

THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, MAY 15, 1902.

NO. 13.

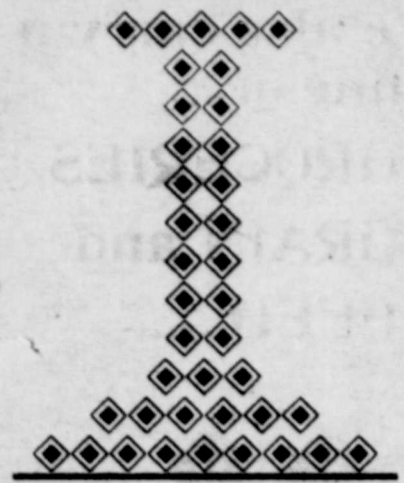
We Realize the Situation

It is a fact that the "feed proposition has taken most of your money, and yet you will need some fresh Dry Goods. We can save you 10 per cent. on your purchases, and guarantee every item to be as cheap as you can buy them elsewhere or your money refunded. Our stock is the Newest and Most Complete in the town.

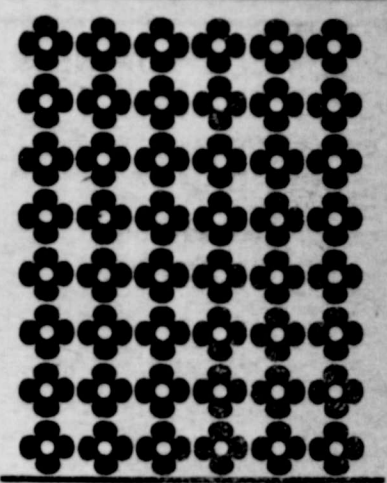
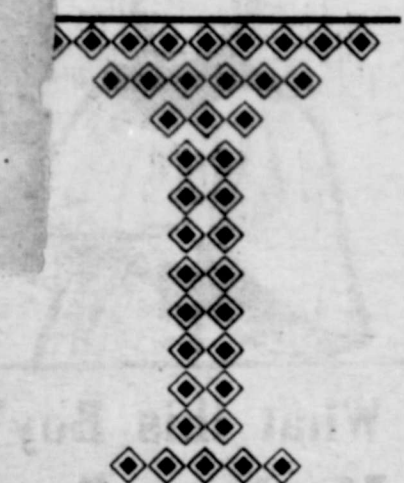
We could quote prices, but that would not satisfy you because you would want to see the goods. So come into our store, if you are from Missouri, and let us "show you" that we have the correct Goods at the Lowest Prices.

The Star Store

Merkel Mercantile Company, - Proprietors
Special Prices on Ladies' Shirt Waists, Skirts, and Lace Curtains.

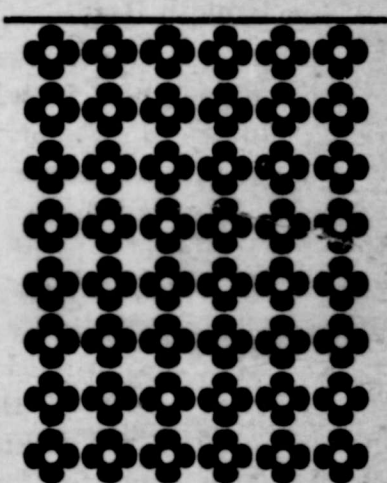


If you have a want in Dry Goods we can supply it at **REGULAR HARD TIMES PRICES**



The reason why we advertise in dull Times is

TO GET YOUR TRADE



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.

World Wide Reputation.

White's Cream Vermifuge has achieved a world wide reputation as being the best of all worm destroyers, and for its tonic influence on weak and unthrifty children, as it neutralizes acidity or sourness of the stomach, improves their digestion, and assimilation of food, strengthens their nervous system and restores them to the health, vigor and elasticity of spirits natural to childhood. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

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

Literal Illustrations.

In Dolly Madison's prayerbook, which one of her godchildren gave me, are several quaint wood engravings, relates Victor Smith. The frontispiece is entitled "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine, be done." This book was published in 1844, not so long ago, yet the picture represents Christ kneeling upon the grassy ground in prayer, with what resembles a large silver goblet in front of Him.

Remarkable Knowledge of French.

M. Jules Cambon, the French ambassador, addressed a meeting of the Sons of the Revolution a night or two ago. He spoke in French. Not many of his audience could follow him, but all laughed when he smiled and applauded when he was emphatic. Some ladies in a box grew enthusiastic. "How well he speaks French!" commented one. "He has almost the true Parisian accent."

A \$50,000 Bible.

New York has a Bible said to be worth \$50,000—but for the present it is in the hands of the collector of the port for a just appraisal. It is a manuscript Bible of the eighth century and is the property of J. S. Morgan, a nephew of J. Pierpont Morgan, who arrived on the steamship Oceanic Wednesday with it in his possession. It is a magnificent work of great rarity. The headings of every chapter are illumined exquisitely and the cover of the book is set with precious stones. The collector said that he had ordered the Bible to be temporarily confiscated as a precautionary measure, as a quick appraisal on the pier was not advisable.

Depew's "Butter" Story.

Senator Depew contributes a butter story to the gayety of nations. "A friend of mine went into a high-class restaurant," he says, "and discovered oleomargarine upon the table. 'How do you pronounce o-l-e-o-m-a-r-g-a-r-i-n-e?' And the intelligent servitor of the magnificent palace of pleasure at once responded: 'I pronounce it butter, sir, or else I lose my job.'"

Time Wasted in Vacations.

Professor Charles S. Minot, of the Harvard Medical school, has been studying the question of vacations in colleges, and he concludes, as he states in an article in Science, that the amount of vacation "is very excessive." "With the vacation shortened, it would be easily possible to bring young men into active life a year earlier than is now possible, and that would be an immense gain."

Historic Furniture.

Horace Day, of New Haven, Conn., owns the complete bedchamber set that belonged to Lord Percy, who commanded the reinforcements of some of the British troops at Lexington on April 19, 1775. The furniture came to him from a long line of New England ancestors.

Hitt is a Pothook Sharp.

Congressman Hitt, of Illinois, made verbatim shorthand reports of some of the great Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858 and is still clever in the stenographic art.

Joaquin Miller's Gift to Children.

Joaquin Miller, known far and wide as "the Poet of the Sierras," is building in California a park designed exclusively for the use of little children.

Work of "Bustling Americans."

Mr. Pierpont Morgan is still in front of the stage. What he cannot buy in the world is not apparently worth buying. But a tribute must be paid to the magnificent talent with which the Morgan syndicate and other American combinations and moneyed persons succeed in impressing themselves upon the world's attention. If they accomplish even one-quarter of the projects with which they are connected by rumor and announcement the world will shortly be so Americanized that nothing will remain but to adopt the Stars and Stripes as the common flag for the great powers. One thing the bustling Americans certainly are effecting: they are stirring up many dormant energies and ambitions in Europe and provoking a spirit of competition and emulation which cannot fail to be beneficial and to no country more than to Britain.

The Biddle Story "Dramatized."

The Biddle case has finally reached the stage. Theodore Kramer has written a play frankly entitled "A Desperate Chance." It illustrates how the Biddle brothers escaped from the Pittsburg prison, their sensational capture and the future of the warden's wife, who aided the precious pair. All this is strung out into a three-act sensational melodrama. The lithographs, which have just made their appearance in New York, bear lurid representations of the arrest in the snow, and enough blood is printed to fire the hearts of the gallery boys and kindred melodramatic patrons. The play is to have a trial of a week next month, after which it will be held in reserve until the autumn.

