

# THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

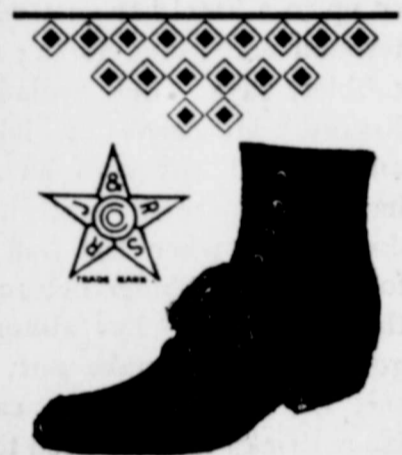
VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JUNE 19, 1902.

NO. 18.



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



## ..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

#### Law of Life.

Rev. N. D. Hillis, Congregationalist.

In general, the law of life is the law of growth and self-expression. Dead things do not grow nor have anything to reveal. But living things grow and must reveal their hidden treasures. The necessity of expression in the lower world prepares us for the necessity of a self-revelation of man. Man's earliest, latest, deepest necessity is the necessity of giving forth his one message, the secret that God has breathed into him.

#### What is a Saint?

L. Petit de Julleville.

What is the essential, invariable sign of saintliness? Is it not the ardent and unremitting desire of a human soul to accomplish within itself divine will? That man is a saint who honestly and with all his soul and power seeks to learn what is God's will in regard to Him, and who, when he has learned it, has only one desire and thought--to do God's will, braving all things even unto death.

#### Spiritual Prosperity.

Dr. Parker, Presbyterian.

We must not forget that we have inherited from the past. There has been no such century of unexampled prosperity. It is for us to say if this material, moral and spiritual prosperity shall continue. In our hands is

the lever which sways the switch. In a nation's life, as in an individual's life, now is the day of salvation, and if only Christians will do their duty all will be well.

#### Conquer Yourself.

Rev. G. R. Lunn, Presbyterian.

You can only conquer yourself by letting Christ dwell in you and then following in the way He shall lead, your life will be the victorious one. Give Him your life, serve Him with your whole heart; go with Him to minister to the needy ones on earth, who long for your help.

#### Divine Authority,

Rev. Parkhurst, Presbyterian.

The divine authority of Jesus Christ distinctly prohibits any modern Joshua from killing his way into any modern Canaan; and if the world deems necessary such things as are being done in South Africa and the Philippines it has no right to claim any Christian sanction for the enterprises and the methods employed. The only point that we are just now making is that, granting that the brute policy is necessary and therefore right, we cannot put Christ's name to it.

#### Remorse and Repentance.

Rev. Burrell.

We cannot emphasize too deeply the difference between remorse and repentance. If sorrow for ill-doing could give assurance of absolution we might believe that not only Judas

but all who have felt the overwhelming pain of retribution will be received into the heavenly city. But the sorrow for sin which commends itself to God is a sorrow which takes cognizance not merely of the sin's consequence, but of its heinous character as offensive to God.

#### Demands of the World.

Rev. J. W. Romich, Lutheran.

When you try to suit the church to the demands of the world you will end in its entire destruction as a force of good righteousness. You will find the real underlying objection that many have to the church is that it forbids a life of sin. Some seem to have the idea that the church should relieve men of all labor; that it should make life one continual picnic and holiday; that it should refuse the satisfaction of no desire.

#### Not Wholly Bad.

Rev. Dr. Levy, Hebrew.

The world is not wholly bad, any more than the earth is altogether a desert. All friendship is not fleeting.

#### Happy Time in Old Town.

"We felt very happy," writes R. N. Bevill, 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.

Advertising is the secret of success in every business.

## 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.

efforts of specialists to check it. pressing a long time, despite the pro- blind. The disease has been become the care of eye specialists, and it to her home, near Boston, under two weeks she has been confined threatened with blindness. For known woman suffragist, is Mrs. A. Livermore, the well Mrs. Livermore Becoming Blind. composition at the conservatory. lowed to follow the course of 1876, when women were first distinguished themselves since Boulanger, who is blind, have item, Depicker Kenie and Miss Renaud-Maury, Gennaro Chre- men shall be allowed to compete Arts decides that in future wo- The Paris Academy of Beaux Women May Try for the Prize.

### A Cabinet of Press Men.

Mr. Asquith, the English statesman, said in a speech at a recent press banquet, that nearly every member of the present British cabinet, from the premier down, had worked for the press at one time or another.

