

THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JUNE 12, 1902.

NO. 17.



If you have a want in Dry Goods we can supply it at

RECORDS



..GOOD SHOES CHEAP..

Not just as good, but better--the kinds that wear well. Most complete stock of shoes in Merkel. Special prices on ladies' and Children's Slippers.

How about a hat? We sell the celebrated Beaver, Eclipse, Black Cat, and Cock of the Walk—the best and cheapest line of hats on the market. We have many things to show you. Come in, look around, and price our goods.



Big reduction in price of all ladies' waists. See our price card on lace curtains, waists and skirts. These are all new and seasonable, and you will find that the prices are the lowest in the city, quality considered.



The reason why we advertise in dull Times is

TO GET YOUR TRADE



The Star Store

Merkel Mercantile Company, Proprietors

10 per cent Reduction on all LADIES' SKIRTS.

Constipated Bowels.

To have good health, the body should be kept in a laxative condition, and the bowels moved at least once a day, so that all the poisonous wastes are expelled daily. Mr. G. L. Edwards, 142 N. Main St., Wichita, Kan., writes: "I have used Herbine to regulate the liver and bowels for the past ten years, and found it a reliable remedy." 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

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

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

How to Avoid Trouble.

Now is the time to provide yourself and family with a bottle of Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It is almost certain to be needed before the summer is over, and if procured now will save you a trip to town in the night or in your busiest season. It is everywhere admitted to be the most successful medicine in use for bowel complaints, both for children and adults. No family can afford to be without it. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

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

The Higher Life

Immortality.

Rev. J. M. Hadleman, Baptist. Immortality in its scriptural meaning cannot be applied logically to the soul of spirit—it can only be applied to the body after death. The meaning of immortality has been brought to life in the New Testament, which is the good news of the death, the burial and the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. When his disciples went forth to preach they did not say He lived and survived alone in spiritual progression, but they preached that He had risen in the body from death and now sat in it on high and at the right hand of God.

Radical Difference.

Dr. Felix Adler, Ethical Culture. The radical difference between ethical culture and orthodoxy was that the former viewed a good life as a means to religious happiness, while the latter considered a good life the supreme end. The supreme end doctrine was the most destructive and radical, and no orthodox person could be a consistent member of the ethical culture society. To build a religious system higher than all others was the aim of the members of the society. A special course of spiritual training had been formulated for children and youths. A good life was the base of the plan.

The Unit of Society.

Rev. A. P. Doyle, Roman Cath-

olic.

One of the modern heresies is the one that makes the individual and not the family the unit of society. Man by himself is not a complete being. Man and woman as husband and wife together make the unit. It is an essential part of the teachings of Christ that the unit of society is the family. The father who commands the respect and love of his children is the best citizen before the law as well as the best Christian in the eyes of God.

Religion.

Rev. Morgan Dix, Episcopalian. Religion is of everyday and practical concern; to limit it to the due recital of studied phrases and assistance at majestic and imposing ceremonies, without seeing through, far in, what these imply, is like dividing body and soul. What has our training done for us if it has not made us strong in purpose and sound in heart?

Used of God.

Rev. Dr. Holderby, Presbyterian. The man or woman in the church who lives an immoral or inconsistent life cannot be used of God. The professing Christian who habitually attends the theater, the saloon or engages in dishonest methods in business cannot be used of God.

Heaven.

Rev. G. B. Vosburg, Baptist. Not rest, but aspiration and a movement upward toward an un-

attained but possible good is heaven. To sit drowsily amid absolute perfection would be monotonous. But to be free from pain and be filled with aspiration, as one catches the fair vision of some new tomorrow, is to fill one with the exhilaration of life and joy. We shall forever be reaching forward to the "things that are before." All who believe in Christ have a certain and glorious future.

Higher Christian Life.

Rev. N. D. Hillis, Congregation-

alist. We ought to be surprised that the higher Christian life involves difficulty and hard work. Let us not marvel at these difficulties. The higher the ideal the longer the climb. If a man will be content with little, he need not toil but little. It is not enough that men should have noble impulses and visions. They must feed their ideals and nurture their nobler impulses. Desiring, they must do. Resolving, they must choose and perform.

Happy Time in Old Town.

"We felt verry happy," writes R. N. Beville, Old Town, Va., "when Bucklen's Arnica Salve wholly cured our daughter of a bad case of scald head." It delights all who use it for cuts, corns, burns, bruises, ulcers, boils, eruptions. Infallible for piles. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

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

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.

Prohibition will prohibit if the officers will do their duty. And they will do that.

The Senatorial convention has been called to meet at Abilene June 26, at 10:30 a. m.

Let every Democrat be on hand at the precinct convention Saturday and register a vote for Judge Smith for Congress.

The people of Taylor county can not afford to support Dean for Congress. He hasn't any record, but can be depended upon to sell out every chance he gets. Vote for Smith.

Red River and Montague counties went dry Saturday, and our neighbor on the east, Callahan, has again hugged the saloon to her bosom and is fawning and crowing over it to beat the band.

Now we shall see whether or not the county will be sown with hop ale joints, cold storages and blind tigers, as threatened by the antis. The moral element of the county will see that the law is enforced in spite of these threats.

Judge Smith, candidate for Congress from this district, was in the city Tuesday. The Judge has a host of friends here who will rally to his support in Saturday's convention, which will instruct for him beyond a doubt. He has practically 44 votes, the necessary number, as there will be 87 votes in the convention. He will make the best Congressman this district has ever had.

Politics in Taylor county have always been remarkably clean, but if one said Dean, who is trying to break into Congress by running slipshod over the people, succeeds in putting through the deal he has on foot, rotten will be no name for the state of affairs that will ensue. We are reliably informed that a message from Dean was received at Abilene Tuesday in which he made a proposition to the saloon element that if they would land the county in his column he would

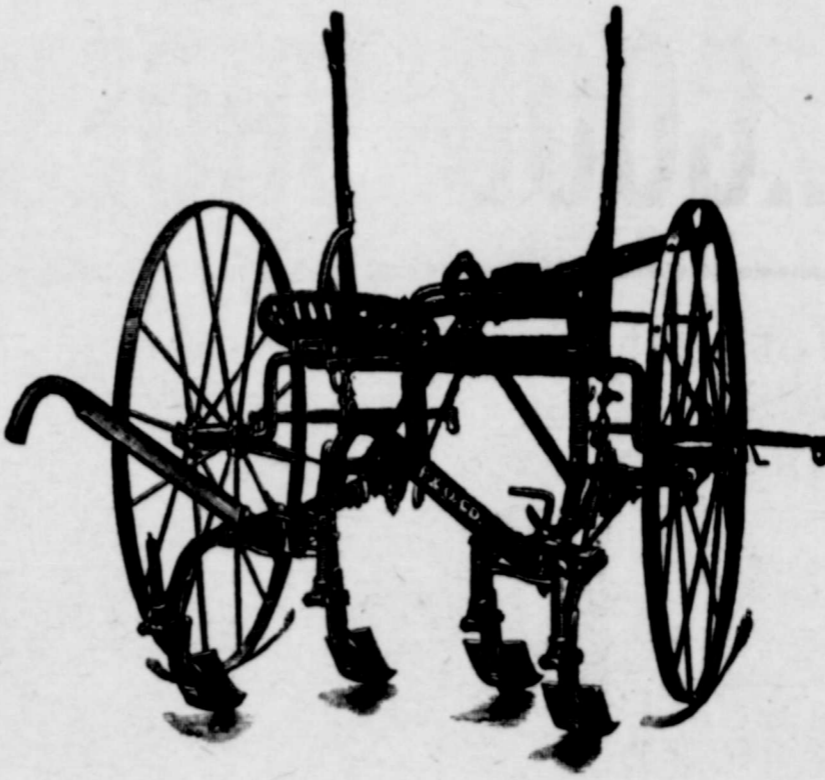
YOU WANT THE BEST..