INSURANCE...



I represent the following Companies....

Liverpool, London & Globe.
New Hampshire Fire.
Philadelphia Fire Associa'n.
and many others.

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

DEMOCRATIC NOMINEES.

- For County Judge:
D. G. HILL.
- For County Treasurer:
J. H. THORNTON.
- For Sheriff:
J. V. CUNNINGHAM.
- For Tax Assessor:
C. C. JACKSON.
- For County Clerk:
S. H. GARRISON.
- For County Attorney:
T. A. BLEDSOE.
- For Tax Collector:
BAYLOR CRAWFORD.
- For District Clerk:
V. F. WOMACK.
- For Justice of Peace, Pre. 5, and
Commissioner Pre. 2:
W. W. WHEELER.
- For Hide and Animal Inspector:
ROSS G. HALL.
- For Public Weigher at Merkel:
T. F. COMPTON.

Judge Jernigan Dead.

The town was greatly shocked yesterday morning when it was arned that Judge G. W. Jernigan was dead. Death came to n suddenly. He had been to wn after his mail and returning was sitting in a chair, when he complained of feeling badly and at the same time requested his granddaughter to remove the shoes from his feet and calling for a toddy. He then fell forward on his face and died almost instantly. The Judge was a large man of much superfluous flesh, and his death probably resulted from fatty degeneration of the heart. The burial will take place from the Merkel cemetery this evening.

Judge Jernigan was in his 78th year. He volunteered to serve in the Confederate army from Mississippi at the breaking out of the Civil War and fought valiently throughout that terrible struggle, being in most of the principal engagements in that district. After the war he came to Texas, and the past ten or twelve years has lived here, several of which he was justice of the peace. Judge Jernigan was a man of sound views on all topics of the day, a consistent member of the Baptist church, and withal a man who had the confidence of his fellowmen. The end was quiet and peaceful. Requiescat en pace.

To the heart-broken wife and the many other relatives who survive him The Mail tenders its deepest sympathy.

The many friends of Miss Nina Long here will be agreeably surprised to learn that she was married at Stephenville last week to Mr. W. Parton. Miss Nina is a sister of Mrs. Addie Allen, and is one of the sweetest young ladies we have ever known. Mr. Parton is a prominent young business man of Celeste, where he is manager of a large mercantile establishment. He is a brother of T. J. Parton of this place. The worthy young people have The Mail's very best wishes.

'Phone the news to No. 31.

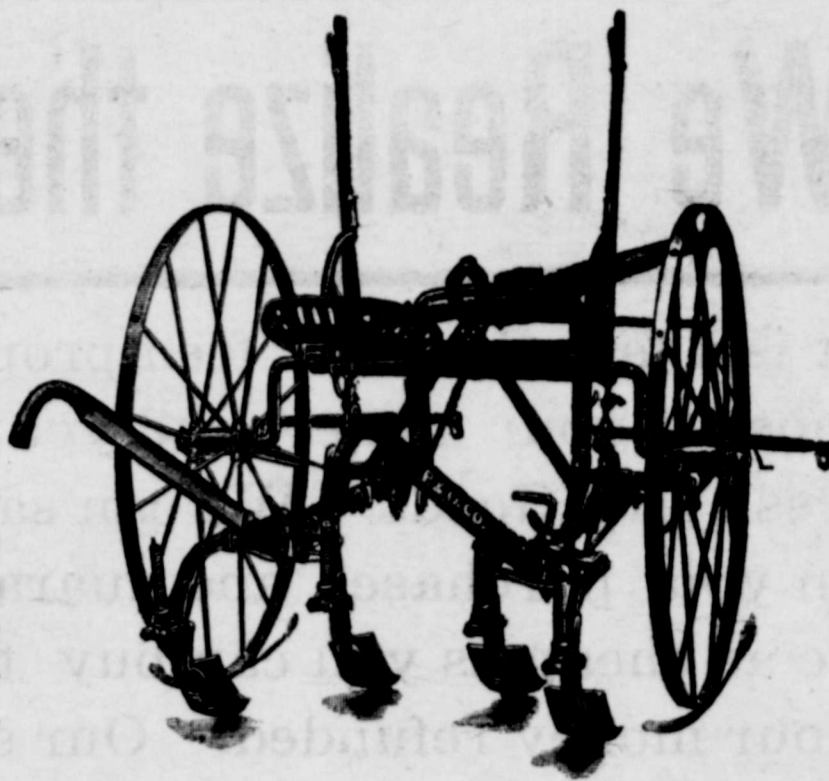
YOU WANT THE BEST..

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

T. A. Horton left with his family for Armour, Texas, last week. He will come back just like all the rest who have moved away.

A two-inch rain fell at R. H. Collins' ranch just beyond Trent, yesterday evening. Only a sprinkle at Dora.

Mrs. Hammonds left last week for Louisiana and will spend the summer with relatives. The Mail wishes her a very pleasant stay.

Henry Poke happened to quite a serious accident Tuesday while at work on the gin. He was at work on a scaffold when he was precipitated to the floor beneath, falling about ten feet and sustaining a serious fracture of the left wrist. An ugly gash was also cut behind the left ear, almost severing that member. The wounds were dressed by physicians and he will be up and about in a few days.

A small sprinkle of rain fell here Tuesday evening. West and southwest and northeast of town a very good rain fell which will be of immense benefit. J. J. Stallings says most of his farm was too wet to plow the day following.

Roadmaster Stamper was with the Dallas delegation Tuesday. Inquiries hurled at him by numerous citizens elicited the information that the new depot is a certainty, but he was unable to say just when work would commence.

The county commissioners will be prevailed upon to make a donation of \$100 to aid in the betterment of the streets of Merkel. The people should show their faith in the movement by subscribing a similar sum, so as to "balance up accounts."

W. W. Wheeler has photographs of his son-in-law, W. L. Johnson, of Baird, which were taken while Mr. Johnson was in worst stage of smallpox. He is literally covered with postules or sores, and the sight is not pleasant to the eye. Mr. Johnson is rapidly recovering.

Elder L. A. Dale, of the Christian Church, will preach at the Presbyterian church, Sunday, morning and evening.

LEAGUE PROGRAM.

May 30, 1902.
Opening song.
Scripture reading and prayer.
Song.
Roll call (answer by Scriptural quotation).
Song.
Recitation—Mamie Heizer.
Select reading—Edith Freeman
Quartet—Mr. and Mrs. Norton, Lucy Leeman, Luther Heizer
Recitation—Duncan Browning.
Select reading—Lizzie Hargrove.
Song.
Biography of O. W. Holmes—Clara Browning.
Selection from Holmes—Allie Jennings.
Song.
Select reading—Nannie O'Zee.
Essay—Eva Williams.
Song.
Paper—Comer Clay.
Closing song.

CHILDREN'S DAY EXERCISES.

At the Baptist Church Sunday Evening, May 18, at 4 O'Clock.

Song by choir.
Scripture reading.
Prayer,
Song—Little Feet Be Careful.
Recitation—Pocketfull of Sunshine.
Recitation—The Little Brook.
Duet.
Recitation—Thanksgiving.
Recitation—Walking in My Footsteps.
Song by choir.
Lessons from Words & Works.
Solo—I Will Be a Sunbeam.
Recitation—Wanted, a Minister.
Song by choir.
Recitation—What the Sparrow Chirps.
Recitation—May Thoughts.
Quartet—Count Your Blessings
Recitation—Flirting in the Choir.
A trip to the Philippines.
Collection.