### Best Selling Books.

The best selling books just now are "Dorothy Vernon," "The Mississippi Bubble," "Audrey," "The Hound of the Baskervilles" and "The Lady Paramount," with "Dorothy Vernon" scoring 23 points against 7 for its nearest competitor.

### Hatless Girls Here Again.

"She began a trifle ahead of the season, the hatless girl, but there she was, all right, at the corner of Tremont street and Temple place, a dinky white satin bow and an ornamented comb in place of the accustomed feminine headgear," says the Boston Herald. "The busy crowd in passing gave her a searching glance. Was this specimen the real article, or some shop maiden who had run to the sidewalk for a breath of air? No, for there were gloves on her hands and a Boston bag stuffed with parcels dangling on her arm. She was a suburban shopper in town without her hat."

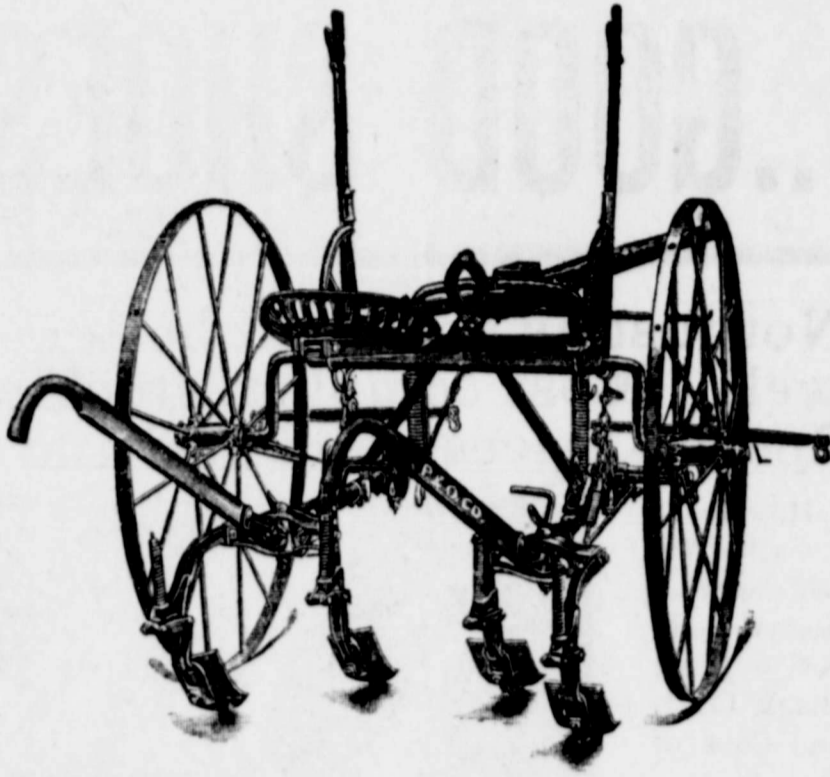
# YOU WANT THE BEST..

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

### To Test a Novel Single-Rail Line.

The first practical trial of a new system of the single-rail railroad is to be made at the Crystal Palace, London. The line, which is to be one and a half miles in length, will be worked by electricity. The difference between this system and the prevalent type of monorail is that the line is on the ground and large wheels projecting from the middle of the carriage run on it, while on each side of the carriage there are safety rollers upon guide rails. In the monorail the line is elevated, with the carriages overhanging on each side.

### The Way We Are Governed.

At a dinner at the Republican Club in New York the other evening, General Horace Porter, American ambassador to France, explained how this country is governed. The people across the Atlantic, he said, didn't understand it; but it is perfectly simple. "The daughters govern the mothers, and the mothers govern the fathers, and the fathers govern the country."

### Dug Up an Ancient Dithyramb.

An important Greek papyrus has been discovered by the German Oriental Society at Abusir near Sakkara in Egypt. It contains the dithyramb on the Persian wars by Timotheos of Miletus, a poet who lived about 400 before Christ, whose name only had been preserved. The poem is long and is the first specimen of that kind of poetry that has come to light. The manuscript itself is the oldest of all Greek papyri known, and belongs probably to the fourth century before Christ.

### One of Those Wonderful Sleuths.

A man who was "wanted" in Russia had been photographed in six different positions, and the pictures were duly circulated among the police departments. The chief of one of these wrote to headquarters a few days after the set of portraits, and stated: "Sir, I have duly received the portrait of the six miscreants whose capture is desired. I have arrested five of them, and the sixth is under observation and will be secured shortly."