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

employ lawyers at his own expense and set aside the decision of the recent prohibition election. More than this, Dean's man Friday has threatened the business men of Abilene with just such a condition of affairs if the goods are not delivered. If The Mail knows anything about the people of Taylor county they will resent this piece of brazen effrontery by their action in Saturday's conventions. Dean is a foul-mouthed, ill-smelling politician of the gutter-snipe variety, but after the people of Taylor county get through with him, if he has any self-respect left, he will hang his head like a mangy cur and trot back to his own rotten bailiwick.

Prohibition Carried.

The prohibition election Saturday passed off very quietly. A light vote was polled throughout the county, though it exceeded the primary election vote by about 200 votes.

Full returns from every box in the county give a majority of 199 for prohibition. The following statement is practically correct:

VOTING PLACES	PRO		ANTI		MAJORITY
	PRO	ANTI	PRO	ANTI	
Buffalo Gap	107	35	72		
Caps	101	21	80		
Nubia	59	91		32	
Merkel	254	51	203		
Trent	31	8	23		
Tuscola	48	18	30		
Guion	31	38		7	
Moro	27	27			
Jim Ned	60	33	27		
Potosi	66	9	57		
Spg. Creek	15	4	11		
Court House	200	366		166	
Fire Station.	166	265		99	
Total ..	1165	966	503	304	
Total pro. majority.....	199				

There have been threats that the election would be contested, but we are reliably informed that the anti-prohibition campaign managers have given out the opinion that there are no grounds for a contest, and have advised submission to the will of the people.

Dean hasn't carried a single county on his merits, but every one of them has been landed by just such means as he has threatened to employ in this county. But it won't work here.

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.

Tax on Babies.

Extreme hot weather is a great tax upon the digestive power of babies; when puny and feeble they should be given a few doses of White's Cream Vermifuge, the children's tonic. It will stimulate and facilitate the digestion of their food, so that they soon become strong, healthy and active. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Who is John M. Dean that he should meddle with the affairs of Taylor county? What right has he to come here and make threats against the peace and dignity of the country? Are we not capable of running our own affairs? To precipitate a bitter factional fight now would result disastrously to every line of business, and from a financial standpoint, if the question of common decency was not at stake, we cannot afford it. Sit down on Mr. Dean with a dull, sickening thud. Instruct for Smith who is a clean man in every respect, and will not stoop to such questionable methods.

Dean is a good fighter, but booze fighting seems to be his specialty. When he goes up against the moral element of Taylor county he will fully realize that he has struck a hard proposition.

Virulent Cancer Cured.

Startling proof of a wonderful advance in medicine is given by druggist G. W. Coberts of Elizabeth, W. Va. An old man there had long suffered with what good doctors pronounced incurable cancer. They believed his case hopeless till he used Electric Bitters and applied Bucklen's Arnica Salve, which treatment completely cured him. When Electric Bitters are used to expel bilious, kidney and microbe poisons at the same time this salve exerts its matchless healing power, blood diseases, skin eruptions, ulcers and sores vanish. Bitters 50c salve 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

W. L. Grogan, candidate for State Senator from this district, was a pleasant caller yesterday. Mr. Grogan is sanguine of success and expects to land Taylor county in his column. He was here in the interest of his candidacy.

It behooves every man who has an interest in the prosperity and welfare of the country, to attend the precinct conventions Saturday and help instruct for the best men for state and district offices. Every Democrat will have a voice in the conventions.

The Mail's advertising columns are coming up slim. You ought to be represented.

The people will see to it that prohibition prohibits in Taylor county.

The Republicans are grooming Olney for the presidency.

West Texas is still windy, thank you.

If the arguments of the antis are logical and have any foundation for truth, we may expect Abilene to begin at once her downward course. But in the face of this a new bank has been organized there, the erection of a block of brick business houses is in contemplation, two of the saloons have quit business and the vacancies have been filled in by other lines of business, which belies the statement that prohibition will kill a town instantaneously.

W s help enforce pro I on the streets till all c eive the finishing touc can't afford to be sting. respect,

Taylor county will go into the Smith column if the people have any voice in the convention, and they have that much coming to them. Let them attend Saturday's conventions.

Merkel people have pledged themselves to make prohibition prohibit in this town, and they will prosecute every man who violates the law. The s bitters here must stop.

Every good man and loyal citizen will bow in submission to the will of the people and help to enforce the law. The outlaw should be made to do this.

R. E. Speer of Fort Worth was in the city yesterday in the interest of the candidacy of his brother, Ocie, for Judge of the Civil Court of Appeals.

Mrs. Dr. Rust is visiting relatives at Baird and Cottonwood this week.

Misses Mary Lizzie and Tommie Lou Compton are visiting their aunt, Mrs. R. J. Reed, at Abilene.

A report reached here yesterday to the effect that some miscreant threw a rock into the east bound passenger at Sweetwater Tuesday night and severely injured an old lady and little girl. Such dastardly work deserves the highest punishment and officers should be vigilant in hunting down criminals of this character.

A big barbecue and picnic will be held at Truby on Saturday, June 21. Everybody is invited.

A. J. Hill and sons, John and Will, with their families, left this morning for the Plains. The boys will locate up there, but Mr. Hill is undecided.

Mrs. W. H. McCord is happy over the visit of a brother who will spend some time with her.

A small sprinkle of rain fell here Sunday. Buffalo Gap and vicinity got a good shower.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL

J. T. WARREN, PRES.
G. F. WEST, VICE PRES.
GEO. S. BERRY, CASHIER.
T. A. JOHNSON, 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.

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.

Young Fools That Marry.

A green boy without a dollar, present or prospect sparking a girl regularly and talking about marrying, is a spectacle for gods and men. He should be reasoned with and if he will not quit it until he is able to support a wife, and to know who he loves and the difference between love and passion, he should be quarantined or put in a convent erected on purpose for such cases. Nine-tenths of the unhappy marriages are the results of green human calves being allowed to run at large in the society pasture without any yokes on them. They marry and have children before they do mustache, they are a father of twins before they are promoters of two pair of pants and little girls they marry are women before they are twenty. Occasionally one of these marriages turn out all right but it is a clear case of a young fool. If there was a law against

young galoos sparking and marrying before they have all their teeth cut, we suppose the little cusses would evade it some way, but there ought to be a sentiment against it. It is time enough for these bantams to think of finding a pullet when they have raised money enough by their own work to buy a bundle of laths to build a henhouse. But they see a girl who looks cunning, and they are afraid there is not going to be girls enough to go around, and there they begin to get in their work real spry, and before they are aware of the sanctity of the marriage relation they are hitched for life, and before they own a cookstove or bedstead, they have to get up in the night and go after a doctor, so frightened that they run themselves out of breath and abuse the doctor because he does not run too. When the doctor gets there he finds there is not linen enough in the house to wrap up a doll baby. It is about this time that a young man as he flies over and brings her goes whoop-whoop for her mother to round the gills, and in a single high heaven she lives till she is as serious as a new

leaf and never get married until he is older. And in the morning the green looking "father" is around before a drug store is open, without a collar on, his hair sticking every way, his eyes bloodshot and his frame nervous, waiting for the clerk to open the door so he can get some saffron to make tea of.—Ex.

A Correction.

Ed. Reporter:
I have been informed that Mr. Dean, who is a candidate for congress in this district, through his friends is circulating the report that I favor him for the position. I have taken but little interest in this contest, but don't want to be misrepresented. Knowing Dean as I do, I do not believe him to be the proper man to represent this district politically, intellectually, morally or socially. J. V. Cockrell.
Abilene, June 5th.
—Abilene Reporter.

The Scholastic Census.

John Elliott, who has just completed the scholastic census of the town, furnishes The Mail with the following statistics:
Total number of children in the scholastic age 232—115 males and 117 females. The town is divided as follows: On the North side there are 66 families, 35 of whom have children in the scholastic age and 31 who have not; on the South side 45 families have children in the scholastic age and 44 have not, making a total of 89 on this side and a grand total of 155 families in the town. There are 277 residences in the town. On the North side there are 21 windmills and 49 on the South side—a total of seventy in the town.

The old-time experiment of bombarding the clouds to produce rain was tried at Taylor, Texas, Saturday, dynamite explosions being shot skyward, but the sky would not weep. Another effort will be made this week on a larger scale.

Rev. J. P. Copeland and family arrived last week from Pike City, Ark., and are located on their new home northeast of town. Bro. Copeland was in Merkel Tuesday. They will prove a valuable addition to the country and we are glad to welcome them into our midst.

Try reading The Mail.

Program.

Union Sunday School Picnic, at Warren Grove on Mulberry, Thursday, June 19.

Opening Song.
Prayer.
Recitations by children.
Song.
Address by Rev. Dale.
Song.
Address.
Song.

All are invited to attend, bring well filled baskets, and help make the occasion a general good time.

Ice Cream Social.

The Epworth League will serve ice cream and cake at the Story building Saturday evening from 3 to 11 o'clock. Help out a good cause. Everybody invited.

Geo. S. Berry and T. J. Coggin were in Abilene Tuesday.

Child Drowned.

The twelve-year old daughter of J. R. McGehee, who lives near caps, was drowned Saturday afternoon. She was fishing in a tank when she slipped and fell in and was drowned before help could reach her. This is one of the saddest occurrences of the year, and The Mail joins in sincere sympathy to the stricken family.

E. D. Coats, of Merkel, is in the city. He brought his well machine with him and is now putting down a well for Ira Millikan in the southwest portion of the town.—Lubbock Avalanche.

F. B. Hoople came in from Crosby county last week, where he is ranching.

Frank Bell of Sulphur Springs is visiting in the city. He is a cousin of Mrs. W. B. Mann.

J. T. Warren is expecting his family home the latter part of the week.

Mrs. F. G. Shell and little daughter left Tuesday night to join Mr. Shell at Colorado City, Col., where they will reside in the future. The Mail regrets the loss of this family, but wishes them every happiness and prosperity in their new home.

Now the Immigrants Have Money.

There was a time when the immigrant was looked upon as a poor person who had escaped from his own country to take his chances here without a penny to start with. To some degree the law has changed all that, and to be admitted an emigrant must not be a pauper. The immigration officials in New York are amazed nowadays at the "wealth" of most of the new arrivals especially the French. When the immigrants are examined they are asked to show what money they have. Some of them are crafty, and do not show all they have; others are more trusting and willingly display their petty hoardings. The money is carefully counted, a record taken and restored to them. In the past four weeks 57,175 immigrants were landed at Ellis island. They had, or at least they showed to the examiners, sums that footed up \$811,013.

Alaska Salmon Better Than Gold.

"Alaskan salmon is worth more to the United States than the gold in the territory," said Mr. J. C. Callbreath, a salmon packer of Fort Wrangle, to a Washington interviewer the other day. "The gold supply will be exhausted in time, but the salmon will always thrive there, if the government takes proper care of the fish. The people of the United States do not realize how enormous the salmon packing industry is in Alaska. There are probably sixty canneries in the territory, and the total output of these last year was 100,000 cases or about 4,800,000 pounds of canned salmon. The big canneries send their products to the United States by the shipload."

Killed Two Churches.

George McKinzie, a sewing machine manufacturer built two Presbyterian churches in Jersey City, giving them to congregations on the agreement that no musical instrument ever be heard within their walls. The prohibition was fatal to both churches. The congregation dwindled down and down, and the last of them has just been closed because of non-support. Both buildings will be sold and the money used in aid of other Presbyterian churches.

Not the Pope's Biographer.

Marion Crawford has not been appointed to write the official biography of the pope, as was announced, as the Vatican holds that his florid and melodramatic style would be unsuitable for the formal record of the life of the pontiff.

Not From Missouri, Please Notice.

In Washington they are telling of a congressman from rural Wisconsin who, until his arrival in the national capital, had never stopped at a big hotel. The other evening, just before retiring, he wanted a drink of water, but found that there was none in his room. Under one of two small buttons in the wall he saw the words: "Push twice for water." He pushed twice as directed and when the bell-boy arrived with the water he found the bucolic statesman holding an empty glass under the button.

Why He Stood There.

"In my class room," said a Philadelphia teacher recently, "I was having a lesson on Mrs. Heman's familiar poem, 'Casabianca,' which begins:
The boy stood on the burning deck,
Whence all but him had fled.

"The pupils were quite interested in the fate of the brave boy, whose father had told him to remain at his post until given permission to leave. One tender-hearted little girl was even moved to tears at the thought of the boy who obeyed that command of his father's, and met death in the flames, not knowing that the parent lay dead—unable to give the eagerly called-for word to move. The story of the lad's obedience seemed to make such a strong impression that I thought it a good chance to inculcate a moral lesson on the boy's heroic conduct, and commended obedience at all costs. At the close of the lesson I thought I would have the scholars repeat some of the beautiful sentiments I had endeavored to make so emphatic. 'Now, Blanch,' said I to a bright little girl, 'Why did the noble boy refuse to leave that burning ship?' 'Cause he was too scared to budge, was the prompt and unexpected response, and the lesson was over."

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

Mark Twain's Cousin,

G. C. Clemens, of Topeka,

the noted constitutional lawyer, who bears so striking a resemblance to Mark Twain, (Samuel B. Clemens) that he is frequently taken for the original Mark,



G. C. Clemens.

is a man of deep intellect and wide experience. He is considered one of the foremost lawyers in this country. In a recent letter to the Dr. Miles Medical Co., Mr. Clemens says:

"Personal experience and observation have thoroughly satisfied me that Dr. Miles' Nerve contains true merit, and is excellent for what it recommends."

Mr. Norman Waltrip, Sup. Pres. Bankers' Fraternal Society, Chicago, says:

Dr. Miles' Pain Pills

are invaluable for headache and all pain. I had been a great sufferer from headache until I learned of the efficacy of Dr. Miles' Pain Pills. Now I always carry them and prevent recurring attacks by taking a pill when the symptoms first appear."

Sold by all Druggists.
Price, 25c. per Box.

Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

Clark Burroughs and little son are visiting at Italy, Texas, this week.

J. T. Warren is advertising his ranch, east of town, and 200 head of cattle for sale. It is understood that if the sale is made Mr. Warren will immediately erect a handsome rock or brick house on the site of his old store which was burned in the fire last October. He will likely build anyway before the fall rush of business sets in if crop conditions are favorable. A nice house on the corner will add very much to the looks of the town.

Even Snake Meat Is Scarce.

"Since snake skin has become so fashionable in wallets, belts and cigarette cases," said a zoo keeper in one of the big Eastern cities recently, "we find rather a dearth of snakes each month, not for exhibition purposes, but as a food, for many of our most valuable specimens are canibals, and will eat nothing but their own kind. Well, up to a year ago, men visited us regularly with snakes for sale, and we had no difficulty in buying all the 'pines' and 'blacks' and 'garters' we desired at from 5 to 20 cents a piece, according to size. But now these men sell their snakes to tanners, and get for them three or four times more than we can afford to pay. So I don't know what we are going to do for snake meat unless we start a farm, and in the future grow right here the food snakes that we need."

Differing Opinions as to Cancer.

The second report of the cancer committee to the Harvard medical school is published in the Journal of Medical Research. The enumeration of the principal conclusions of these investigations shows that the theory that cancer is caused by a parasite, in whatever form it may be stated, does not receive a trace of support. Thus the Boston investigators reach conclusions which are diametrically opposed to those of the Buffalo investigators headed by Gaylord and Park.

Now Watson's a Historian.

Thomas E. Watson of Georgia, once a famous People's Party leader, is under contract with the Macmillan Company to write a history of the United States, and is now engaged in getting the material together for the purpose of entering upon the task early this summer.

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 months50
Three months25
Invariably in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES per month
One inch space \$.50
Two inch space 1.00
Quarter column (4 1/2 inches) 2.50
Half column (9 inches) 4.00
One column (18 inches) 7.50
Four issues constitute a month. All advertisements run and charged for until ordered out, unless limit is specified when insertion is made. Special prices on time contracts.
Local notices, 5 cents per line, each insertion.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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

For the Glen Rose Herald.

Merkel Mail \$2.00
Cisco Round-up 2.00
Stephenville Appeal 2.00
Abilene News 2.00

NEXT!

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

The Taylor County News last week contained an article headed "Stop My Paper, Durn You," in which was portrayed a character that is becoming all too common this day and time. It is evident from the tone of the article that one or two of Max's subscribers became offended at his attitude in the prohibition campaign and ordered him to stop the paper. The Mail is not prepared to say that Max violated any obligation that existed between the paper and its subscribers, and so far as we are concerned we think none the less of him. The News editor, we understand, was an anti, but denied himself the right of free speech in advocating, through the columns of his paper, what he conceived to be the best for the country, and sold his space to others of the same faith. There was nothing in the paper that could be construed as indecent or immoral, hence subscribers could not object to it except as it came in opposition to their own views. If a single subscriber of The Mail has stopped the News for this reason we hope they will reconsider the matter. A paper should not be condemned because it sold its space one way or the other. The Mail put heart and soul in the fight, without a cent of compensation, and the anti didn't have money enough to buy us up. But if we had held opposite views the other side couldn't have touched us. Don't condemn a man for doing what he believed to be right.

The Mail made the best and cleanest fight it was capable of putting up, in the prohibition campaign, and we can now afford to be magnanimous and congratulate both sides on their splendid achievement; for it is an achievement to pass through such a campaign without stooping to insinuations and innuendoes and those senseless clatterings which tend to injure rather than benefit mankind. Prohibition has carried by a safe majority and it behooves every man to see that the law is enforced. A good citizen will do this; an outlaw will try to evade the law. See that you are on the right side, that you aid in the enforcement of the law, and prohibition in Taylor county will be a fruitful source for the general prosperity of the country, crime will greatly decrease and morality will be uplifted to a higher plane.

A tinge of sadness comes with the thought that, after more than two years of continuous fighting, the patriotic and liberty-loving old Boers have surrendered to British authority. Their brave struggle for independence has few parallels in history. Fighting against tremendous odds, handicapped by lack of munitions of war and practically starved into submission, still by their dauntless courage and unswerving patriotism this small band of brave men have staggered humanity by prolonging a struggle that held not a tithe of hope for the future.

The people of Merkel are very grateful to J. F. Cunningham, E. N. Kirby, Judge Dulaney and Stump Ashby for the interest they took in the prohibition campaign and take this method of extending their sincere thanks for the aid and assistance rendered in driving the demon drink out of the sacred precincts of Taylor county. May their shadows never grow less, and if there should ever be another such campaign, may they again take up the fight for the saloon element, and thine will be the glory forever and a day.

The Mail firmly believes that Judge Smith of Colorado is head and shoulders above any Congressional aspirant from this district. The people of Merkel are not slow to catch on to a thing when it is flaunted in their faces, and they will resent the effort which will be made by a few would-be politicians to unload Dean on the people and secure instructions for him from this precinct. Judge Smith will get the instructions by practically a unanimous vote.

Merkel has been a local option town since 1895. In the election at that time 52 whiskey votes were polled, while the election Saturday showed that, notwithstanding the great increase of population, this number had decreased to 51, a loss of one vote in seven years. The population now is three times as great as it was then, and yet the whiskey element lost one vote. Evidently local option has been a good thing for Merkel.

President Roosevelt's memorial day speech was the only regrettable feature of the exercises throughout the nation on that day. Its caustic sectional sallies are not calculated to heal the breach between the north and south, but rather to widen it. Such senseless slobbering ill becomes even a strenuous president.

The Mail favored the candidacy of Dan Jones for Congress, but he hasn't a ghost of a chance for the nomination and is merely, though unconsciously, being used as a cat's paw by the Dean delegation. Dan should get out of the race. A self-respecting man can not afford to associate with the Dean gang.

The esteemed Dallas News is reminded that The Mail is not a prophet, but if it will read the election returns in this issue it will see that Merkel came very near going unanimous for prohibition. A vote of five to one is the next thing to it.

Merkel now has the best and prettiest streets of any town its size in the state. A few dollars can be made to go a long way in beautifying a town, and our people have begun to realize this fact.

Still Going

Our Special Good Clothes Sale was a great success, and to show our appreciation of your trade we are going to continue the sale sometime yet. 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



Or if you want a tailor-made suit, we can suit and fit you. Try us.

For the next 30 days we will sell....

Fine Low Cut Shoes worth \$3 and \$2.50 for only \$2.00

Strap Sandals, Glove Kid, Patent Leather, Dongola, French and Common Sense Heel Low Cut Shoes, worth \$2.25 and \$2, your choice for only \$1.65



The Fitts & Smith Store.

THE PSALM OF THE OLD SOLDIER

The blue is fading into gray,
Just as when sunset comes,
With bugle calls that die away
And softly throbbing drums;
The shadows reach across the sky
And hush the cares of day;
The bugle call and drum beat die—
The blue fades into gray.

The gray is blending into blue—
A sunrise glad and fair,
When, in the richness of the dew
The roses riot there;
The bitterness of yesterday
Is lost to me and you;
The blue is fading into gray—
The gray blends into blue.

They're sleeping now the long, long sleep,
The boys who wore the blue;
Above the gray the grasses creep—
And both were good and true;
And in the twilight of our life,
The ending of the way,
There comes forgetfulness of strife—
The blue fades into gray.

Above each mound the lily glows,
And humble daisies nod;
The ruby glory of the rose
Sheds luster on the sod;
The tears—the tears—they are the dew
That greets the coming day.
The gray is blending into blue—
The blue fades into gray.

—Baltimore American.

Second-Hand Str and New Tin Sh

Patronize home in and buy your Tinware, 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.

The Ma of Merke try, and attitude satisfac did the

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

Filthy Temples in India.

Sacred cows often defile Indian temples, but worse yet is a body that's polluted by constipation. Don't permit it. Cleanse your system with Dr. King's New Life Pills and avoid untold misery. They give lively livers, active bowels, good digestion, fine appetite. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Damage from Worms.

Many farmers reported Saturday that web worms had attacked their farms and were laying cotton low. They are reported in all parts of the country and are very destructive, though where cotton has not been chopped out they are confining their ravages to the weeds. Some crops have been almost totally wiped out, while others have not suffered to any great extent.

A few days of hot weather, it is thought, will put a quietus to their depredations; at least it is hoped so.

Births.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Bob Johnson May 29, a boy. The little one lived only a few hours after birth.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sam Myrick May 30, a boy.

To Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Curb June 2, a boy.

Dr. I. E. Smith, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, of Weatherford, will be here June 13 and 14.

The First National Bank of Merkel, J. T. Warren, president, Geo. S. Berry, cashier, T. A. Johnson, assistant cashier, organized Jan. 1, 1901, has paid two semi-annual 6 per cent dividends, will pay a similar one July 1, and have a surplus of \$7,000, with \$30,000 capital. The success of this growing bank is largely due to Cashier Geo. S. Berry, who organized the bank, and its largest stockholder and manager. Cashier Berry was formerly cashier of the Abilene National Bank at Abilene, Tex., until it and the First National of Abilene consolidated, liquidated, and went into the private banking business. He then went to Merkel, opened a private bank, which he later organized as the First National Bank of Merkel, and has been through good banking methods and fitness for business, very successful. Special and prompt attention is given to collections in West Texas.—Southwestern Banker.

Our exchange business has increased most satisfactorily since we sought the columns of The Mail. Remember that we buy and sell exchange on all points at the regular banking rates.

Warnick's Bank.

We are able to offer the Texas Stock Journal, or the Texas Farm Journal, in connection with The Merkel Mail, at \$1.50 per year for the two papers. This is less than three cents per week for the two. The Journal is the standard Stock and Farm publication of Texas, and with The Merkel Mail, you can not buy any more valuable literature for the money. Let us hear from you with an order under this clubbing offer.

The Literary program of the Epworth League will be carried out Friday night.

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

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

ought to be turned over to "imports" entirely.

The Democratic precinct convention will be held here Saturday afternoon. The exact hour and place have not been selected, but will be attended to later. Let every Democrat come out and participate in the election, and help to instruct for the best men for district and state offices.

Sam Eason and John Mann went out Tuesday in search of the finny tribe. They fished and fished, but the fish they caught haven't been missed—or seen.

For Sale, Cash or Note.

A wagon and harness in good repair and all complete.

2t Jos. H. Warnick.

G. E. Comegys and family left last night for Ash Grove, Mo., to visit relatives. They will be gone the greater part of the summer.

B. A. Cox was up from Abilene Tuesday.

R. A. Miller was in Abilene Tuesday.

Miss Lora Hale of Hico is here and will spend several weeks with her friend, Miss Ada Gamble.

Never before has there been such a demand for eggs, chickens and farm products of every kind. There is plenty of room for diversification in this country.

S. J. Wallace has charge of the Cisco station for a few weeks.

Mrs. T. A. Johnson's sister and niece of Sipe Springs were visiting here the past week.

W. P. Thurmond was in Abilene Monday.

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

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.

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

The Texas & Pacific Railway Company is now operating dining cars on trains 5 and 6 between Jefferson, Texas and St. Louis, Mo.; also on Iron Mountain train No. 4, between Arkadelphia and St. Louis. This will give north-bound passengers on train No. 6, which is the fast "Cannon Ball," the benefit of dinner and supper and those on No. 4, breakfast and dinner on the cars.

The cars are the latest pattern. Have electric lights and fans, choicest tableware and the most modern conveniences in general. The cuisine is incomparable and meals are served a la carte. This service is a great improvement over the Old Station Eating Houses and you are respectfully invited to give it a trial.

Mrs. S. J. Wallace and Miss Prudence Allyn are visiting in Pilot Point as guests of the former's husband's parents.

Dr. Horner has again taken charge of the drug store, Mr. and Mrs. Collier returning to Abilene.

A Splendid Remedy.

Neuralgia pains, rheumatism, lumbago and sciatic pains yield to the penetrating influences of Ballard's Snow Liniment. It penetrates to the nerves and bone, and being absorbed into the blood, its healing properties are conveyed to every part of the body and effect some wonderful cures. Mr. D. F. Moore, Agent Illinois Central Railway, Milan, Tenn., states: "I have used Ballard's Snow Liniment for rheumatism, backache, etc., in my family. It is a splendid remedy. We could not do without it." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

For Sale or Trade—A good Jack.

2t J. M. Bryson,
Dora, Texas.

Rev. R. S. Heizer, H. C. Williams, Alonzo Bickley, Luther Heizer and Victor Harris and Misses Allie Jennings, Carrie Hargroves and Lucy Leeman attended the Sunday School convention at Anson last week.

J. J. Miller attended as a delegate the I. O. O. F. association at Midland last week.

The Rock Crossing community came to the polls in a solid phalanx Saturday and swelled the pro majority very materially. It may just be a "happen-so," of course, but that is one of the most prosperous communities in the county. Those people don't spend enough money for whiskey in a year to cover a dead nigger's eyes.

Mr. and Mrs. Fisher of Big Springs are visiting the family of S. H. Basham.

Read it in His Newspaper.

George Schaub, a well known German citizen of New Lebanon, Ohio, is a constant reader of the Dayton Volkszeitung. He knows that this paper aims to advertise only the best in its columns, and when he saw Chamberlain's Pain Balm advertised therein for lame back, he did not hesitate in buying a bottle of it for his wife, who for eight weeks had suffered with the most terrible pains in her back and could get no relief. He says: "After using the Pain Balm for several days my wife said to me, 'I feel as though born anew,' and before using the entire contents of the bottle the unbearable pains had entirely vanished and she could again take up her household duties." He is very thankful and hopes that all suffering likewise will hear of her wonderful recovery. This valuable liniment is for sale by Rust & Pittard.

NOTICE.

Our Photo Gallery will be open for work two days (Friday and Saturday) in each week until further notice.

tf Barnhill & Wife.

Will Hamilton, who attended school at Georgetown University the past season, came home last week. He won fresh laurels in his studies and is to be congratulated upon his success. He is deserving.

Comer Clay and Chas. Craven left Saturday night for Austin, San Antonio, Galveston and other foreign countries on a ten days jaunt. The boys were properly tagged and will return all right in due time.

W. A. Hall is a very happy man, the effects of a visit from his sister, Mrs. Bynum, of Blunt county, Ala., whom he had not seen before for 26 years. She will spend several weeks with him.

Second-hand cook stove and kitchen cabinet for sale for cash or on time.

tf W. P. Thurmond.

J. B. Sykes of Trent has sold his farm and will leave with his family for New Mexico, next week. The Mail regrets the necessity for his removal to a more congenial clime.

Many tons of Johnson grass have been cut and shocked for immediate use during the past two weeks. The scarcity and consequent high price of feed stuff has proven a valuable lesson to the farmers throughout this country, who will profit by the experience and make provisions for future emergencies of this kind.

B. J. Riney, of the Canyon, says we have had more wind and sand during the last three months than for the past dozen years of his residence here. It has been a great detriment to the county.

The good streets movement is just now uppermost in the minds of the people, and if the present lick is kept up Merkel will soon have perfect streets. Every available dollar is being spent on the streets. Many of them are now in good condition, others are receiving the finishing touches, while others have not yet been worked, but before the year is out they will be beauties and a joy forever.

Wood Beds and Matting, all kinds, are going at greatly reduced prices. Call and see them.

W. P. Browning & Co.

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 THROUGH THE COUNTY....

ABILENE.

Sheriff Robert Goodfellow, assisted by Sheriff Al Irvin of Baird, and U. S. Deputy Marshal Girard of this city jailed three men here Tuesday morning on the charge of passing quite a number of the bank notes stolen from the Northern Express at Waggoner, Montana, last July. All of the parties arrested live in Callahan county and one of them confessed and implicated the others. The men under arrest are Jesse Nichell, Wyatt Hanks and Peter Fulcher. Nichell is the man who gave the thing away and stated that Hanks was furnishing the money while he and Fulcher handled it on commission. Quite a lot of the unsigned bills were found in their possession and their examining trial is set for Friday. Under the confession of Nichell the commissioner placed their bonds at \$5,000, failing to give which they were remanded to the custody of the officers.

This man Hanks had a brother killed at San Antonio recently while resisting arrest by City Police Pink Taylor, and there it developed that he visited his brother's ranch in Callahan county last winter. Sheriff Goodfellow gives it as his opinion that a great amount of this money is secreted about in the neighborhood where these men reside.

D. P. Woodard of Weatherford and Miss Neva Parker of this city were married here this morning and left on the morning train for their future home at Weatherford. Miss Parker was a teacher in the public school for quite a while and has many friends who wish them much success.

Oscar Janasch and Miss Daisy Dell were married here this morning at the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs. L. H. Bradfield. Miss Dell has been a resident of this city for the past two years and has made many friends to congratulate her upon the happy union.

B. J. Riney was in from Mulberry Canyon and stated that worms were injuring the cotton.

C. R. Hutcheson of Stith was in the city Wednesday on business.

The announcement has been made that the contract for the erection of a new business block

will be let at once. The buildings are to be two stories high and will be located just across the street facing Lapowski's. The corner building will be occupied by the new national bank with a capital stock of \$75,000. The officers of the new bank are as follows: J. M. Wagstaff, president; W. J. Thompson, cashier; J. O. Shelton, assistant cashier. The stock has been fully subscribed.

NUBIA.

(Delayed from last week.)

Sand has been blowing for three days in succession and has killed nearly all of the cotton.

J. E. Friar (known as "Stammering John") was in Nubia Monday.

John Bronscum has a very sick child with pneumonia. We hope it will soon be up again.

A. R. Toombs went to Merkel Monday. Roland has saved his cotton so far.

There was preaching at Center Point Saturday and Sunday. Dinner on the ground Saturday.

Daisy Toombs is reported to be on the sick list this week.

The boys met at Nubia and organized a baseball team. They meet every Saturday eve.

There was singing at Harvey West's Sunday.

Jake Cyphers' daughter, who has been fitted for about seven years, died last night and is to be buried at White Church Monday evening at 5 o'clock.

There was singing at Andy Hunter's Sunday night.

Alec Harris of Merkel was in Nubia Monday.

Mrs. Dayton Snow is reported to be some better.

Ed Blackburn was in Nubia Saturday.

Rosebud.

The farmers are busy chopping cotton.

Still hot and sultry.

The "Army Worm," as some them, have been making a raid on the cotton and weeds.

Saturday was a glorious day in Nubia; it was election day.

The Odd Fellows met Monday evening and had a talk. Bro Gibson done the speaking, and also there was public speaking Monday night, a large crowd in attendance.

The base ball team met last Saturday and had a lively time.

Tom Toombs happened to bad luck by spraining his right arm playing ball Saturday, and Monday he was in at Jacobs' drug store and fainted, but he is all right now.

Hayne Hughes and family of Merkel visited John Davenport of Nubia Saturday and Sunday.

Bob Lilly of Jones county is visiting in the Canyon this week.

Daisy Toombs is reported to be up again.

Mrs. Dr. Martin is no better Mrs. Key is staying there.

The little child of John Bronscum's is reported to be up again.

Mrs. D. E. Snow is improving rapidly.

Rosebud.

DORA.

Sam Wyatt went to Merkel Saturday.

R. A. Linn and wife went to Wingate Saturday.

Several of the young people enjoyed an ice cream supper at Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Brandon's Saturday night.

There was an ice cream supper at Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bryson's Saturday night which was enjoyed by all who were present.

Preaching Sunday morning by Rev. Bates.

Singing at Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins' Sunday evening.

W. M. Beall went to Sweetwater Sunday evening.

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

J. D. Brandon, J. V. Bloxom, Sam Brandon, Mr. Draper, Joe Martin, R. D. Brandon, G. W. Hawkins, Jim Ensminger, Jasper McCoy and T. C. Jenkins went to Sweetwater Monday.

I. E. Bryson went to Merkel Monday.

The farmers have long faces now. The worms are eating up the cotton.

Kat Klaw.

John Daniel went to Abilene Tuesday to attend the commencement exercises of Simmons' College.

W. A. Cozart will attend court at Cooper next week.

NOTICE.

For the next 60 days will weave plain hit and miss carpets for 8½ cents per yard. For checks and stripes call and see

MRS. ALICE ROSE.

The scholastic census for this district, just completed, shows a slight decrease in the enrollment over last year, no doubt brought about by the evacuation of town property for the farms. Only 12 scholars are missing.

Gave Medicine to a Tree.

A curious example of superstition was made public the other day in the law courts of Berlin. A tree, growing opposite the gateway of a farmer, was noticed to be withering away. It was found that a deep hole had been bored in it, probably by some person who wished to kill it. As the tree somewhat incommoded the entrance to the farmer's house, he was charged with the deed and fined. He, however, appealed and succeeded in proving that the hole had been bored by some superstitious person who believed that, if illness attacks a household, it can be driven away by "burying" it in a healthy tree. A hole is bored in the tree, and all kinds of medicines are buried in the hole, which is then carefully stopped up, amid the singing of wierd incantations. This could have been done by any superstitious person in the neighborhood, the farmer pointed out. The judge acquitted him.

Too Energetic Again.

The strong right arm of Richard Mansfield has got him into more trouble. On account of his muscle he is being sued for \$10,000 damages by Joseph Weaver, who earlier appeared in the Mansfield performance of "Monsieur Beaucaire." The stage business required Mr. Weaver to wear a red rose on his lapel and Mr. Mansfield, as Beaucaire, to point to it and say, "Even for that red rose," and then strike his antagonist. Recently in Atlanta, the complainant contents, Mr. Mansfield got too strong and "soaked" Mr. Weaver terribly. The actor complained to the star after the curtain went down, whereat Mr. Mansfield, it is alleged, said a few things, and the outcome was that Mr. Weaver resigned.

The Violet Glass Cure.

There has just been placed in the New York Flower hospital an expensive electrical apparatus which is known as an actinolite, said to be the first complete instrument of the kind permanently set up in an American hospital. By its operation it is hoped to make a thorough test of the theory that the powerfully concentrated chemical, or actinic, rays of violet-colored light possesses distinctly curative properties in cases of cancer or tuberculosis. To the patient the operation is an entirely painless one, and its advocates claim for it that it has none of the objectionable features that often attend the application of the Roentgen rays to sensitive portions of the human body.

Thirst for Knowledge.

A visitor to Porto Rico tells the Philadelphia Record that the schools are doing well, and that the intelligence of the pupils is as remarkable as their thirst after knowledge. He tells of a girl of 17 who walks twenty miles to and from school daily, and is so poor that she sleeps on a bare floor and begs most of her food. There's no need for truant officers down there, says this Mr. Preston. He went to a night school, where the men bring their own candles and sit on the school room floor in groups of three, one candle to each group.

"Father of Baseball" Preaching.

Rev. Dr. Lewis W. Mudge, of the class of '62 of Princeton University, who is known among the Princeton graduates as the father of baseball, has accepted the call from the Central Presbyterian church of Downingtown, Pa. Dr. Mudge was the organizer and captain of the first team, in 1869, pitching afterward for five consecutive years.

*Phone the news to No. 31.

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 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.

Black Hair

"I have used your Hair Vigor for five years and am greatly pleased with it. It certainly restores the original color to gray hair. It keeps my hair soft."—Mrs. Helen Kilkenny, New Portland, Me.

Ayer's Hair Vigor has been restoring color to gray hair for fifty years, and it never fails to do this work, either.

You can rely upon it for stopping your hair from falling, for keeping your scalp clean, and for making your hair grow.

\$1.00 a bottle. All druggists.

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

Hot Weather Weakness.

If you feel fagged out, listless and lacking in energy, you are perhaps suffering from the debilitating effects of summer weather. These symptoms indicate that a tonic is needed that will create a healthy appetite, make digestion perfect, regulate the bowels and impart natural activity to the liver. This, Herbine will do; it is a tonic, laxative and restorative. H. J. Freegard, Prop. Grand View Hotel, Cheney, Kan., writes: "I have used Herbine for the last 12 years, and nothing in the world can beat it. It was recommended to me by Dr. Newton, Newton, Kan." 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

Last Words Of A Great Soldier.

May 10, we celebrated the 59th anniversary of the death of Stonewall Jackson.

He died in a house that is still standing at Guinea Station in Virginia, on the line of the Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Potomac Railroad. His left arm was amputated at the shoulder, being taken out of the socket. When he closed his eyes in death his little daughter, then 2 or 3 years old, lay on his breast with his right arm over her.

His dying words were: "Pass the infantry rapidly to the front." "Tell A. P. Hill to prepare for action." "We will pass over the river and rest under the shade of the trees on the opposite side." He was delirious, and like Napoleon's, his mind as it feebly fulfilled its last offices, was with his military past. So sank to rest one of the knightliest soldiers that ever "wore saber on his thigh." As General Dick Taylor said of him: "How to estimate his genius I know not, for he was even superior to occasion."

Prices In '73.

The editor of the Bethany (Mo.) Republican has been looking over an old day-book in which were kept the accounts of the leading general stores in 1873. He has taken therefrom a list of the prices charged for some of the staple articles of household use at that time, and as he suggests, a comparison of the same with the cost of similar necessities of to-day makes it possible more fully to appreciate the howl the Democrats made a few years ago about "the crime of '73. Coal oil was 50c a gallon; molasses was \$1.00; matches were 10c a box; a paper of tacks cost 15c; a barrel's worth of sugar was one and 1-2 pounds; cottonade was 45c a yard; blue denim was 70c a yard; tea was \$1.75 a pound, etc. The book also shows the prices farmers got for their produce. Butter brought 9c a pound and eggs 6 1-2c a dozen. A transaction is recorded with a local farmer who had brought in twenty-one chickens for which he received \$1.62, and fifteen dozen eggs for which he received 97c or \$2.59 all told. To-day the same number of chickens and eggs would bring him more than \$10.

Hit With a Hoe-Handle.

A boy by the name of Massie, the son of a widow woman, who lives in Jones county just north of Trent, was assaulted by a Mr. Alexander, for whom he was working, Tuesday evening, and struck over the head with a hoe handle. The boy is only 10 or 12 years of age and is severely injured. Reports differ as to the cause of the trouble, but nothing would provoke a man to strike a child. Alexander was carried to jail and jailed.

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 July 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

Beech, G. B.
Brable, Mrs. R. L.
Bull, Bill
Clark, Fannie
Combs, C. G.
Crawford, J. F.
Glenn, Evans.
Nichols, Wm.
Ross, Sid
Williams, Oil
Gamboa, Gridro
Rioz, Esteban.

Advertising is the secret of success in every business.

The Race for the State Senate.

W. L. Grogan of Sweetwater spoke here last night in the interest of his candidacy for the State Senate. Among other things of a general nature, affecting the entire State, which he advocates, the following are the most prominent:

(1) A repeal of all occupation tax laws, except upon those classes of business which require special police supervision. (2) An increase in the amount of pensions paid to indigent Confederate soldiers. (3) The enactment of a law forbidding or restricting child labor in factories. (4) An increase in the number of industrial schools in the State, so that our boys may be taught the arts and sciences sufficiently to be able to command the high price paid for such labor. (5) A strengthening of the provisions of the anti-trust law of 1899.

Mr. Grogan's platform upon the two vital issues of the campaign reads as follows: "Abolish the absolute lease, cancel all illegal leases; modify the quarantine line so that inspected cattle may pass at any time of the year, with an open season of three months in the winter when inspection shall not be required. Have the quarantine laws written in the statutes, and not leave their framing to an arbitrary board."

Mr. Grogan skinned his opponent, Senator Sebastian, in a manner that was not at all complimentary to that gentleman, and his record was viewed in terms denunciatory from a to zard. A fair-sized audience was out to hear him.

From the Philippines.

San Isidro, P. I., April 12, 1902. —I have been here in San Isidro about two months and am very well contented. Cost of living is not so high, and then I am away from the smallpox, Bubonic plague and cholera, which is now raging in Manila. This place has about 25,000 inhabitants, but such a population counts but little to an American. There are quite a number of American school teachers in this part of the country, several ladies being among the number, all of which tends to temper the loneliness. A Prof. Mitchell of Selden, Erath county, is teaching four miles from here.

Everything in the Philippines is quiet at present and with the exception of some of the Southern Provinces, it seems that the white-winged dove of peace, which has hovered over this benighted land so long, is about to perch herself upon the flag of the Stars and Stripes and proclaim peace to this dark corner of the universe. Let it come, for there has been too much American blood spilled and too many homes and families broken up already. Want and starvation are abroad in the land. The war was cruel and unjust from the beginning and could have been averted had the right men been in power. For example, the valley in which this little city is located is as rich and fertile as any in the world. A few years ago, I am told, it bloomed and blossomed as a garden of roses. Grand plantations, the homes of thousands of erstwhile happy mortals, occupied this entire valley. How are they to-day? Wrecked and devastated, homes destroyed, the plantations overgrown with tropical verdure, stock driven off and slaughtered, and the tillers of the soil, both high and low, where are they? A few remain to recount the horrors that have swept over their native land, but the great majority have passed over the divide, and hence are spared the pain of returning to where once was their home and loved ones only to find ruin and desolation. Thousands are sleeping their long sleep, in the hills and dales, sacrifices upon the altar of their country. Who will dare say they were not sincere and justifiable in what they did? True, they are not equals, but what august power or authority gave us the right to invade this fair land and dictate to this people what

they should do and what manner of government is best for them? Let us hope that time will heal all wounds and cause the barren wastes to blossom as of yore, and that the new era now upon us will bring peace, happiness and prosperity to these people. Many soldiers are being taken to the states, and with the sailing of each transport I say a few moae and then I will say farewell to foreign climes and sail the briny deep, and of all sights, I know the grandest and most glorious will be the sight of the shores of my native land.

LONNIE L. HYER.

To Mrs. M. A. Counts.

The lap lease system has been knocked into a cocked-hat by the Supreme Court. This will put about 1,000,000 acres of land on the market for actual settlers as soon as the present leases expire.

The Mail has a letter from J. L. Vaughan of Moctezuma, Chihuahua, Mexico, in which he speaks of a trip which he has just made into the southern part of the Republic. Mr. Vaughan will write a series of articles descriptive of that country, his travels and observations for this paper, which will no doubt be of great interest to our readers. The first installment will appear soon.