The city of St. Pierre, Martinique, in the West Indies, was completely obliterated, with its 40,000 souls, by the eruption of a volcano last week. It was indeed a horrible holocaust.

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

More Privileges for Women.

Women visitors to New York will be glad to know that after theater hours, or at any other time in the evening, in fact, they can nowadays go to a hotel restaurant or any other restaurant and be served without having a male escort. Not long ago no woman—indeed, no two women—unescorted by a man could in the evening find a first-class restaurant where they would be permitted to dine. The Waldorf-Astoria was the originator of the new state of affairs. In the best hotels now women and girls sit about in the large assembly rooms, read their newspapers, write their letters at the many little desks, or chat with one another with an ease of manner unknown a few years ago. Formerly a woman felt uncomfortable and was stared at if she appeared in the office of a hotel. But all this has changed.

None Great Than Rotterdam,

Rotterdam is building the biggest excavated dock in the world. Its area is 150 acres, with a depth of water of fourteen feet, which will be dredged out later to twenty-eight feet. The earth dug up has been used to build the surrounding quays and to raise the level of the neighboring streets.

Julia Marlowe's Book.

Julia Marlowe has written a book entitled "Six Girls From Shakespeare," which will contain studies of Rosalind, Viola, Juliet, Imogen, Beatrice and Maria. Miss Marlowe has devoted especial pains to Maria, the quick-witted maid in "Twelfth Night," not because it was her first part in a Shakespeare play, but because she thinks it interesting to see Shakespeare's perception of the servant's point of view.

Result of a Foolish Passion.

Alice Carey Harlow, who was adjudged insane in the Coles county, Ill., court last Friday and sent to Kankakee, is about 30. She has been in turn a school teacher, house maid and writer of verse. Her morbid love of a young condemned murderer in 1898 is said to have been the beginning of her mental vacuity. She visited him in jail, although she had never known him before, fell in love with him, and after his execution prepared a petition to the legislature asking for the abolition of capital punishment.



What this Boy's Mother Says

has been said by the mothers of many other boys and girls, regarding the wonderful curative and strengthening qualities of

Dr. Miles' Nervine

HASTING, NEB.
"Our little boy, Harry, had spasms for 3 years and we feared the disease would affect his mind. Though we doctored continually he grew worse and had ten spasms in one week. Our attention was directed to Dr. Miles' Nervine and we began its use. When he had taken the fourth bottle the spasms disappeared and he has not had one for five years. His health now is perfect."
MRS. B. M. TINDALL.

Dr. Miles' Remedies are sold by all druggists on guarantee to benefit or money refunded.
Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

Rena

A brown thoroughbred trotter, 16 hands high, will stand the season at the Russell & Woodard livery stable. Terms: \$10, \$2.50 cash and good note for balance; colt insured or note becomes void. Ready for service May 12. 2t

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

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

What Thin Folks Need

Is a greater power of digesting and assimilating food. For them Dr. King's New Life Pills work wonders. They tone and regulate the digestive organs, gently expel all poison from the system, enrich the blood, improve appetite, make healthy flesh. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

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

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)..... 2.00
Half column (9 inches)..... 4.00
One column (18 inches)..... 7.50
Four issues constitute a month. All advertisements run and charged for until ordered out, unless limit is specified when insertion is made. Special prices on time contracts. Local notices, 5 cents per line, each insertion.

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

A REBUKE TO DEFAMERS.

Governor Jeff Davis, of Arkansas, seems to possess as much spunk as the man after whom he was, presumably, named. Recently he pardoned a negro for no other reason, it seems, than to administer a rebuke to the factional Northerners who seem never so happy as when slobbering over the negroes in an effort to bring about social equality in the South. The rebuke follows:

"Having just returned from the North and having heard many expressions of sympathy by the citizens of Massachusetts for what they were pleased to call the poor oppressed negro of the South and desiring that they shall have an opportunity to reform a certain portion of the negro population of our State;

"Therefore, I, Jefferson Davis, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the constitution and authority vested in me by the constitution and laws of Arkansas, do grant unto Andrew Thompson, a negro, a full and free pardon, on condition that he become within the next thirty days a citizen of Massachusetts."

To the loyal Southerner, while the occasion which calls for such a rebuke is regretted, the attitude of Gov. Davis is commendatory. The South and Southern people have been defamed long enough, and if it takes strenuous measures to bring about a change of sentiment, such men as Gov. Davis should be put forward. The South don't want to open the old sore, but it demands justice though the heavens fall.

The County Judge of Scurry county, in accordance with a petition from citizens of the county, has issued a proclamation setting apart Tuesday, the 13th day of May, "as a day of fasting and prayer to Almighty God to send rain on the dry and parched land." No rain of any consequence has fallen up there for several months and the country is greatly suffering. If the people believe in the efficacy of prayer and are earnest and zealous in their supplications The Mail does not believe God will withhold the showers, which, He says, are to fall on the just as well as the unjust. If prayer is effective in one case it is in another. The Mail hopes they will get the blessing in generous quantities.

Few questions are of more importance to the general public than that of the poll tax amendment which will be submitted to the people for ratification at the November election, the aim of which is to make a poll tax receipt a prerequisite to the right of suffrage. Thousands of dollars are lost to the school fund every year through the failure of voters to pay their poll tax. A

man who will shirk his duty by failing to help maintain the State government, the public free schools, the eleemosynary institutions, and the many other necessary adjuncts to an enlightened people, should be denied the right of suffrage. Make the burden of taxation equal on every shoulder.

The Mail: Senate Hardwicke is very gratified with his progress in the race for District Attorney. Taylor county will be good to Callahan if she will favor our suit.

Baird Star: Which suit? The one for representative or the one for district attorney, or both?

The paragraph stated which one. We have no interest in the race for representative. If the gentleman knows that there is such a town as Merkel or such a paper as The Mail he has never shown it by his actions. We are under no obligations to him, and if the Star will shove out a good man for the place we will support him. Come across, Bro. Gilliland.

The Baird Star seems to think that because The Mail sees fit to speak a kind word for Judge Smith that we are going to tear our shirt for him, but in this is very badly mistaken. It takes money to make the mare go. But The Mail appreciates virtue wherever it is found, and reserves the right to commend or condemn any candidate. We have spoken favorably of all the candidates except Dean, who doesn't merit any commendation for the course he has pursued, and if this can be construed as favoritism, we plead guilty to the charge.

Just before the Eastland county primary The Mail published a forecast of the coming events. The forecast proved just as reliable as one of Wiggins' storm predictions and the result proved disastrous to The Mail's candidate or at least to its forecast. Is Judge Smith too destined to have a headend collision with another of Leeman's forecasts? —Baird Star.

Can you prove that The Mail made the forecast as charged? The Mail has made no forecast of any election, but we conceded Eastland county to Maxwell, just as every other paper did. Does the Star know what a forecast is? If so, it will eat its words.

The Supreme Court of the State of Colorado, in prohibiting winerops and women in saloons, has started a crusade against this form of vice that should be given national prominence. There is no greater menace to our social fabric, nor one which has a greater influence for evil on the young manhood of the country than winerops and women, and the evil is added to when influenced by the saloon and its bloated followers.

An oil mill is one of Merkel's greatest needs at this time, and the field is ripe for action. The great volume of business resulting from the traffic of cotton here and the cattle industry of the surrounding country demand a cotton seed oil mill and makes its establishment certain within a reasonable time. We offer no bonus for such an enterprise, but might be prevailed upon to take a small stock in the enterprise. Don't all speak at once.

The strenuousness of President Roosevelt is cropping out on every hand, and his latest manifestation of displeasure at things in general and the Republicans in particular is that in which he

Satisfaction..

When a man buys goods he likes to be satisfied. We have yet to encounter a customer of ours who expressed dissatisfaction with our way of doing business. Our axiom, "Your Money Back if not Perfectly Satisfied," will be strictly adhered to at all times.

SPECIAL DRIVE ON CLOTHING!

In order to close out what Clothing we have on hand, QUICK, until Saturday, May 24, we are going to knock off all the profits. Look at these prices:

\$15.00 Suits at only \$10.35

\$10.00 Suits at only \$ 6.95

\$ 8.50 Suits at only \$ 4.15

Our line of Boys' Clothing is complete, and you will find that the prices are the Lowest in the city.



If you want a tailor-made suit, we can suit you; fit guaranteed. But be sure to take advantage of our special suit sale on Saturday, May 24. It will be a feast of Bargains.

The Fitts & Smith Store.

threatens his party with an extra session of Congress unless it rallies to the support of the Philippine and Cuban bills. The President has cracked his whip. Will the bosses scramble into the circus ring and be good?

The Glen Rose Herald suffered a \$2,000 loss in the cyclone, its entire office being destroyed. We know how to sympathize with Bro. Brown and will be one of the 400 or 500 Texas papers to go to his relief, if relief is needed. Let's cultivate the beautiful spirit of brotherly kindness. To this end The Mail will start the subscription with \$2.00. Who will be the next?

Merkel is not a "bonus" town, but depends for its success on the natural advantages of the country. We have no money to "induce" the location of manufacturing enterprises. However, we encourage every meritorious business with our aid and support and guarantee that they can not find a safer place in which to make an investment.

Merkel is still the same old inviting field for the investment of capital and offers advantages that few towns in the west possess. An ideal location, salubrious climate and great fertility of soil are some of the inducements held out to home-seekers and investors.

When the President seeks to scare the politicians into connivance by threatening them with an extra session of Congress, he is reconing without his host. He could not play into their hands in a better way.

Since March 14, 1900, at which time the new currency law went into effect, there have been 125 national banks organized in this State, leading all other states in this particular.

Judge Smith adds Crosby to his long list of instructed counties for congress.

Yes, Merkel is plucky. It takes pluck to get there.

There is always something doing, even unto tattling.

Twentieth Century "Liberality."

The liberality of the age seems to be penetrating even the church of Scotland. Says a Glasgow correspondent: Dundee Established Presbytery has actually discussed the question of askin' the Toon Council to run cars on the Sabbath for the benefit of folk who are gaun to the kirk, though they haena agreed to dae this; Edinboro' Presbytery hae decided that Sabbath cars are nae concern o' theirs and that ridin' on them should be left to the conscience of each particular person an' no decided by Presbyteries.

Woman's Rights.

Every woman who has to make a small allowance go a long way feels that she is eligible to membership on the ways and means committee.

"Chinatown Widow's" Good Luck.

Laura Biggar, the actress, who has fallen heir to \$1,000,000 by the will of Henry M. Bennett, of Pittsburg, is a native of Wilmington, Del.

Would Purchase Palestine.

Arthur Smedley Greene of Greenwich, Conn., has started a movement which has for its object the purchase of the Holy land by Christian people.

Second-Hand Store and New Tin Shop.

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, of Bell. Repairing a specialty.

Yours for Business,

Jno. B. Bell, Jr.

Millinery..

Latest Styles,
Newest Designs
Most Stylish
Effects

I can suit you
in Price, Quality,
and Style.

MRS. F. B. HOOPLE

Some Merkel people we know are as full of human nature as a goat is of butts. But they are not to blame, for it is human nature to err.

Remember.

photo buttons and medals that we sell are the best will not turn—and at reduced prices.

Leeman & West.

Dr. T. S. Hollis, Dentist, will be here May 28th and 29th to remain only two days. 3t

**NO. 5661
REPORT OF THE CONDITION
The First National Bank of Merkel**

At Merkel, in the State of Texas, at the Close of Business, Apr. 30, 1902

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts	\$ 92,123.34
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	1,887.78
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	15,000.00
Premium on U. S. Bonds	956.26
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	6,000.00
U. S. Natl Banks (not reserve agts)	2,867.84
State Banks and Bankers	140.71
Un approved reserve agents	14,201.87
Checks and other cash items	35.53
Notes of other National Banks	331.00
Prac. paper currency, nickles & cents	6.30
LAWFUL MONEY RESERVE IN BANK, VIZ	
Specie	\$1,314.25
U S Cert. for gold depos.	1,850.00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer	3,164.25
(5 per cent of circulation)	750.00
Due from U S Treasurer, other than 5 per cent redemption fund	500.00
TOTAL	137,904.57

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	\$ 30,000.00
Surplus fund	3,500.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	2,827.13
National Bank notes outstanding	15,000.00
Due to other National Banks	1,908.11
Individual deposits subject to check	53,864.96
Time certificates of deposit	8,500.00
Notes and bills rediscounted	20,904.87
Bills payable, including certificates of deposit for money borrowed	6,500.00
TOTAL	137,904.57

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:
I, Geo. S. Berry, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
GEO. S. BERRY, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12, day of May, 1902.
W. W. WHEELER, Notary Public.
[SEAL]
CORRECT—Attest: Taylor Co., Texas.
J. T. WARREN, G. F. WEST, J. O. HAMILTON, Directors

T. B. Strickland, who moved here from Alabama last December and is tending the Bentley farm, east of town, was a pleasant caller Monday and added his name to our list. Mr. Strickland is an up-to-date farmer, and is well pleased with the country so far. He says he is greatly surprised at the recuperative powers of the country and the richness of its soil. In Alabama he was used to planting from one to three bushels of cotton seed to the acre, but this year he planted less than a half bushel to the acre and has as fine stand as he has ever seen. Mr. Strickland is originator of the famous Strickland variety of cotton, which is known all over the South. It was tested on the Texas Experiment Station last year, but full reports have not been made on it. Mr. Strickland will adapt himself to the country before purchasing land here.

Mrs. Harry Bentley of Abilene was the guest of Mrs. Berry, Monday.

D. A. Dickey and Miss Melie A. Russell were married Sunday evening at 4 o'clock at the residence of the bride's parents, three miles west of town, Rev. A. A. Baker officiating. Quite a number of friends and relatives witnessed the ceremony. They are two of our most worthy young people, the bride being a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Russell, and start out in their new life together under very inviting circumstances. The Mail tenders its very best wishes for their happiness and prosperity.

J. M. Hays dropped in to see us Monday and reported the Salt Branch farmers busy at work.

Stamp Photos.

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

Leeman & West.

**THOMSON'S
BIAS-GORED**



**"MILITANT"
CORSET**
THE ACME OF CORSET ELEGANCE.

We have Thompson's Glove Fitting Corsets in the following Styles:

Short Hip (Paris Style.)

Ventilating

Militant (straight front.)

True Fit Girdle

Nursing

J. T. WARREN

- The Thoroughbred for \$3.00
- The Statesman for \$2.50
- The Mound City for \$2.00
- The Globe for \$1.50

You don't have to be a judge of Hats to buy intelligently here. Price and quality conform at this store.



FOR SALE BY
J. T. WARREN

Reveals a Great Secret.

It is often asked how such startling cures, that puzzle the best physicians, are effected by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. Here's the secret. It cuts out the phlegm and germ-infected mucus, and lets the life-giving oxygen enrich and vitalize the blood. It heals the inflamed, cough-worn throat and lungs. Hard colds and stubborn coughs soon yield to Dr. King's New Discovery, the most infallible remedy for all throat and lung diseases. Guaranteed bottles 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Rust & Pittard's.

For a short time I have decided to drill wells and take stock in payment for the work. If you want a well drilled let me figure with you, for I will save you money.

E. D. Coats.

Notice.

Dr. T. S. Hollis, Dentist, will be here May 28th and 29th. Be sure to have your teeth examined. Special attention to children's teeth. 3t

J. W. Daniel and W. N. M. Grimmet shipped a few cars of cattle to the Territory last week to be put on pasturage.

Dr. Adkisson sends The Mail to his father in Texas.

NOTICE

J. L. Mann, in the interest of Dr. King's New Discovery store formerly of Leeman & Co., and the hereafter be Burroughs & Co. We propose to carry a stock of drugs and everything pertaining to a first-class drug store, and it is our aim to treat all patrons fairly and courteously and give them value for every dollar invested with us. We assume all indebtedness of the old firm and all outstanding accounts should be paid to us. We thank all for past favors and solicit a continuance of their valued patronage.
H. C. Burroughs,
J. L. Mann.

Merkel Abroad.

Plucky little Merkel sent over \$100 to the cyclone sufferers at Glen Rose last week. There are no insects on that little city.—Taylor County News.

The citizens of Merkel have the proud distinction of being the first to respond to the Dallas News' appeal for aid to alleviate the suffering at Glen Rose, caused by the cyclone last week. Their subscription amounted to \$103.85, which certainly speaks volumes for their generosity.—Sweetwater Review.

Max R. Andrews visited Merkel a few days ago and what he saw while here here is summed up in the following paragraph which is clipped from his paper, the Taylor County News:

The improvements in the little city are almost beyond belief. Substantial business houses have taken the place of the burned district and Merkel can now boast of having stocks of merchandise and buildings that would do credit to a city of 5,000 population. The business men of that little town are plucky and deserve success, and Taylor county has no reason to be ashamed of Merkel.

Will Leeman left Monday night for Catoosa, I. T., having been offered very flattering inducements to start a newspaper there. His friends here will wish him a full measure of success.

Geo. S. Berry and family visited in Abilene Sunday.

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.

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

The delegation of business men from Dallas pulled in on schedule time Tuesday morning and spent a half hour getting acquainted with the business men and looking over the town. Many expressed great surprise at the many substantial business houses and the other evidences of great commercial activity. More than that they were delighted with the country, all of them predicting a great future for the town. The delegation is made up of successful business men, jobbers and manufacturers, who have embraced this opportunity of becoming better acquainted with the retail merchants of the west. They are out for business and were not long in making themselves known to the trade. Merkel enjoyed the short visit immensely. Mayor Ben Cabell was with the delegation.

Mrs. Geo. Logsdon of Abilene is spending a few days with her mother, Mrs. R. A. Miller.

The many friends here of Miss Kate Gardner will extend felicitations upon her happy marriage at Moran, last week, to Prof. C. M. Walker.

The Abilene Summer Normal will open June 28 and close July 31. Quite a number of teachers from this end of the county will attend.

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

Wanted—To pay cash for a good milk cow.
S. A. Chenault.

C. W. Harris and W. L. Clay helped The Mail out of a serious crisis (we were broke) last week.

Geo. S. Berry went down to Abilene Monday evening and escorted the Dallas delegation up the following morning.

Dr. Smith of Weatherford performed a delicate operation on the little daughter of G. M. Lowe Saturday evening for the removal of enlarged tonsils. The little one was almost past breathing, but will soon be all right.

County Judge D. G. Hill urges that the trustees of each school district in the county appoint one of their number to take the scholastic census. Blanks for that purpose can be secured at his office and should be called for. A thorough canvass of each district should be made in order that the schools may secure their full prorata of the school fund, and every omission means that much loss to the district.

The ice cream supper given by the ladies of the Methodist church Saturday was quite a success and netted the neat sum of \$28. The proceeds of the supper are to be used in beautifying the church.

A. L. Bishop, a Nolan County ranchman, has sold his ranch, 25 miles south of Sweetwater, and will soon move to Merkel. He is a very pleasant gentleman and will be a valuable acquisition to the town.

Keep This.

Give us your orders for photo buttons, medallions, color work, etc. We can also finish your kodak work. Prices cheapest.
Leeman & West.

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

The inimitable Pete Boaz was among the contributors to The Mail's exchequer last week.

Overseer W. B. Alsobrook has given out invitations to a "road working" on the 20, 21 and 22nd and promises that every man will be royally entertained. This will be the first road working under the new order of things. The town was created into an independent road district in order that the citizens might have an opportunity of putting the streets in a more presentable condition, and next week the first spike will be driven, so to speak. Merkel needs better streets—it is the one crying need of the town—and it is gratifying to know that we are reaching out and branching out after those things which are conducive to our rapid growth. Mr. Alsobrook is the right man in the right place, and will do his duty.

Mr. B. T. Bampbell of Abilene is agent for the Sneed Nursery of Tyler, the best and largest nursery in the state. He will work this territory, but should he miss you drop him a card at either Abilene or Iberis. He guarantees every tree.

Miss Minnie Lashley came in from Fort Worth Saturday, much to the delight of her many young friends, and is visiting her sister, Mrs. Shell.

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 THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY...

ABILENE.

Abilene, May 14.—Commissioners in session in business yet, possibly absent of attending.

Report of Jim Robinson, beer, was approved. McWhorter et al., jury of view, reported and adopted.

The report of Joe Harris et al., jury of view, was received and adopted.

J. P. Cyphers et al., jury of view, reported, which was adopted.

E. H. Greer et al., presented a petition asking that a new road be established, which was granted and the following jury of view appointed: Cort Donnell, R. G. Love, Joe Holly, R. A. Pollard and John Bowman.

J. A. Leeman et al., presented a petition asking that the county clerk be required to keep a Confederate record, but no action has yet been taken on the matter.

W. J. Shaw et al. presented a petition asking for a new school district.

A. M. McCreight et al. asked that a change be made in a certain road, which was granted.

There was a mass meeting of the business men at the city hall yesterday afternoon looking to the opening up of a number of new roads leading into Abilene from the north, northeast and northwest. Two committees were appointed for the purpose of selecting routes for the roads and were instructed to report back to another mass meeting to be held at the same place Friday evening.

Abilene entertained quite a number of business men from Dallas Monday afternoon and evening with a drive and barbecue. Speech-making and dancing held the crowd together until a late hour.

Geo. S. Berry was here Monday to assist in the disposition of a quantity of fat barbecued beef. George is always on hand when there is any fun to be had.

Mrs. John Powers died Friday night and was buried Saturday afternoon. Deceased leaves a husband and five small children to mourn her death.

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

DORA.

Mr. R. A. Linn and Miss Lena Sanders were married at the home of the bride's parents Wednesday evening. We wish them a pleasant and happy life.

Robert Laury came in from Hill County Friday to visit his sister, Mrs. Richardson.

J. M. Bryson went to Wingate Friday.

The Dora and Valley Creek ball teams played a game of baseball Saturday evening, resulting in favor Valley Creek by a score of 7 to 8.

Preaching Sunday morning by Rev. Bates of Wingate.

Singing Sunday night at Mr. Jenkins.

Robert McCee and Mr. Listong were down from Nolan Sunday.

Will Jackson went to Valley Creek Sunday.

Tom Wyatt was up from the Canyon Sunday.

S. W. Hampton and wife went to Merkel Tuesday.

Mr. Jackson went to Merkel Tuesday. Kat Klaw.

NUBIA.

Farmers are busy in the fields. Everybody thinks that another good rain would not hurt the old Canyon.

There was singing at William Clark's Sunday night and everybody enjoyed themselves immensely.

Misses Rhoda and Cattie Leslie visited in Nubia Saturday.

Miss Ella Hughes was in Nubia Saturday.

The following young people drove to Rock Crossing Saturday night: Sam Toombs and Lizzie Blackburn, Lon Watkins and Rhoda Leslie, Rufus Davenport and Cattie Leslie and Ella Hughes. Hurrah for our young people!

J. M. Blackburn enjoyed his 59th birthday dinner Saturday. A nice crowd, consisting of the following, was there: J. R. Toombs and family, T. J. Walker and wife, Sam and Tom Toombs, U. L. Blackburn and family. May God bless him.

Lafayette Blackburn left Monday for Alabama.

J. E. Friar has closed his meeting at Nubia. He was seen passing through Monday eve.

Mrs. Lalla Toombs is up and improving rapidly now.

C. H. Jacobs has returned

from Brady, Texas, where he went some time ago.

Miss Edith Freemon returned home Saturday.

Mrs. S. A. Freemon was in Nubia Saturday.

Haynes Hughes and wife passed through Nubia Sunday en route to E. H. Blackburn's.

Rose Bud.

ROCK CROSSING.

Mr. Editor:

I send an answer to the query in The Mail to find out the number of gallons of oil the tank of the Merkel Gin Company, which is 16 feet in diameter and the same number of feet in depth, will hold. The answer is 24,064 plus gallons.

The Rock Crossing neighborhood had a picnic at the mountains Saturday and killed a rattlesnake seven inches in circumference.

Preaching at Rock Crossing Saturday night and Sunday by Miss Lillian Pool.

Crops are looking well since the rain, considering the sand storms.

This is my first attempt to write. A School Boy.

(Send in a communication each week, even if only a few lines on the progress of crops. We appreciate your first attempt.—Ed.)

Spring Ailments.

There is an aching and tired feeling; the liver, bowels and kidneys become sluggish and inactive, the digestion impaired, with little or no appetite; no ambition for anything, and a feeling that the whole mind and body needs toning up. The trouble is, that during winter, there has been an accumulation of waste matter in the system. Herbine will remove it, secure to the secretions a right exit, and by its tonic effect, fully restore the wasted tissues and give strength in place of weakness. 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

The directors of the First National Bank held a meeting yesterday and accepted the resignation of C. M. Coggin as Assistant Cashier. T. A. Johnson was elected to the position.

The Commissioners Court has signified a willingness to assist in the betterment of the streets of Merkel. It would not look just right to ask them for aid when we are sitting on our "hunkers" and making no effort to put the streets in a presentable condition. We must work the streets, clean up the alleys and assist in keeping them clean. Will we do it?

Sciatic Rheumatism Cured After 14 Years of Suffering.

"I have been afflicted with sciatic rheumatism for fourteen years," says Josh Edgar, of Germantown, Cal. "I was able to be around, but constantly suffered. I tried everything I could hear of and at last was told to try Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which I did and was immediately relieved, and in a short time cured, and I am happy to say it has not since returned." Why not use this liniment and get well? It is for sale by Rust & Pittard.

"Jimmie" Burns Didn't Go.

A new member of congress was very anxious to get upon the good side of Superintendent Smith, of the Botanic gardens, says a Washington correspondent, so that some flowers and potted plants might be sent to his house. As every one knows, Smith is a little old Scotchman, who worships the memory of "Bobbie" Burns and has probably the finest and most complete collection of editions of Burns' works in the world. When, therefore, the new member went to Smith he resolved to say something which would please the lover of Burns. When he entered Smith's library he looked with interest upon the books. "I always did love Jimmie Burns' poems," remarked the new member. "I never saw such a fine collection of his works. I think Jimmie Burns was one of the greatest men who ever lived." At this point Mr. Smith could contain himself no further. "Jimmie Burns!" he exclaimed, angrily. "Tommy Washington! Sammy Bonaparte! Get out." And the new member realized that he had made a mistake.

Work of "Bustling Americans."

Mr. Pierpont Morgan is still in front of the stage. What he cannot buy in the world is not apparently worth buying. But a tribute must be paid to the magnificent talent with which the Morgan syndicate and other American combinations and moneyed persons succeed in impressing themselves upon the world's attention. If they accomplish even one-quarter of the projects with which they are connected by rumor and announcement the world will shortly be so Americanized that nothing will remain but to adopt the Stars and Stripes as the common flag for the great powers. One thing the bustling Americans certainly are effecting: they are stirring up many dormant energies and ambitions in Europe and provoking a spirit of competition and emulation which cannot fail to be beneficial and to no country more than to Britain.

Stand Like a Stone Wall

Between your children and the tortures of itching and burning eczema, scaldhead or other skin diseases—How? why, by using Bucklen's Arnica Salve, earth's greatest healer. Quickest cure for ulcers, fever sores, salt rheum, cuts, burns or bruises. Infallible for piles. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Woman's Rights.

Every woman who has to make a small allowance go a long way feels that she is eligible to membership on the ways and means committee.

"Chinatown Widow's" Good Luck.

Laura Biggar, the actress, who has fallen heir to \$1,000,000 by the will of Henry M. Bennett, of Pittsburg, is a native of Wilmington, Del.

Would Purchase Palestine.

Arthur Smedley Greene of Greenwich, Conn., has started a movement which has for its object the purchase of the Holy land by Christian people.

Grateful for a Roast.

Representative Shattuc, of Ohio, who wears the most brilliant waistcoat in congress, recently received a copy of a German newspaper printed in Pittsburg. A long editorial was marked with blue pencil. Shattuc looked at it. He does not read German, but he saw his name sprinkled through it many times, and he concluded it was something nice about himself. He called his stenographer and dictated a flowery letter of thanks to the editor for his "expressions of good-will" and invited the editor to come and see him when in Washington. Later he took the paper on the floor of the house. He showed it to several friends. Representative Bartholdt, of St. Louis, came along. Bartholdt glanced at the editorial article and laughed.

"What is it?" asked Shattuc.

"Nothing," said Bartholdt, "except that the editor roasts the life out of you. He says you are an enemy freedom and not fitted to be the representative of anything in congress."

Shattuc dashed madly to his committee room.

"Hi!" he shouted to his stenographer. "Stop that letter! stop that letter!"

"Can't do it, Mr. Shattuc," the stenographer replied. "I mailed it two hours ago."

Shattuc sank into a chair and swore.

"Great Scott!" he said. "What kind of a blithering idiot will the German editor think I am?"

Try reading The M.

EL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE
List of Subscribers.

- A**
son, Dr J A res.....No. 24
Allen, I S, res.....48
- B**
Burton-Lingo Co. lumber yd..81
Bank, First Nat.....33
Bank, Warnick's.....18
Berry, Geo S res.....73
Browning & Co. furniture.....68
Browning, W P res.....16
Bennet, B A res.....9
Bell, Jno B res.....6
Bell, Jno B tin shop.....61
- C**
Clay, W L res.....35
E D res.....38
J H res.....1
Compton, Will res.....22
Coggin, C M res.....4
Coggin, T J res.....54
Counts, Emmet res.....7
Chenault, S A grocery.....67
- D**
Davis, C E grocery.....39
Davis, C E res.....89
Dickson, W H hardware.....51
Dyer, Walter res.....41
Dyer, Walter pool hall.....32
Dennis Bros. grocery.....66
- E**
Eason, Sam res.....36
Elliott, John res.....28
Elliott & Miller windmills.....11
- F**
Freemon, S A res.....19
Freemon & Hughes, livery.....13
- G**
Globe, store.....69
Grimmet, W N M res.....50
- H**
Hamm, J C res.....23
Hamm, J C lumber yard.....40
Hamm, Frank res.....17
Hoople, Frank res.....49
Hill, Andrew, res.....8
Hamilton, J O store.....59
Hughes, J H res.....14
Hunt, Sam res.....42
Hotel, Alsobrook.....64
Hotel, South Side.....55
Hand, Chas res.....52
Harris, Alec.....21
- K**
ng, Dr J M C res.....2
- L**
Largent C M ranch.....58
Leeman, Dr J A res.....70
Leeman, Ed J res.....37
- M**
Merkel Mail, office.....31
Merkel Meat Market.....43
Martin, L E grocery.....75
Miller, R A res.....34
Mann, J L res.....5
Myrick, Sam, res.....12
McCord, W H res.....27
- O**
O'Zee, W J res.....26
- P**
Pittard, J K res.....3
- R**
Rust, Dr E M res.....30
Restaurant, Blue Front.....60
Rust & Pittard, drug store.....62
Richardson, Dr G H res.....20
Reed, J L grocery.....63
- S**
Senter, D M res.....53
l, S W grocery.....74
M feed store.....44
- W**
J H res.....15
store.....65
.....29
unch.....56
.....10
ware.....72
this list.
re any subscriber
as cause for com-
ill kindly report it
ve prompt atten-
reciate your pat-
al take pleasure in
e best possible ser-
S. ALLEN, Man.

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 June 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

- Brown, Jeff.
- Cox, A. F.
- Gibson, Henry Lee.
- Martin, Miss Edith.
- Moore, T. W.
- Powell, C. L.
- Ruffin, Jim.
- Taylor, Miss Nena.
- Watt, A. H.
- Watson, Jack.

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

Herbert Browning, in speaking of the terrible holocaust on the Island of Martinique, says it is the belief of many that the city of Honolulu in the Hawaiian Islands will sooner or later come to the same sad end. The volcano, which has undergone several eruptions, is only ten or twelve miles from the city, and some day it will belch forth death and destruction and thousands of people will be caught in the vortex.

The following local item was handed in: J. W. Winfrey, who has been visiting his parents, C. H. and S. H. Winfrey at Kale, will leave tonight for his home at Farmersville, accompanied by his sister, Miss Lillie Winfrey, who will visit relatives at Farmersville, Greenville and Floyd. She will then visit for two or three months at Ozark, Ark.

Grateful for a Roast.

Representative Shattuc, of Ohio, who wears the most brilliant waistcoat in congress, recently received a copy of a German newspaper printed in Pittsburg. A long editorial was marked with blue pencil. Shattuc looked at it. He does not read German, but he saw his name sprinkled through it many times, and he concluded it was something nice about himself. He called his stenographer and dictated a flowery letter of thanks to the editor for his "expressions of good-will" and invited the editor to come and see him when in Washington. Later he took the paper on the floor of the house. He showed it to several friends. Representative Bartholdt, of St. Louis, came along. Bartholdt glanced at the editorial article and laughed.

"What is it?" asked Shattuc.

"Nothing," said Bartholdt, "except that the editor roasts the life out of you. He says you are an enemy freedom and not fitted to be the representative of anything in congress."

Shattuc dashed madly to his committee room.

"Hi!" he shouted to his stenographer. "Stop that letter! stop that letter!"

"Can't do it, Mr. Shattuc," the stenographer replied. "I mailed it two hours ago."

Shattuc sank into a chair and swore.

"Great Scott!" he said. "What kind of a blithering idiot will that German editor think I am?"

Rhodes Was a Bashful Bachelor.

The late Cecil Rhodes not only was a bachelor, but fought very shy of the fair sex. Here is a story which is told of him in this connection: While on a visit to London several years ago he dined at the house of a very wealthy lady of title. Later, when he was discussing the affair with his secretary, the latter asked "And whom did you take to dinner?" "Oh, I don't know. Some Lady Somebody," was the reply, "But what did you call her?" "Didn't call her anything—never spoke to her," replied Rhodes.

Russia's Unique Welcome.

When M. Loubet goes to Russia all the vessels will be lighted by a most elaborate arrangement of incandescent lamps during the Russian fetes in the Cronstadt Roads. Four rows of tricolor lamps will surround the ships, and they will be connected with electric garlands of all colors. The marine engineers are studying how best to carry out the idea.

Cures When Doctors Fail.

Mrs. Frank Chiasson, Patterson, La., writes June 8, 1901: "I had malaria in very bad form, was under treatment by doctors, but as soon as I stopped taking their medicine the fever would return. I used a sample bottle Herbine, found it helped me. Then bought two bottles, which completely cured me. I feel grateful to you for furnishing such a splendid medicine, and can honestly recommend it to those suffering from malaria, as it will surely cure them." Herbine, 50c bottles at Rust & Pittard.

Bank Money Orders.

Bank money orders are issued by all banks, for any amount, and may be cashed at any bank in the United States. No limit to the time in which they will be paid; they are good always. No limit to the number of endorsements or transfers. They are good everywhere, and will be received by merchants and business men anywhere, the same as cash, and can be deposited in any bank at their full face value. All business men, jobbers, wholesale houses, mail-order houses, and newspapers prefer them. They are paid on demand. If lost, duplicate will be issued on application, no delay, no expense. No written application required in purchasing a Bank Money Order. The money is paid immediately upon presentation. They are absolutely safe.

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

Ask for them at

WARNICK'S BANK.

Holds Up a Congressman.

"At the end of the campaign," writes Champ Clark, Missouri's brilliant congressman, "from overwork, nervous tension, loss of sleep and constant speaking I had about utterly collapsed. It seemed that all the organs in my body were out of order, but three bottles of Electric Bitters made me all right. It's the best all-round medicine ever sold over a druggist's counter." Overworked, run-down men and weak, sickly women gain splendid strength and vitality from Electric Bitters. Try them. Only 50c. Guaranteed by Rust & Pittard.

Try reading The Mail.

Whooping Cough.

A woman who has had experience with this disease, tells how to prevent any dangerous consequences from it. She says: Our three children took whooping cough last summer, our baby boy being only three months old, and owing to our giving them Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, they lost none of their plumpness and came out in much better health than other children whose parents did not use this remedy. Our oldest little girl would call lustily for cough syrup between whoops. —Jessie Pinkey Hall, Springville Ala. This remedy is for sale by Rust & Pittard.

Dr. J. W. Little, a dentist of Ennis, Texas, has located in Merkel for the practice of his profession and moved his family here last week. The doctor comes to us highly recommended both as a dentist and a high-toned gentleman, and The Mail gladly welcomes him to our city. He will office over the Ferrier building and his family will occupy the Clark residence. Read his card.

The scholastic population of Texas last year was 739,400, with an apportionment of \$4.75 for each child. It is thought that the apportionment will reach \$5 per capita this year. Texas has the grandest free school system in the world.

Arthur Browning went down to Fort Worth Monday night.

DR. J. W. LITTLE...

Resident Dentist

EXAMINATIONS

FREE

Office upstairs, Ferrier Bldg.

Drugs..

We have the nicest stock of Drugs and Druggists Sundries in the city.


Your prescription will be looked after by a registered pharmacist.

All the best Magazines and periodicals handled.

Cool off at our Fountain.....

.....Horner & Collier.

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, 300 illustrations, colored cover by Remington, for 3 stamps. MARLIN FIRE ARMS CO. NEW HAVEN, CONN.



EASON & HILL,
(STAR STORE BUILDING.)
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.

J. J. MILLER,
Justice Peace and Notary Public

Also fire insurance agent. Will write deeds, take acknowledgments, pay taxes on land, furnish 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.
CHAS. CRAVEN, 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.

DR. E. B. GILBERT

→ SPECIALIST ←

Practice limited to the EYE, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

Office over Harris' Drug Store, Abilene, Texas.

BEST PASSENGER SERVICE IN TEXAS.

4-IMPORTANT GATEWAYS-4



NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS

*The Starkest
element
in West Texas
is our from
Texas Point*

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

MORE LIVES ARE SAVED BY USING...

Dr. King's New Discovery,

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.

The Missing Owl Was Found.

At the last dinner of the Tantalus club, when Speaker Henderson was entertained, the sergeant-at-arms stood behind the speaker's chair bearing a mace on which was a fine specimen of a stuffed white owl, the same being the emblem of authority of the Tantalus club. The owl was borrowed from the Smithsonian Institution for the occasion. Representative Powers, president of the club, gave his personal pledge that it would be returned safely. He was dismayed when after the dinner he found the owl had disappeared. Search was made for it with no result. That was three weeks ago. Word was then passed around that the person who had the owl would do well to return it. No owl came back. Then Representative Powers put the secret service men on the job, and today the owl was returned. Representative Powers will not tell who had it, but the man is in congress.

When the Senator Was Burned Up.

Senator Pettus went overland from Selma, Ala., to California on horseback more than fifty years ago. Once in a great while in the Democratic cloakroom at the capitol in Washington, he tells about his experiences. Senator Bacon pestered him for a story, a correspondent says. The ancient Alabamian did not feel like telling one. Finally he said: "I remember once when the whole outfit was captured by Indians. It was an exciting experience, but I'll have to make the story very short, because I have some letters to write. The Indians took us, tied us to trees, built fires around us made out of resinous pine wood that burned like oil, and left us to our fate." "Heavens!" said Senator Bacon, "how did you escape?" "We didn't," said Senator Pettus, as he arose to go; "we were burned to death."

Why Frye Was Sed.

In the senate the other day President Frye sat in his chair and gazed at the ceiling. Senator Proctor tore the back off an envelope and wrote on it.

Dear Frye: How can you sit there when the ice is out of the lake?—Proctor.

He sent the note to Senator Frye, who read it and made a gesture of despair that caused a dozen senators to wonder if the presiding officer had heard bad news. Proctor and Frye, the Washington writer who tells the story explains, are famous fishermen. For thirty years Senator Proctor has been in Vermont on the last night of April with fishing tackle ready, and for thirty years at sun up on the 1st of May he has begun casting for speckled trout. He will be there this year.

The Unconventional English.

"You may think you know American women with advanced ideas and unconventional modes of living," said a member of a Philadelphia publishing firm to a local interviewer recently, "but they are not to be compared with their English sisters. There is nothing so demure as an English girl before she is married, but matrimony, somehow or other, seems to change her whole nature, if one may judge from the way she breaks loose. During my last visit to England I was invited to dine with Mrs. Stannard, who writes novels under the nom de plume of John Strange Winter. When dessert was served her two little boys, aged, I should say, about 10 and 8, were permitted to come to the table. After eating all the sweets in sight the youngsters each drank a glass of benedictine and smoked a couple of Turkish cigarettes. Then their mother kissed them good night and sent them to bed. It was all I could do to believe my senses."

"Jimmie" Burns Didn't Go.

A new member of congress was very anxious to get upon the good side of Superintendent Smith, of the Botanic gardens, says a Washington correspondent, so that some flowers and potted plants might be sent to his house. As every one knows, Smith is a little old Scotchman, who worships the memory of "Bobbie" Burns and has probably the finest and most complete collection of editions of Burns' works in the world. When, therefore, the new member went to Smith he resolved to say something which would please the lover of Burns. When he entered Smith's library he looked with interest upon the books. "I always did love Jimmie Burns' poems," remarked the new member. "I never saw such a fine collection of his works. I think Jimmie Burns was one of the greatest men who ever lived." At this point Mr. Smith could contain himself no further. "'Jimmie' Burns!" he exclaimed, angrily. "Tommy Washington! Sammy Bonaparte! Get out." And the new member realized that he had made a mistake.

The President Handled the Reins.

President Roosevelt and Senator Lodge went out for a drive the other afternoon in a trap, the president handling the reins. When the two came out the coachman was on the seat and evidently expected to do the driving, but at a motion from the president he jumped down. Mr. Roosevelt then took the driver's seat, saying to the senator: "Get up here with me," motioning the coachman to get into the rear seat. Cracking the whip over the backs of his favorite bays, the president swung the team gracefully out of the yard into the avenue. A large crowd of out-of-town visitors had collected at the portico to see the president, and he lifted his black hat in acknowledgment of the salutations that greeted him. The president and the senator left the trap on the outskirts of town and walked back. Driving does not give the president the exercise he desires.

Why Americans Think Quicker.

The American people can think quicker and more to the point than any other people in the world. This statement was made recently in a New York newspaper, but the reason given was wide of the mark. The American people read in the aggregate ten times more than any other people. The American boy gets his inspiration, his energetic disposition, his ambition, his keen snap shot judgment and his quick wit largely from his reading—and very largely from his newspaper reading. The poise and culture and refinement and solidity come later in life from the reading of books and magazines and from contact with men and things. It is the American newspaper which sets the initial pace. Push and pluck are contagious, and more germs are hatched in the average American newspaper office than anywhere else.

Cheaper Beer or Abstinence.

A curious strike is in progress at Rokewood, near Ballarat, Victoria, where, in consequence of the refusal of the local publicans to reduce the price of beer from 6 pence to 4 pence per pint, nearly every resident has signed a pledge to do without beer until Melbourne prices are charged.

From \$500 to \$20,000.

The market price of seats in the Montreal stock exchange is now about \$20,000. The Star of that city notes that the original figure in 1874 was \$500. In 1886 the price had risen to \$6000, but early in the next decade it was less than one-third as large. Since then, however, the money value of a chance to gamble has been constantly increasing.

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 reason to believe that your kitchen work would be eased 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 afforded by the market, and sell at reasonable prices. Come to us for your groceries....

..NEW GOODS..

We are receiving our New Spring Goods. They embrace all the latest creations on the 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....

J. O. HAMILTON

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.

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

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