### 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.

### Harte's Joke Lost Him a Job.

While Bert Harte was editor of the Overland Monthly in San Francisco there was a rather severe earthquake shock. The correspondents of Eastern papers were requested to "draw it mild" for fear of driving away new comers, but the notification failed to reach Harte, who wrote an amusing skit by way of editorial in his magazine. It gave such dire offense that when his name afterward came up for election to a chair in the state university he lost the vote and support of the most influential trustee, the banker, William C. Ralston.

### Gold Mine 1,000 Years Old.

Governor Martine has reported to the Italian government the discovery near Asmara, in Eritrea, of a gold mine which evidently was worked by the natives more than a thousand years ago.

Try reading The Mail.

### 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.

### Tolstoi Again Well.

Count Tolstoi is again enjoying good health, apparently, as he has renewed his interest in the public affairs of Russia. The count has written a letter to the czar describing the misery of the Russian peasantry and calling on the czar to aid in bettering the condition of the people. In addressing the czar Count Tolstoi calls him "dear brother" and throughout the letter refers to him in the second person singular.

### Fort Benjamin Harrison.

The decision of President Roosevelt to direct the secretary of war to have the new infantry military post at Indianapolis named "Fort Benjamin Harrison" meets with popular approval, not only in Indiana, but throughout the United States.

### "We's" Victorious Scrap.

Stories regarding the editorial "we" are always springing up. A recent one concerns an editor, who thus described a fight in a car in which he took part: "We entered into conversation with Mr. C. He made mention of the difficulty between us, and we gave our version of the affair. He then called us a liar, and we struck him. He struck back at us and we clinched. In the scramble which followed we got into the aisle and we got him down and were giving him what he deserved when the conductor and some of the passengers came up and interfered. Then we were parted."

### What They Drink in Philadelphia.

A hot, tired-looking man walked up to a hotel bar yesterday afternoon and asked for a sherry cobbler, says the Philadelphia Record. He drank it leisurely and walked out with an air of having been much refreshed. "I don't know when I've had a call for a sherry cobbler before," said the bartender. "I've almost forgotten how to make one. You see, we don't have the call for fancy drinks that we used to have even in warm weather. The high-ball, which is just whiskey and seltzer, with a lump of ice, seems to have driven the mixed drinks to the wall. The gin-fizz is a dead one; the rickey is no longer popular, and even the various cocktails aren't nearly so much in demand as they used to be. I guess it's a good thing, too. Men who drink liquors have come to realize that the straight article does less harm to the stomach than the more palatable mixtures. It makes it easier for us, too."

### Bryan's Waning Popularity.

The Nashville American, Dem., says: "Mr. Bryan had 150 persons to hear him lecture at Gallatin. He had less than 300 by actual count, in Nashville, although the American reporter was lit and gave him 500. Six months ago he offered to lecture at Union City and he had less than eighty in his audience. He refused to lecture and refunded the few persons their money. Mr. Bryan's audiences are dwindling all over the country, still he manages to pick up several dollars at the business. He is working the mine for all it is worth as long as it will hold out."

### Now It's a Relio Trust.

A relic trust has been organized by the Omaha and Winnebago Indians. The president of this grasping monopoly is Great Thunder, a Winnebago, whose specialty is making bows and arrows. Green Rainbow and Prairie Chicken, makers of snakeskin belts, and John A. Logan, manufacturer of eagle feather head dress, are directors. These leaders will hereafter fix the prices of Indian goods made for white purchasers.

# 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.

## GIVING LUMBER AWAY?

NOT EXACTLY

But we are making prices so low that it is the next thing to it.

Lumber, Shingles, Sash, Doors  
Blinds, Cement, etc.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

## A Good Hearted Man,

or in other words, men with good sound hearts, are not very numerous. The increasing number of sudden deaths from heart disease daily chronicled by the press, is proof of the alarming prevalence of this dangerous complaint, and as no one can foretell just when a fatal collapse will occur, the danger of neglecting treatment is certainly a very risky matter. If you are short of breath, have pain in left side, smothering spells, palpitation, unable to lie on side, especially the left, you should begin taking



J. A. Kreamer.

### Dr. Miles' Heart Cure.

J. A. Kreamer of Arkansas City, Kans., says: "My heart was so bad it was impossible for me to lie down, and I could neither sleep nor rest. My decline was rapid, and I realized I must get help soon. I was advised to try Dr. Miles' Heart Cure, which I did, and candidly believe it saved my life."

Dr. Miles' Remedies are sold by all druggists on guarantee.  
Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

### Germany's Big Sailing Vessel.

Germany has the largest sailing vessel in the world, the Preussen, of 8,000 tons, just launched at Geestemunde. She is owned by the firm that owns the former sailing vessel, the Potosi, 6,000 odd tons, and will be used in the trade with the Pacific coast of America. The Preussen is 457 feet long and fifty-three feet wide. She draws thirty-four feet and has a spread of sail of 100,000 square feet.

