to announce that our stock is  
the largest and best selected  
we have ever carried. Come  
and see for yourself....

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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.