Miss Dora Collings of Pecos, who has been attending Simmons' College at Abilene, is the guest of her aunt, Mrs. Daniel.

M. A. Marcus, of the Globe, was up from Abilene yesterday.

A good shower of rain now would be a blessing to the country.

If there has been one hour since the first of February that the sand hasn't moved in the air, it was during the progress of a rain.

At least the hot winds will have a tendency to kill the worms which are at work on the cotton.

J. J. Miller spent the week in Abilene.

W. W. Cypert came in from Hico this morning. Rain is badly needed down there, he says, and crops of all kinds are suffering very much, and if rain does not come soon it will play havoc with the country, corn being in a manner burnt up. He will move his family here this fall.

Don't forget the ice cream supper at the Story building Saturday evening.

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.

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Resident Dentist.

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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.



Nearly \$1,000,000 a Month.

Thursday, May 1 Senator Clark of Montana drew a check for \$900,000 and sent it to the contractors who are building his railway from Salt Lake City to Los Angeles. He draws one of these \$900,000 checks on the first of every month, and will continue to do so until the railroad is completed. The interesting thing about these checks isn't that he has \$900,000 on the first of every month or any month, but that the checks do not decrease his capital. He draws them on his income account. When the railroad is done it will have been completed without costing Clark a cent of his capital. The income from his mines and other enterprises will have paid for it.

EASON & HILL,
(STAR STORE BUILDING.)
THE MERKEL BARBERS.

Razors sharp,
Towels clean.

Bath room in connection.
Your patronage solicited.

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NORTH FRONT STREET.

First class work and prompt and
polite attention to all.

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Justice Peace and Notary Public

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

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

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NOSE AND THROAT.

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NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

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I ever had
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GEN'L PASS'G 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
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Cough. **NO CURE. NO PAY.**
Price 50c. & \$1. Trial Bottle Free.

Saved From an Awful Fate.

"Everybody said I had con-
sumption," writes Mrs. A. M.
Shields, of Chambersburg, Pa.,
"I was so low after six months of
severe sickness, caused by hay
fever and asthma, that few
thought I could get well but I
learned of the marvelous merit of
Dr. King's New Discovery for
Consumption, used it, and was
completely cured." For desper-
ate throat and lung troubles it is
the safest cure in the world, and
it is infallible for coughs, colds
and bronchial affections. Gua-
ranteed bottles 50c and \$1.00.
Trial bottles free at Rust & Pit-
tard's.

What Do You Know?

Washington Times.

Here are some questions about
things you've seen ever day and
all your life. If you are a won-
der you may possibly answer one
or two of the questions off-hand.
Otherwise not.

What are the exact words on a
2-cent stamp, and in what direc-
tion is the face on it turned?

In which direction is the face
turned on a cent? On a quarter?
On a dime?

How many toes has a cat on
each fore foot? On each hind foot?
Which way does the crescent
moon turn? To the right or left?

What color are your employer's
eyes? The eyes of the man at the
next desk?

Write down, off hand, the fig-
ures on the face of your watch.
The odds are that you will make
at least two mistakes in doing
this. Your watch has some words
written or printed on its face.
You have seen these words a
thousand times. Write them out
correctly. Few can do this. Al-
so, what is the number in the
case of your watch?

How high (in inches) is a silk
hat? How many teeth have you?
What are the words on a police-
man's shield?

How many buttons has the vest
or shirt waist you are wearing?

How many stairs are there in
the first flight to your house?

How many steps lead from the
street to the front door of your
house or flat?

What is the name, signed in
fac simile, on any \$1, \$2, \$5, or
\$10, bill you ever saw? You've
read dozens of these names. Can
you remember one?

Henry Dummond once told the
story of two Americans who
when they were crossing the At-
lantic, met one Sunday night to
sing hymns in the cabin. As they
sang the hymn, "Jesus Lover of
My Soul," one of the Americans
heard an exceedingly rich and
beautiful voice behind him. He
looked around, and although he
did not know the face he thought
he recognized the voice. So when
the music ceased he turned a-
round and asked the man if he
had not been in the civil war.
The man replied that he had
been a confederate soldier.
"Were you at such a place on
such a night?" asked the first.
"Yes," he said, "and a curious
thing happened that night; this
hymn recalled it to my mind. I
was on sentry duty on the edge
of a wood. It was a dark night
and very cold, and I was a little
frightened because the enemy
were supposed to be very near at
hand. I felt very homesick and
miserable, and about midnight,
when everything was still, I was
beginning to feel very weary and
thought that I would comfort my-
self by praying and singing a
hymn. I remember this hymn:
'All my trust on Thee is stayed,
All my help from Thee I bring;

Cover my defenseless head

With the shadow of Thy Wing'.
"After I had sung those words
a strange peace came down upon
me, and through the long night I
remember having felt no more
fear." "Now," said the other
man "listen to my story. I was
a union soldier and was in the
woods that night with a party of
scouts. I saw you standing up,
although I did not see your face,
and my men had their rifles fo-
cused upon you waiting the word
to fire, but when you sang out:

'Cover my defenseless head
With the shadow of Thy wing,'
"I said: Boys put down your
rifles; we will go home. I could-
n't kill you after that."

My little son had an attack of
whooping cough and was threat-
ened with pneumonia; but for
Chamberlain's Cough Remedy
we would have had a serious
time of it. It also saved him
from several severe attacks of
croup.—H. J. Strickfaden, editor
World-Herald, Fair Haven,
Wash. For sale by Rust & Pit-
tard.

"I'll Stand The Pain."

In the awful Park Avenue Tun-
nel collision in New York City
last January, Peter Murphy,
twenty-eight years of age, re-
ceived injuries which resulted in
the loss of his right leg and the
paralysis of his left arm and side.
The New York Sun relates his
part in the horrors of that cruel
accident. When the trains
crashed together Murphy's head
and shoulders were pushed
through a window, and his feet
and legs were caught beneath the
engine which had telescoped the
car. He worked one leg free,
and was about to pull the other
loose when the roof of the car fell
on both legs. As he hung there
in fearful agony, Battalion Chief
Ferrell of the fire department
came along. Murphy asked him
to lift the timbers off his legs so
that he could free himself.

"If I do that," said Ferrell,
"the roof will fall on the others
inside. There are women there."
"I didn't think of that,"
said Murphy. "Let it stay. I'll
stand the pain."

Imprisoned close to the wreck
of the hot locomotive, and crush-
ed under the deadly weight of
splintered wood and twisted iron,
this young Irishman waited in
agony half an hour, never losing
consciousness, although most suf-
ferers would have fainted from
the pain, till his fellow victims
were dragged from the ruins.

Every one of those thirty min-
utes endured for their sake was
like an hour of agony; but his
extended torture shortened the
pain of the other sufferers and
helped them to escape with a
better chance of life. It was for
that he waited, with the certainty
of mutilation and the nearing or
probability of death.

It is natural to shrink from
pain; it is noble to bear it in nec-
essity; it is godlike to endure it
for others. Religion has its
spiritual vision and its devotional
beauty; but its heavenly service
is best seen wherever men do
and dare and die to help their
fellow men. Nothing is more
characteristic of Christian law
and discipline than this magna-
nimity of human nature. It is
the heroic virtue of Him who
gave Christianity its name.

Many a heart among the wel-
coming two thousand who on the
ninth of last March escorted brave,
and crippled Peter Murphy from
Bellevue Hospital to his home in
New Rochelle will remember the
tribute as an honor not only to
the hero, but to the culture of a
Christian age that made him.

All in One

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

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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.

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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.
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