### Yankee Patriotism in Paris.

'Ambassador Horace Porter, home on a short leave from Paris, regaled his companions at a dinner in New York the other night with a description of how the Americans in Paris celebrate the Fourth of July when they set about it. At the last anniversary of the immortal Declaration somebody proposed that the American flag be run up on top of the Eiffel tower. This was considered a rather rash proposition at first, but the enthusiastic Yankee who made it wouldn't be discouraged. He made the necessary arrangements with the Eiffel tower management, and the stars and stripes floated from the top of the tower all day. "It reminded me," said Ambassador Porter, "of the small boy when they said to him on the Fourth of July to stop wiping his nose. He said: 'It is the Fourth of July and it is my nose, and I am going to wipe it off the face of the earth.'"

### She Mistook the Sign.

When Mark Twain was beginning his career as a humorous lecturer he one day arranged with a charming female acquaintance that she should sit in a box and start the applause when he stroked his mustache. The lecturer started off so well that he did not need any such help, however, for he caught the audience from the first. By and by, when not saying anything of particular notice, he happened to pull his mustache, and his anxious ally in the box at once broke into furious applause. Mark was all but broken up by the misadventure, and ever afterward carefully avoided employing such help to success.

### Magician Herman and His Baton.

The first time Professor Alexander Herrmann, "Hermann, the Great," who died a few years ago, went on the stage he carried a cheap little imitation rosewood baton, with a silver plated band around one of its ends. He made a success of it from the first, and he got the idea firmly fixed in his curious old head that the baton was somehow responsible for it. Thereafter and for more than thirty-five years he would carry nothing else than the tawdry little toy onto the stage with him. King Edward, of England, then the Prince of Wales, once gave him a handsomely carved and gold mounted baton, and, for a special performance, he consented to carry the gift. It happened, for a wonder, that Herrman fell down that afternoon in one of his most complicated tricks, and he blamed it all on the new wand. From that time on he could never be persuaded to start a performance without his old baton.

### King Christian and the Beggar.

A story of King Christian and an enterprising beggar is going the rounds in Copenhagen. The king takes habitually an early morning walk, accompanied by Prince Waldemar and his favorite dog. Recently, during one of these walks, a ragged man with all the typical cringing of a beggar approached him. "Well," said the king, "what is it?" "Dare I ask your majesty for your portrait as a memento?" said the beggar, humbly. Naturally the king was both surprised and pleased at this declaration of loyalty, but regretted that he did not carry his portraits about with him.

"Pardon me, your majesty," retorted the tramp, slyly; "if you will look in your purse you will probably find one!"

The king amused at this novel way asking for alms, gave the man two crowns; but the police, to whom such smartness does not commend itself, have duly marked the man.

### She Tied Up the Wrong Shoe.

An amusing incident occurred the other day in a Brookline (Mass.) electric car, which was comfortably filled, when a well dressed young woman entered and took a seat next to a man. Presently she leaned forward and began to tie up her shoe lacing. It proved rather difficult to do with her gloves on, but after a while the passenger witnessing the performance saw the feat accomplished and the woman sit back, calmly gazing out of the window, as if "she was always tying her shoe" in electric cars. At the next stop the man beside her rose to get off. There came a struggle, and then horror mutual and general. The two were fastened, not exactly hand and foot, but shoe and shoe! So diligently had the young woman tied the knots that the lacing had to be cut by a ready pocketknife before the couple could be separated.

## Condensed History Boer War

Began October 11, 1899.

Ended May 31, 1902.

Duration, two years and 231 days.

Total available fighting force of Boers (estimated) 50,000.

Total number British engaged, from first to last, 500,000.

Total number of British in field at one time, 280,000.

### Cost in Life and Treasure.

British officers, 1064; men, 21,142; total, 22,206.

Sent home invalid, officers 3030; men 70,952; total 73,982.

Boers, not exactly known.

Losses of all kinds up to 1902, 78,320.

Losses of all kinds in 1902, 6,500.

Probable actual number of Boers engaged, 70,000.

Boers reduced at end of war, 8,000.

Prisoners at Ceylon, St. Helena, Bermuda, Cape, 40,000.

Cost of money to Great Britain, estimated, \$1,250,000,000.

### Stages of the Fighting.

(a) Relief of British garrisons, Oct., 1899 to May, 1900; Kimberly relieved February 15, 1900; Ladysmith relieved February 28, 1900; