

THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, MAY 22, 1902.

NO. 14.

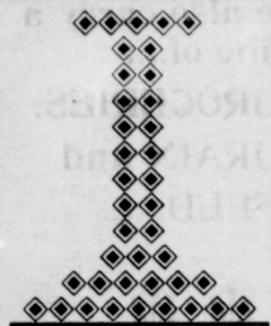
We Realize the Situation

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.

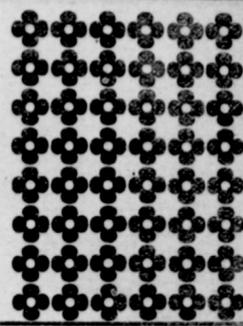
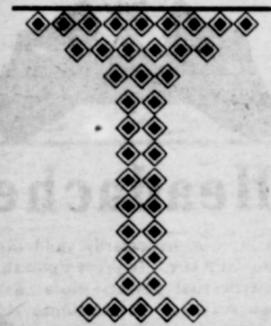
We could quote prices, but that would not satisfy you because you would want to see the goods. So come into our store, if you are from Missouri, and let us "show you" that we have the correct Goods at the Lowest Prices.

The Star Store

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

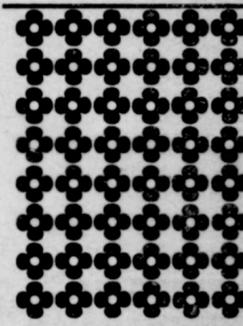


If you have a want in Dry Goods we can supply it at **REGULAR HARD TIMES PRICES**



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.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC RIVAL.

the Charter of the Houston, Beaumont, and New Orleans Railway Filed.

The charter of the Houston, Beaumont and New Orleans Railroad company was filed in the secretary of state's office. It is a Gould corporation, and is formed to build and operate a line of railroad from Houston by way of Beaumont to the line separating Texas and Louisiana at or near the town of Orange, a distance of about 110 miles, passing through the counties of Harris, Chambers, Liberty, Jefferson and Orange; also to build and operate a branch line from Beaumont to Sabine Pass, a distance of about thirty miles.

The principal office shall be at Houston. The capital stock is \$135,000. The board of directors are George J. Gould of Lakewood, N. J.; J. H. Kirby and T. W. House of Houston; J. B. Goodhue of Beaumont; Leroy Trice, N. A. Stedman, G. L. Noble, A. P. Howard and W. L. Maury of Palestine. The five last named are officially connected with the International and Great Northern.

General Attorney N. A. Stedman, who filed the charter, said that the work of constructing this new line would begin as soon as the survey is completed and right of way obtained. Surveyors are now in the field. The line will practically parallel the Southern Pacific between Houston and Orange. Judge Stedman also stated that the line would be continued to New Orleans, an additional distance of 225 miles, and that a charter of the Louisiana extension

would be taken out under the laws of that state.

Seawall Engineer.

The Galveston county commissioners closed a contract with Geo. W. Boschke, engineer of the Southern Pacific company, to serve as engineer in charge of the seawall. His salary is fixed at \$10,000 per year, payable monthly. He has selected C. A. Silas, city engineer, as his assistant to look after the work, and will pay him out of the \$10,000. It is expected to advertise for bids for the work within about ten weeks. The plans devised by the board of engineers will be followed and its completion will depend upon the delivery of the material. Engineer Boschke says he will get to work at once, and that the wall should be finished in two years, and even sooner.

Testing Spanish Land Grant.

There was argued in the Fifty-third district court the case of the state of Texas vs. Thomas O'Connor, to recover 19,410 acres of land in Webb county granted by the king of Spain at the time Spain owned Texas. The old Spanish land grants are attacked on the grounds that they are not valid in Texas, and five other suits are pending to recover lands in Webb county as follows: From Claude Hamilton et al. 11,270 acres, from Procopia Garza de Villeral et al. 29,666 acres, from J. A. Ortiz et al. 139,482 acres, from Juan Manuel Flores et al. 22,240 acres and from Juan Vela Cuellar et al. 8852 acres.

A GOOD BUGGY, same as new, for sale, either for cash or good note. Enquire at this office.

Local Option Matter.

The following self-explanatory letter is being sent to collectors of counties which have voted prohibition:

"Dear Sir: In answer to the question as to what shall be done with the party or parties in local option places who have internal revenue stamps for selling intoxicating liquors and sell such articles as ginger ale, hop ale, blackberry cordial and harmless wines of every grade and kind, will say that if the parties have United States special tax it is prima facie evidence that they are engaged in selling spirituous liquors, and the burden of proof will be upon them to show to the contrary in an effort made by you to collect this state tax. You will understand that drinks such as are enumerated above can be sold in local option places only upon prescription as prescribed by the local option law, and if the drinks are intoxicating they must pay a state tax of \$200 per year.

"In case there are parties in your county coming within the above definition who refuse to take out occupation taxes, my advice would be to file complaints against the parties so refusing, and let the complaint embrace two counts, one for failure to pay occupation taxes, and the other for violating local option laws, and by this means there will be no loophole of escape. Very respectfully,

"J. D. CUNNINGHAM,
"State Revenue Agent."

Another gusher has come in at Sour Lake.

Try reading The Mail.

INSURANCE...



I represent the following Companies....

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

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.

The Pecos Times asserts that Colonel Dean, the girating Congressional candidate, was the only member of the State Legislature that had the "nerve to vote his honest sentiments in the face of public opinion" when the anti-prize fight session was called by Governor Culberson. Yes, and sentiment be damned when common decency is at stake. A man who will thus violate a pledge to his constituency should be relegated to private life, and that is exactly where he is headed for. Nine-tenths of the people of Texas were clamoring for an anti-prize fight law to stop the brutal exhibition which the thugs and blacklegs and Mr. Dean and Dan Stuart were trying to force on them. Mr. Dean, who now has emissaries in this county in the persons of a few disgruntled politicians trying to deliver the goods, voted against this measure. He would in like manner ignore the people if sent to Congress. "Get thee behind me, satan."

The prohibitionists have pledged themselves to fight shy of any politics in the campaign. This ought to relieve over-wrought politicians with anti tendencies, who have been so keen to condemn prohibition on this score. How much whiskey did they use in futherance of their election? And which is the best—prohibition and politics or whiskey and politics? Echo answers, which? There are two sides to this question, remember.

Colorado politicians are quietly maturing plans to repeal the constitutional amendment relating to equal suffrage, and at the next session of the Legislature will introduce a bill to that effect. The movement will have backing in both parties and will undoubtedly pass if put to a vote of the people. The ballot box in the hands of women is obnoxious to the average politician.

Plans are under way for another rock house in Merkel, and prospects are good for them to materialize. Let the work go bravely on.

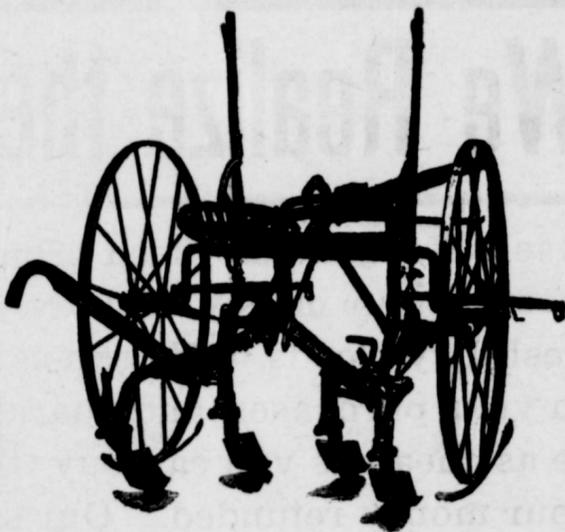
YOU WANT THE BEST..

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

The Methodist District Conference meets here June 27. There will be about 125 delegates present and Merkel will be taxed to her utmost capacity in providing homes for them. A rate of one and one-third fare has been promised by the railroad from and to all points between Eastland and Midland.

This seems to be an unfortunate month and horrible disasters on land and sea are of almost daily occurrence. The latest is cave in of a Coal Creek, Tenn., mine, in which near 200 miners lost their lives. Old 1902 will go down into history as a year of horrors.

Merkel and the Great Merkel Country have been favored by Providence this year. May the same spirit abide with us.

At least there will be no blood-bought money use by the pros.

The Cubans have assumed the rein of government.

The sandstorms hold on with relentless fury.

PROHIBITION CAMPAIGN

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING HELD HERE TUESDAY

First Steps Taken to Roust the Demon Drink From Taylor County for Good.

An enthusiastic meeting of the citizens of Merkel was held at Ferrier Hall Tuesday evening, and an organization was perfected pledging its co-operation in the prohibition campaign now on in the county. J. C. Calvert was elected chairman and J. K. Pittard secretary. Rev. Lee R. Scarborough and Attorney W. J. Cunningham addressed the meeting in their usual happy manner. Considerable interest was manifest throughout and the meeting went into permanent organization. The following committees were then appointed:

- Finance Committee—
J. T. Warren, G. F. West.
- Executive Committee—
J. C. Calvert, J. A. Leeman,

A. A. Baker. Campaign Committee—

W. W. Wheeler, R. A. Miller, H. W. Derstine, Rev. R. S. Heizer, Rev. A. J. Leach.

Committee on Literature—

H. C. Williams, Ed J. Leeman, W. P. Thurmond, R. W. Witt.

The following resolution was authorized: "Resolved that it is the sense of this body that the prohibition movement is non-political, and that we abstain from the semblance of politics in the campaign."

A meeting was called at Trent for Saturday evening at 3 o'clock when an organization will be perfected and committees appointed to carry on the work at that place. A full attendance is desired.

There will be a mass meeting of the citizens of Merkel at the Methodist church next Saturday night, usual hour. Let everybody attend. Ladies especially invited. Good speakers will be on hand.

On the following morning the various committees went into executive session and mapped out plans for use in the campaign.

The people of Merkel and the whole of Taylor county are dead-ly in earnest on this issue and will use every means that is honest and legitimate to drive the demon drink out of the county.

Have You Heard Him?

Rev. Edward Thomson, LL.D., the eloquent lawyer - preacher, will deliver his popular address, "True Americanism," on the night of May 28 at the Methodist church in Merkel. This is a first-class lecture, and yet admission will be free, because the Sunday League of America has engaged Dr. Thomson to give this lecture in 35 towns in the State of Texas, and Merkel has been selected as one of the places. Now let everybody show their appreciation of a good thing by giving him a good audience.

Mrs. Berry and children are visiting in Abilene.

Rev. Lee R. Scarborough and Attorney W. J. Cunningham were up from Abilene Tuesday. Both are enthusiastic prohibitionists, and will take an active part in the campaign.

Locust Year

Los Angeles Times.

This is to be by far the worst "locust year" experienced in this country since 1885. Next month will witness the sudden onslaught in twenty states simultaneously, of the largest brood of "seventeen year locusts" known to science. This vast insect army, numbering countless billions, has been followed in its ravages from the year 1715, since when it has never failed to reappear in the last week of May, at regular intervals of seventeen years. Whenever it appeared in 1885, the year of its last outbreak, it is practically sure to reappear this year. The entomologists of the Department of Agriculture are thus able to forecast its field of operations for the month.

The states to be involved are New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Ohio, West Virginia, Massachusetts, Vermont, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Wisconsin, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee.

"Locust" is an erroneous name for this remarkable insect. It should be termed the "periodical cicada." "Locust" should be applied only to the grasshopper. The cicada became confused with the migratory locust or grasshopper of the Orient, which appears in vast numbers, at long intervals of time.

The periodical cicada is distinctly an American species. It has the longest life of any known insect and, according to one of the government entomologists, who has made a special study of its habits, it is undoubtedly the most anomalous and interesting of American insects.

Grandma Dean died at her home near Trent Thursday evening and the body was shipped to Arlingtrod that night for burial. Mrs. Dean was the mother of Mrs. D. C. Hutcheson. She was quite an aged lady and esteemed by all who knew her.

Rev. Lee R. Scarborough has postponed his meeting here, which was to have begun Monday night, until after the prohibition election.



Headache

kills, not necessarily suddenly, but SURELY. It preys upon the intellectual powers more than we realize. It consumes the vitality faster than nature can replenish it, and we cannot tell just what moment a temporary or complete aberration of the mind will result. Headache and pain should be promptly removed—but properly. Many pain cures are more harmful than the pain. Beware. If you would be safe, take

Dr. Miles' Pain Pills.

"As a result of neuralgia I lost the sight of my right eye, and the pain I have suffered is incomprehensible, being obliged to take opiates almost continually. A friend gave me one of Dr. Miles' Pain Pills and it promptly relieved me. I then purchased a box and now my trouble is gone. They have also cured my daughter of nervous headache, and I heartily recommend them to others."—W. J. CORLEY, Bremond, Texas.

Sold by Druggists. 25 Doses, 25c.

Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

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 enrich the blood, imp-tite, make healthy fl 25c at Rust & Pittard

We have a nice Carts and Baby Bug W. P. Brown

Arrangements hav by which Rev. W. accepts the pastorate ger Baptist church th in each month, 1st, 2 He will remain in tov and will preach n morning at the usu will move his family June 1st.—Ledger.

No Loss of Time.

have sold Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy for years, and would rather be without coffee and sugar than it. I sold five bottles of it yesterday to threshers that could go no farther, and they are at work again this morning. — H. R. Phelps, Plymouth, Okla. As will be seen by the above the threshers were able to keep on with their work without losing a single days time. You should keep a bottle of this Remedy in your home. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

MRS. HAYES WRITES.

The Daughter of Jefferson Davis Thanks Veterans, Daughters and Sons.

The following letter was received by W. B. Kivett, commander of Jefferson camp No. 175, U. C. V., of Colorado Springs, Colo., on the Saturday after the reunion had closed: Colorado Springs, Colo.—W. B. Kivett, Commander, Dallas, Tex.: My Dear Sir—Through the Sons of Veterans of Colorado I send my loving greetings to the people of Texas who have in the past and always shown their loyalty to our dear dead cause, and their love for their beloved president, my father, by honoring his more than grateful daughter.

I also send my affectionate greetings to every veteran present and to each Daughter of the Confederacy, one of whom I am proud to call myself. I also greet the Sons of Confederate Veterans, who have so honored me and mine, and I hope to have a worthy representative to offer them next year if my duties oblige me to absent myself as they now do in the person of my daughter, Lucy White Hayes, who is loyal to the land of her birth and will be only too glad to act as their sponsor as I would have been if I had been mistress of my time.

Mr. Hayes at the age of 13 ran away and joined his gallant brother, Richard Hightower Hayes, who was a captain at 19, promoted for gallantry, and whose example inspired his young brother to follow and join the Confederate forces.

My husband was then too young to serve this country, but as soon as he could carry his gun he was in the thick of battle till the end.

His whole heart was given to our dear country and loyal affection, and his greatest grief is his inability to live among his own people. He lost his health in the effort to serve the sufferers of the yellow fever epidemic of 1878 in Memphis, and since then has lived in Colorado.

I make this statement because I know many of our people think I married a northern man, because I am forced to live away from my own people, and no more loyal a south-

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, - \$ 6,000

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.

erner lives than my husband, Joel Addison Hayes, a native of Mississippi, of an old Tennessee family, and a grandson of Chief Justice Henderson of North Carolina.

Mr. Hayes' health obliges him to seek the softer climate of California every spring, and as he has to go, I am usually obliged to remain at home, as my duties claim my presence.

Though I was a little child I remember vividly the impression made on me as I watched our soldiers march by, half starved, poorly clothed, except for the whole armor of God, strong in their sense of right, ready to die in defense of their country, their homes and the women who bore their names.

These women, born in luxury, spun and wove and stitched loving, loyal thoughts into the clothes they sent to the soldiers; and I remember plaiting straw to make them hats, which my elders sewed and shaped. I am often asked to plait a few inches now to show how it was done.

To those brave, unselfish, loyal women of the Confederacy all honor be given. Their spirit still lives in the daughters, the Daughters of the Confederacy, who never tire in their efforts to keep green the memories of our beloved dead and who hold the welfare of those veterans, still living, a sacred, tender charge.

Again I greet you one and all my dearly loved people and pray God may send you every blessing. Yours faithfully,

MARGARET HOWELL JEFFERSON DAVIS HAYES.

Purchased by St. Louis Parties.

A St. Louis syndicate has purchased the gas, electric and street railway plants of Paris, the purchase price being \$600,000. The officers and directors of the Colonial Trust company compose the syndicate. The property purchased are the Paris Transit company and the Paris Light and Power company.

It has only recently been changed from horse to electric power and has been in operation under the electric system only since last December. The plants were taken in at their capitalization and their bonded indebtedness, the properties being bonded for \$300,000 and the stock being the same amount. The syndicate is composed of Thomas W. Crouch, Edward S. Lewis, Col. E. J. Spencer, Paul A. Fusz, Edgar D. Tilton and F. W. Child, all of St. Louis, with Mr. Crouch at the head. A number of improvements, including the installation of a plant for manufacturing gas from oil, are expected to be made soon.

Prof. C. E. Evans was over from Anson Tuesday. He will not move his family here until after the normal at Stamford, of which he is conductor.

The Baptist people will hold their children's day exercises on next Sunday evening at 4 o'clock. The Methodists will observe Sunday night in like manner. Everybody invited to both services.

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

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

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.

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.

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.

For Those Who Live on Farms.

Dr. Bergin, Pana, Ills., writes: "I have used Ballard's Snow Liniment; always recommend it to my friends, as I am confident there is no better made. It is a dandy for burns." Those who live on farms are especially liable to many accidental cuts, burns and bruises, which heal rapidly when Ballard's Snow Liniment is applied. It should always be kept in the house for cases of emergency. 25, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

Must be Stamped.

All railroad tickets in Texas must, in the future, be stamped non-transferable or possession can legally pass as often as the holders care to sell and still be recognized on the passenger trains.

The Third court of civil appeals affirmed the case of International and Great Northern Railway company vs. John H. Iing, from Travis, giving verdict for \$502.90 for humiliation, etc., for being ejected from a passenger train, because he was riding on an excursion ticket from Austin to San Antonio, purchased by another party.

The court lays this doctrine: "As to the point in reference to the assignability of the ticket, we hold that in the absence of constitutional or statutory prohibition, or a stipulation to the contrary on the face thereof, a railroad passenger ticket is transferrable and entitles the holder thereof to the rights of the original purchaser."

STARS AND BARS.

The Last Time the Confederate Flag Swung Over the Sea.

In the autumn of 1870 Mr. J. C. Heaton and wife of Victoria, Tex., who had long been residents of that pretty little city, decided to revisit their old home at Potsdam, N. Y. Being so soon after the war, as a curiosity Mr. Heaton had secured a large silk Confederate flag that had floated at the head of a gallant Texas cavalry regiment in a number of hard fought actions in the northwest. The flag was packed in the baggage and Mr. and Mrs. Heaton left Victoria for "Powderhorn," or Indianola, its new name, the port from whence they were to sail for New York. The town of Indianola being almost an island, in crossing an arm of the bay to reach the quay, their carriage was upset and their baggage thrown into the water. They were rescued and reached their vessel, the Morgan liner St. Mary, Capt. H. Talbot, master. After the vessel had crossed the bar and was at sea Mr. Heaton went to Captain Talbot and asked permission to unpack his baggage and dry it on the forward deck of the ship. The request was granted and the various articles spread out. On the ship, as passengers, were a large number of cattle raisers, many of them very wealthy, and nearly all of them ex-Confederate soldiers. When the shining silk folds of "the conquered banner" were spread before them its appearance was greeted with a cheer, a "rebel yell" that shook the ship. Every hat was lifted and swung to the gulf breeze. The excitement spread like prairie fire. The ladies on board, always intense in their devotion to the south, joined in it. Finally the climax was reached when an old sailor, grasping the flag, rushed to the fore halyards of the steamship, rapidly wove the rope through and with a mighty force sent the flag flying to the top of the foremast. As it fluttered out in the breeze pandemonium broke loose. Cheers, wild yells, with every other noise possible, sent the gulls that hovered around shrieking away. The ship's officers rushed forward and even the engineers and stokers from below ran up, thinking that certainly the ship was on fire or some terrible accident had happened. The St. Mary was a United States mail ship and Capt. Talbot intensely patriotic, being an ex-navy officer in the United States navy. When he realized what had taken place he was fairly speechless, and what he said will not be repeated. The "stars and bars" were hauled down, never again to float at the fore of the splendid ship St. Mary.—R. J. W., Goliad, Tex.

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

A GOOD BUGGY, same as new, for sale, either for cash or good note. Enquire at this office.

Cold .. Drinks..

We have a nice Ice Cream Parlor, and invite only the best trade.

Fresh Bread kept always on hand.

Oysters every Saturday.

Meals served at all hours.

Blue Front Restaurant.

Weak?

"I suffered terribly and was extremely weak for 12 years. The doctors said my blood was all turning to water. At last I tried Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and was soon feeling all right again."
Mrs. J. W. Fials, Hadlyme, Ct.

No matter how long you have been ill, nor how poorly you may be today, Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the best medicine you can take for purifying and enriching the blood.

Don't doubt it, put your whole trust in it, throw away everything else.

\$1.00 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.

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 (4-2 inches)..... 2.50
Half column (9 inches)..... 4.00
One column (18 inches)..... 7.50
Four issues constitute a month. All advertisements run and charged for until ordered out, unless limit is specified when insertion is made. Special prices on time contracts.
Local notices, 5 cents per line, each insertion.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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

For the Glen Rose Herald.

Merkel Mail..... \$2.00
Cisco Round-up..... 2.00

NEXT!

Let's cultivate the beautiful spirit of brotherly kindness and generosity.

IS PRAYER EFFECTIVE?

Last Tuesday the people of Snyder assembled early in prayer and supplications for the blessing of a rain. The sky was clear and bright, but there was fervency in prayer, and all business was suspended in sympathy with the earnestness of the people who had faith in the injunction, "Ask and ye shall receive." Along about 3 o'clock in the afternoon a small cloud began to approach from the northwest. As it drew nearer and increased in size prayer became more general and very earnest. At 6 o'clock the flood gates opened and the rain descended, in some places amounting to almost a deluge. The entire county came in for the blessing. So that at night prayer was turned into rejoicing and thanksgiving. Now the question arises, what caused the rain? Was it the result of prayer, or did it just happen so? Way down deep in the hearts of the good people of Scurry county there is a little voice which answers "God willed it so," and nothing short of an earthquake can shake their faith in the efficacy of prayer.

Prayer was also indulged in at Roscoe, but they got only a small sprinkle. Perhaps they are all Methodists up there.

It runs into absurdity when the prohibitionists seek to launch a full county ticket on the people, for to antagonize the county officers now would result disastrously to the cause. Prohibition and politics will not mix. Nothing should be farther from the prohibitionists than this contemplated move on their part. However, this rumor is charged to the anti movement, the leaders of which will make every effort to antagonize the county nominees and prohibitionists, in order to work up strife between them. The prohibitionists should thoroughly organize and make a canvass of the entire county. If they do not do so, defeat is certain.

Are there any issues between the candidates for Congress? If so, what are they? What do they want to go to Congress for? and what do they expect to do after they get there? These are questions that interest the people and which the candidates should be called on to answer.

Andrew Carnegie, the great philanthropist, has made an offer of \$20,000,000 for the independence of the Philippines.

POLITICAL POT POURRI.

The vote for Railroad Commissioner favors Colquitt so far, but Curtis is camping on his trail and Colquitt has a hard race.

For State Treasurer Robbins is in the lead.

Ocie Speer is running like a scared wolf for Associate Justice and will probably receive the nomination by big odds.

The congressional situation may be summed up as follows:

First District—John L. Shepard, the present incumbent, has no opposition.

Second—S. B. Cooper will go in without a conquest.

Third—Congressman DeGraffenreid and Gordon Russell are fighting for Kaufman county, which holds the balance of power.

Fourth—C. B. Randell will go in for a second term.

Fifth—Jack Beall of Ellis has defeated Dudley G. Wooten.

Sixth—Speaker Prince of Navarro and Scott Field of Robertson are running neck and neck, with two counties, Limestone and Brazos, yet to hear from.

Seventh—An even break between Gregg of Anderson and Nunn of Houston counties.

Eighth—T. H. Ball has no opponent.

Ninth—G. F. Burges has an open field.

Tenth—A. S. Burleson ought to get there without an opponent.

Eleventh—Henry and Thomas are fighting for Falls county, which will settle the dispute.

Twelfth—Gillespie, Poindexter and Riddle will try for the key of a locked convention.

Thirteenth—John L. Stephens now has no opposition.

Fourteenth—All candidates except Slayden have withdrawn.

Fifteenth—Close between Senator Dibrell and John L. Garner.

Sixteenth—Very badly mixed up with Judge Smith of Colorado slightly in the lead.

In the race for the State Senate from this district Grogan is walking on Sebastian's heels, with the chances in favor of the latter.

For the Legislature Bryan now has a corner, his opponent having withdrawn.

Senate Hardwicke has carried Comanche County for District Attorney which, with the instruction of his home county, will give him fourteen votes, one-half of the entire vote of the district. Callahan and Shackelford counties are yet to hear from.

We believe it was the Merkel Mail which announced last week that Judge Smith's nomination was "practically a dead sure thing." Our contemporary got itself into rather an embarrassing position, as the "dead thing" has already crawled off, remarks the Breckinridge Democrat. The Democrat leads one to believe that it is on the fence, but a one-eyed man could see through its little scheme. If it has reference to Eastland county it shows its ignorance. Judge Smith can give Maxwell Eastland county's vote and then have enough left to secure the nomination.

Jones county has honored two Taylor county candidates by instructing for them in preference to home men. It would be a graceful recognition of this act if Taylor county should give its instruction to Jones county's candidate for Congress. Are we too selfish to show our appreciation of the generosity of a sister county?

Lewis Nixon, head of Tammany Hall, has saved his self-respect by resigning its leadership.

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.

Mr. Grogan, candidate for the Senate, should use a grain of consistency as he goes along. He is long on condemnation of Sebastian's land record, but very short on explanations of his own record. He should explain why he voted for the Wright bill, one of the most iniquitous measures before the Twenty-Sixth Legislature. Come across, Bro. Grogan, and be consistent.

It would be a good idea to ask the congressional candidates for expressions on the private pension issue. If any of them have touched the question, with a possible exception of Dan Jones, who is on the right side of everything, we haven't heard of it. Let the candidates "speak out in meeting" for or against this fraud.

The Republicans have many sins to answer for, but none are more glaring than the sin of sanction in permitting the ruthless slaughter of Filipinos. We condemn British brutality in South Africa, but it is no greater than that in the Philippines.

The Congressional situation is settling down to a steady gait. Smith of Colorado has 23 votes, Dean of El Paso 17, Maxwell of Eastland 7, and Jones of Jones 3. The vote is pretty badly divided, but there are several counties to hear from.

W. L. Grogan is a good political haberdasher, but he will have to show the people of Taylor county. Promises don't go. What did he do when he had a chance? is the question.

Republicans are going to hedge the Democrats by modify-

ing the tariff in advance of the issue. "A stitch in time saves nine," and sometimes a party head from the block.

Congressman DeGraffenreid has the reputation of being the best poka player in Congress. If he has any other record the people haven't heard of it.

Scurry county went prohibition last week by a vote of 455 to 82. The Ennis box rolled up a vote of 16 to 1, which shows its Bryan proclivities.

Now that the entire country has been amply blessed with rain, everybody is smiling and happy. There has never been a brighter outlook.

Imperialism seems to be the slogan of the Democratic party. What is imperialism, anyway, and who is the author of it?

Every man, woman and child in the United States contributed \$1.86 each last year to help butcher the Filipinos.

As an expounder-extraordinary of political surprises President Roosevelt has the floor all to himself.

The chronic kicker with a mossy back has been given a solar plexus blow. The rains did it.

The Republican prosperity wave has been punctured by the strenuousness of the dry weather.

The average politician has a hard time trying to keep his politics on straight.

Taylor county is very wet at this time and the people are at work.

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

A terrible cyclone struck Goliad Sunday evening, leaving devastation in its wake. About 90 people were killed, 50 injured and fully 100 houses completely demolished.

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

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

ENTIRE COUNTRY IS BLESSED.

Rains of the Past Few Days Have Covered a Greater Portion of This Country.

Thursday evening witnessed the hardest rain that has visited this section for many months. The precipitation amounted to fully four inches at this point and was just 55 minutes in falling, which is a remarkably heavy rain. It was accompanied by a wind and bombardment of hail. The rain came from the northeast, but switched to an easterly course and was general from Eskota on the west to Cisco on the east. At Putnam in Callahan county the hail was very destructing, the evening train, which was forced to stop there until the storm was over, coming into Abilene with 36 window lights broken out. Jones county got a good rain in the south half, while every foot of Taylor county was submerged.

The hail damaged crops considerably, but covered only a small scope of country. Southwest of town seven or eight farms were literally swept as clean as a floor. This was the only part damaged so far as we know.

Saturday was ushered in with a good stiff breeze which soon branched off into a sandstorm, and along towards night this increased to a gale. The wind and sand kept up a continuous fusillade until 2 o'clock Sunday morning, when it quieted down and a good rain began to fall, continuing without cessation for ten hours. It is estimated that fully two inches of rain fell during the time. The ground was in fine condition and absorbed all the moisture. This rain was equal throughout the west.

This is the seventh rain that has fallen here during the present month. The total rainfall is between eight and ten inches.

No Money From the County.

The Mail stated last week that an effort would be made to get an appropriation from the county to assist in the betterment of Merkel's streets. The report had gone out that Merkel didn't want the appropriation because the people objected to the organization of an independent road district from the start and manifested their displeasure because it was based on them by their defeat in the recent primary election, and therefore the court, in the circumstances, to refuse to grant the request. Judge Miller worked hard for the appropriation, but could do nothing in the face of such reports. He deserves great credit, anyway.

Evidently they, he or it has it in for Merkel in great shape and will cut us off at the quick whenever the opportunity presents itself. Well, well; don't that jerk your cork under? This places the people of Merkel in a position where they need never expect any aid from the county. They should retaliate against the injustice by appropriating money from their own pockets for street improvements.

Prof. and Mrs. B. W. Hudgins and family will start some time next week on their annual visit to the parents of Prof. Hudgins at Clarendon, Texas. — Snyder Coming 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.



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.

J. H. O'Brien, the Abilene wit, was in the city Saturday and The Mail sanotum was enlivened by his presence. Mr. O'Brien was here in the interest of the Abilene Reporter which has undertaken a special public school edition. He informed The Mail that the effort would reflect great credit on the entire country, and as the writeups, pictures, etc., will cost the schools nothing, nor anyone connected with them, the promoters should receive the hearty co-operation of all. The Reporter generally accomplishes what it undertakes in a praiseworthy manner, and Mr. O'Brien should be treated with every courtesy in his rounds throughout the county collecting data for the edition.

Prohibition Election Ordered.

In pursuance with the various petitions presented to that body, the Commissioners Court last week ordered a prohibition election for the entire county to take place on Saturday, June 7th. This move has been under consideration for several months, but has only recently come to a head. Some of the best citizens of the county are behind the issue, and it is confidently expected that it will carry by a safe majority.

Fayette Sellers of Abilene was in the city Sunday.

A LECTURE.

J. H. O'Brien will lecture to the people of Merkel on China and the Chinese.

Mr. O'Brien has traveled extensively and has a way of saying things that pleases.

He will be accompanied by Mrs. D. L. Askew of Atlanta, Ga., who will entertain the audience with the subject of "Theories."

Mrs. Askew is an interesting talker and handles her subject well.

25 per cent of the receipts will go to the Merkel Good Streets fund. School children admitted free when accompanied by their parents. Tuesday, May 27, at Ferrier Hall. Admission 25c.

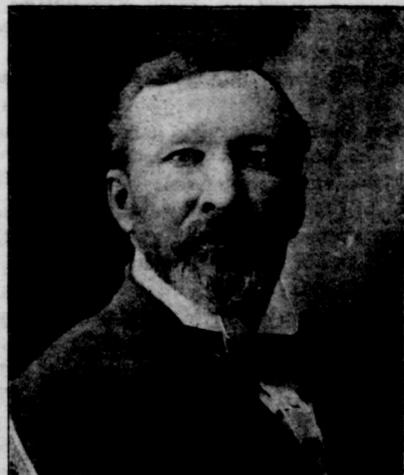
The Mail takes pleasure in commending Mr. O'Brien's lecture; for it is full of wit, humor, and interesting information. This lecture is given merely to get the people together, in order that a good picture may be secured of the school children, which will be used in the special school edition of the Abilene Reporter. To this end it is hoped that all the school children will be on hand early.

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

Miss Bertie Bruton of Holder is visiting her sister, Mrs. D. M. Senter.

Your teeth need attention. See Dr. T. S. Hollis, Dentist, due here May 28 and 29. He brings complete outfit for doing all kinds of dental work, such as gold, amalgam and cement filling, gold and porcelain crowns, etc. 2 days only. 1t

Miss Laura Herring is visiting in Abilene.



Isaac N. Taylor was up from Abilene Saturday. Rumor has it that he may move back to his old love.

The sandstorm of Saturday did considerable damage to crops throughout the country. Cotton especially suffered, much of it in some localities being mowed even with the ground. However, a large per cent of the damage is imaginary.

Mrs. J. T. Warren and children left Sunday night for El Paso, Ark., to visit her mother.

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

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

J. L. Mann has purchased the interest of Dr. King in the drug store formerly owned by King & Co., and the firm name will hereafter be Burroughs & Mann. We propose to carry a complete 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.

Hon. W. J. Bryan, Representative from this district, which includes the counties of Taylor, Jones and Callahan, was in the city Saturday. This was his initial trip to Merkel and he was naturally repairing his political fences, though his home county will go solidly for him. Mr. Bryan was one of the hardest workers in the last Legislature. He now has no opponent and will go up for a second term.

Miss Nora Crim left Thursday night for her home at Alvord after a pleasant visit with relatives here.

Children's day exercises were scheduled for last Sunday at two of the churches, but were rained out. Merkel is "wet" by a handsome majority, and so mote it continue.

J. W. Warren, who formerly owned the Hoople ranch southwest of town, but moved to Terrell a year or so ago, has located at Sweetwater.

Mrs. F. B. Hoople entertained the young people in royal style Saturday evening.

Joe Jernigan came in from Lordsburg, N. M., Friday, to attend the burial of his father.

The Christian ladies have advertised an ice cream social for this evening, to be held in the Storey building. Patronize them.

The town was full of prospectors last week and many of them were converted by the big rains.

J. J. Stallings was around settling up with The Mail Monday. Mr. Stallings is prompt to a day with the printer, which is highly appreciated.

Will Leeman returned Friday from the Territory.

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 NEWS

WEEKLY BUDGET OF HAPPENINGS THRO' OUT THE COUNTY...

ABILENE.

Abilene, May 21.—All that you can here on the streets of Abilene just now is prohibition. The question is being discussed from all points of the compass and has champions and antagonists galore.

Jim Davis of this city and Miss May Scales of Fort Worth were married in the latter city Sunday morning and arrived here Sunday afternoon. Miss Scales was formerly operator at the central telephone exchange here.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Willis died Sunday evening and was buried in the city Monday evening.

The political pot is simmering again in Abilene. J. M. Dean of El Paso has opened headquarters here to further his interests as a candidate for congress, with W. W. Kirk as secretary. The Smith forces are expected here soon, and between the two with prohibition as a side issue, the fur is liable to fly.

The residence of J. A. Chapman, a candidate for district clerk in the late primary, burned last Friday night. Loss about \$1,800, insurance \$1,200.

Hon. W. L. Grogan of Sweetwater (somewhere west of Merkel) is here today pushing his claims as an aspirant for State Senate.

NUBIA.

Cotton planting is all the go now on account of the hail and water and also the sand of Saturday.

N. J. Rawlings and wife came down from Fisher county Friday to visit their daughter, Mrs. Branscum.

There was a social given at Mr. Walter Cox's Monday night, a very nice crowd being present.

Nubia had a "gully washer" Thursday evening about an hour by sun and considerable damage was done. One thing was it washed away the bridge in the south part of town, but the road hands were at work on the road Monday.

Miss Rhoda Leslie visited at J. M. Blackburn's Sunday evening and Monday.

Miss Mary Leslie is visiting her brother, John, this week.

We are informed that T. J. Walker came very near getting drowned Thursday by driving into an old well.

Mrs. D. E. Snow is improving very rapidly now.

Nubia had better keep her eyes open and watch out for the water—looks like it might rain again.

Hello, where are you, Blue Eyes? Come again and give us some news to read.

Rose Bud.

DORA.

R. D. Brandon and Jim Ensinger went to Abilene Thursday.

A nice rain fell at Dora Thursday night which was badly needed.

The hail damaged John Brandon's cotton so he will have to plant over.

The young people enjoyed an ice cream supper at Mr. and Mrs. Jackson's Friday evening.

Ed Rounseville of Nolan was in Dora Friday.

No preaching Sunday on account of the rain Sunday morning.

Miss Mattie Dean came in from Jones county Sunday where she had been visiting relatives.

R. A. Linn and wife went to Nolan Monday.

J. T. and W. T. Linn went to Nolan Tuesday.

J. M. Bryson and wife went to Wingate to see their daughter, Mrs. McNoy, who is very ill.

The young people enjoyed a candy breaking Tuesday night at Mr. and Mrs. Bryson's.

Kat Klaw.

Resolutions of Respect.

To the W. M. Warden and brethren of Merkel chapter No. 710, A. F. & A. M.

Whereas, on the 14 day of May 1902 it was the will of the Supreme High Priest to remove from the terrestrial to the celestial temple our much beloved and esteemed brother and companion, G. W. Jernigan, in the 78th year of his age; and

Whereas, he has been a Master Mason from his early manhood and delighted in the work of the craft, and in due time entered the Royal Arch chapter where he was so overwhelmed with the sublime grandure of the work that he often expressed himself as to the superb majesty of the order; and

Whereas, Bro. Jernigan was a charter member of Merkel lodge No. 710, therefore be it resolved:

1. That we cherish the memo-

ry of our brother and emulate his virtues.

2. That we as a lodge bow in submissive reverence to the great Architect in this dispensation of His providence.

3. That we affectionately extend our condolence to the aged wife and family in their bereavement and commend them for consolation to our loving Heavenly Father.

4. That the craft wear the usual badge of mourning for 30 days and that these resolutions be spread on the minutes of the lodge and a copy sent to his family, and also sent to the Merkel Mail for publication.

A. A. Baker,
J. A. Leeman,
I. S. Allen,
Committee.

It is reported that, starting in at the south line of S. J. Patterson's farm and extending south to the mountains, the sandstorm of Saturday swept every farm barren of crops. At Cross Roads there was not a sprig of cotton left on the farms. Farmers in other sections are throwing up furrows every few rows to protect young cotton.

The End of the World.

If you want to know just how much the scientists know on the subject, read these six opinions which have been handed down in recent years; reconcile them if you can, and then possess your soul in patience:

1. The land surface is diminishing; then the human race will finally be drowned.

2. Ice is gradually accumulating at the North Pole, so that some day the earth will lose its equilibrium and men will be utterly annihilated by the rush of moving objects.

3. The earth is moving toward the sun; the last man will finally be roasted alive.

4. Water is by degrees becoming scarcer; in ages to come all beings, human and bestial, will perish with thirst.

5. The beginning of the year 3000 men will retrograde; in the end they will be creatures no larger than an insect.

6. The sun is burning up; as Old Sol cools the earth's glacial zones will enlarge and humanity will be frozen to death.

Reports came in from Nubia this morning that the rain was very heavy there and the entire country is flooded. It is claimed that not a bridge is left across Mulberry.

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.

A heavy rain fell here last night and this morning, and as we go to press there are indications of a continuation.

Rice Company.

The secretary of state granted a permit to do business in Texas to the Texas Land and Irrigation company with a capital stock of \$2,000,000. This company was chartered under the laws of South Dakota, but will maintain its principal offices in Texas at Houston. It will engage in the cultivation of rice on an extensive scale near Wallis. The incorporators are Milton Harners of Lexington, Ill.; H. B. Montgomery, J. F. Stringfield and A. Stringfield of Bloomington, Ill.; C. H. Twining of Danvers, Ill.; M. Palmer and J. A. Stone of Wallis, Tex.

Preparing for Fair.

The management of the West Texas Fair association at Abilene has announced that the fair here this fall will be held Oct. 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18. This date comes just after the close of the Texas State fair. Extensive preparations are being made for the fall meeting.

Rice Mill.

A rice mill company has been organized at Galveston. The new organization contemplates converting the old cotton mill into a rice mill. It expects to be ready for business by Sept. 15.

Must Pay.

H. J. Martyn will collect from the city of Dallas the sum of \$741, representing the total of fees due him for taking acknowledgments to tax suit deeds some years ago. So says the court of civil appeals for the Fourth district, in session at San Antonio.

Mr. Martyn was employed to take acknowledgments during the administration of Tax Collector Ford House and charged therefor at the rate of 50c each. The city wanted a very material reduction in the bill. He declined to make it, and litigation was the result.

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.

Irrigating Canal.

The greatest event in the history of Cameron county occurred at Villa Nueva, six miles from Brownsville. It was the completion and putting in active operation of the immense irrigation canal of the Brownsville Land and Irrigation company under the direct management of William Ratcliffe. The length of the main canal is fifteen and a half miles, with six miles of laterals. The pumping capacity is 50,000 gallons per minute, and the plant is built to irrigate 50,000 acres of land. Thousands of people gathered to see the new world. When the crowd assembled, the mighty engines were started. The wheels revolved and the pumps belched forth great volumes of water, which in a few moments formed a good-sized river that went plunging and tearing down the canal, the width of which is 125 feet. This was kept up all day and it was night before the happy throng moved away.

Spring Ailments.

There is an aching and tired feeling; the liver, bowels and kidneys become sluggish and inactive, the digestion impairs 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.

Alfalfa Profits.

The raising of alfalfa is becoming more popular among the Fannin county farmers each year, and the figures show that they are wise in this practice. J. S. White, near Bonham, has twenty acres in alfalfa this year. He is now putting up the first cutting, which is making two tons per acre. Mr. White is finding no trouble in cashing it for \$15 per ton. As there will follow at least three more harvests from this same field, it is easy to see where Mr. Whitt is winner.

MARKET TELEPHONE EXCHANGE
List of Subscribers.

- A**
Akissson, 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
Coats, E D res. 38
Counts, J H res. 1
Cotton, 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. 56
Hand, Chas res. 52
Harris, Alec. 21
- K**
Ker, 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
Sheppard, S W grocery. 74
Sharp, G M feed store. 44
- W**
Warnick, Dr J H res. 15
Warren, J T store. 65
Warren, J T res. 29
Warren, C P ranch. 56
West, G F res. 10
West, G F hardware. 72
- Preserve this list.
If at any time any subscriber feels that he has cause for complaint, if he will kindly report it to me it will have prompt attention. We appreciate your patronage and will take pleasure in giving you the best possible service.
I. B. 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.

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 Freemon
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.

Advertising is the secret of success in every business.

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.....

J. B. COLLIER

PROGRAMME

West Texas I. O. O. F. Association to be Held at Midland June 5th, 10 A. M.

Meeting called to order by Dr. S. R. Cates, president, Abilene, Opening ode.
Invocation by Rev. W. A. Mason, chaplain, of Cisco.
Address of welcome by Hon. H. E. Crowley of Midland.
Noon.
2 p. m. Address of welcome from Rebekah lodge by C. C. Watson of Midland.
Response to address of welcome by Hon. W. B. Crockett of Colorado.

Reports of committees.
Election of officers.
Address of retiring president.
8 p. m. Conferring of subordinate degree by Staked Plains team.

JUNE 6TH.

9:30 a.m. Meeting called to order by president.
Prayer by chaplain.
Music.
Address on the Rebekah degree by Mrs. Rhoda Reagan of Cisco.
Short talks on good and welfare and new business.
Noon.
2 p. m. Meeting called to order by president.
Prayer.
"The spirit of Odd Fellowship"
—Address by L. A. Dale Abilene
Address by Hon. C. R. Gibson, past grand master, Waxahachie.
Selecting place of next meeting.
Appointment of committees.
Closing ode.
Adjournment.

Tickets on railroad will be on sale at convention rates at Cisco and all intermediate points to Midland and return, on June 4th and 5th, limited for return to June 6th. Leaves Midland at 6:33 p. m., Friday, June 6th.
Mrs. W. D. Littler,
H. N. Garrett,
Geo. H. Sparenberg,
S. T. Shropsher,
Com.

Content Stricken.

After the rain of last Thursday a glaring streak, which had the appearance of a cloudburst or something equally as destructive, was noticed in the southeast, and it seemed to hover over a certain locality for perhaps 20 minutes. The remark was made that it was a hailstorm of mammoth proportions, which proved to be correct, as the following

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.

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

from the Abilene Daily Reporter will verify:

"C. W. Roberts got phone communication this morning with Content for the first time since Thursday's rain. The news communicated to him is anything but good. His informant said that hail drifted as much as fifteen feet deep and that cattle on each side of the place had been piled up by hundreds, drowning like rats in holes. The story of H.B. Cook's loss in confirmed, though the informant from Content puts them at \$2,000 to \$2,500. While Mr. Roberts did not mention crops, the inference is that with such a hail storm nothing in the shape of crops could have come through."

Grandma White came in last week from Sterling and will once more make Merkel her home.

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...

Resident Dentist

EXAMINATIONS FREE—

Office upstairs, Ferrier Bldg.

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, fur-
nish abstracts of title and transact all other
business entrusted to him.

I. O. O. F. LODGE

No. 355 meets every Friday
night. Visiting brethren cor-
dially invited to attend.

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

*He started
our best line
to our front
see a profit*

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

**MORE LIVES ARE SAVED
...BY USING...
Dr. King's New Discovery,
...FOR...**

Consumption, Coughs and Colds
Than By All Other Throat And
Lung Remedies Combined.

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

TEXAS METHODISM

**Rev. Dr. Rankin Imparts Some In-
teresting Facts.**

THREE CLERGYMEN PIONEERS.

**They Crossed Red River From Arkansas in
1819 and Did Missionary Work on
the Northern Boundaries.**

Rev. Dr. George C. Rankin of
Advocate, closed the addresses of
Dallas, editor of Texas Christian
welcome on the first day of the
general conference of the Methodist
Episcopal church, south, at Dallas.
He said in part:

Inasmuch as this is the first visit
of the general conference to this em-
pire of the southwest, you will hard-
ly deem it out of place for me to
tell you briefly of the origin, growth
and present status of Methodism in
Texas. As early as 1819 two or
three Methodist ministers crossed
Red river from the Arkansas side
and preached the gospel along the
northern boundaries of the state,
and shortly after several of them
crossed the Sabine and did likewise
along the eastern border.

At that time and for several years
afterward, the Mexican government
put forth every effort to expel Amer-
ican settlers from these borders and
to prevent others from making it
their home. In the struggle that
followed, the fearful slaughter of
the Americans in the Alamo, and
them tragic and inhuman massacre
of others at Goliad took place. This
aroused the patriotism and inspired
the manhood of all the settlers, and
following Gen. Sam Houston, they
met the Mexican army on the field
at San Jacinto under Santa Anna,
and the independence of Texas was
gloriously won. All the territory
embraced in Texas became a repub-
lic, and a few years thereafter it
was adopted into the American
Union. During these bloody strug-
gles and the hardships of frontier
life which ensued Methodism was
not idle. Her members did their
duty upon the field of battle, in the
halls of legislation and in the in-
dustrial development of the coun-
try, and her preachers traveled up
and down the land preaching the
gospel to the people; but after the
close of the struggle and the country
began to develop there was a large
influx of people from the states, and
the church then turned her atten-
tion specially to this inviting field.

In the spring of 1840 the general
conference authorized the perman-
ent organization of the work in Tex-
as. Therefore, on Christmas day of
that year, Bishop Waugh called the
preachers of the republic together
in the village of Rutgersville. There
were nineteen of them, and ten were
probationers. Thos. O. Summers
was elected secretary, and the Texas
conference was organized. At its
close one of these men was assigned
to school duties and the other eigh-
teen were sent out to preach the gos-
pel and lay the foundation of or-
ganized Methodism in the republic
of Texas. The territory was vast,
the population sparse and poor, and
the difficulties were complex and
formidable. But these intrepid men
went forth in God's name, and with
the spirit of consecration and of
martyrdom, they braved all dangers
and carried the banner of Christ to
the outskirts of human habitation.
This was the beginning of organized
Methodism sixty-two years ago in
Texas. I shall not attempt to com-
pass the history of the wonderful
period lying between 1840 and 1902,

for it would fill volumes with its la-
bors and sacrifices, its tragedies and
triumphs. But permit me to glance
at a few of its tabulated results. To
say nothing of the German and Mex-
ican board mission conferences and
the work among our colored people,
we have, from that little conference
in 1840, grown into five annual con-
ferences, with 751 traveling preach-
ers; a church membership of 197,
773; church buildings numbering
1528, valued at \$5,525,800; 416 par-
sonages, valued at \$586,292; Sunday
schools numbering 1528, with 112,
458 officers, teachers and scholars;
one central university; six confer-
ence institutions of learning; one
magnificent orphanage; a prosper-
ous branch publishing house, and
one healthy church paper, the Texas
Christian Advocate, the rock-ribbed
organ of all the sacred interests.

Was Nearly 102 Years.

Hunt county's oldest citizen is
dead. Mrs. Martha Hix, who per-
haps was the oldest lady in the
south, passed away at the home of
her grandson, Joe Zinnamon, in the
Cedar Grove community, six miles
southwest of Greenville. She retired
Sunday night, the 4th, at her
bedtime, about 10 o'clock, in her
usual good health and cheerful
spirits and the family were awaken-
ed about 1 o'clock next morning
to find her choking. She was strug-
gling for breath and rapidly sinking,
but death relieved her suffering in
about fifteen minutes. She was
nearly 102 years of age and had been
a resident of Hunt county nine
years. She was born in Wayne coun-
ty, Kentucky, May 14, 1800. Her
father, Richard Corder, was a
Dutchman and was reared in Vir-
ginia. Her mother was a French
woman, Surrant by name, and was
reared in South Carolina; her moth-
er's father immigrated from France
during the Revolutionary period.
"Grandma" Hix has been a widow
since 1864, when her second hus-
band, Isaac Hix, fell at the siege
of Atlanta. He was a Federal sol-
dier in Sherman's army, and she re-
ceived a pension of \$12 per month.
She was first married to Thomas
Zinnamon had been reared in North
Carolina and went to Kentucky to
grow up with the country. He was
a widower at the time and the father
of nine children, and there came to
bless his second union a family of
ten children. He died in 1857, and
four years later the widow married
Hix.

A Former Texan.

Cablegrams published in the press
that a tornado had wrecked Dacca,
East Bengal, Asia, killing 416 per-
sons, attract more than ordinary in-
terest at Austin, as there resides at
Dacca a former beloved citizen of
that city, and who was well known
over Texas, being Bishop Hurth.
When in Texas he was Father
Hurth, president of St. Edward's
college of Austin, which under his
administration made great strides
toward its present prominence.
Father Hurth was really the first
president of St. Edward's, and as
a reward for establishing such a
magnificent institution he was made
a bishop and assigned to the mis-
sionary work in India, with his resi-
dence at Dacca.

Lithographing Stone.

W. S. Allen, fifteen miles west of
San Marcos, has discovered on his
place what appears to be a valuable
find of lithographing stone. He has
submitted specimens of the stone to
Dr. Phillips of Austin and other
competent judges, who pronounce it
the real thing.

Phone the news to No. 31.



All in One

The Upper part contains
a 50-lb flour bin with sifter,
a moulding board,
a tilting sugar bin, with
close fitting lid,
three drawers, one with 6
partitions for spices.
In the lower part are
3 large drawers for table
linen, groceries, etc.
ample cupboard room for

cooking utensils. Shelves, brackets, mirror and top piece
make the Cabinet as handsome as it is convenient. It is
mounted on the finest ball bearing casters. If you have any
reason to believe that your kitchen work would not be less-
ened and that you would not feel better and happier with a
Hoosier Kitchen Cabinet than without it, won't you kindly
tell us what is the reason? If there is none, may we not
have your order? Yours truly,

ED S. HUGHES & CO.
Abilene, Texas

S. W. SHEPPARD

Groceries
Vegetables
Fruits
Country
Produce
and Fresh
Meats, etc.

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

..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 assort-
ment 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 shotgun am-
munition, 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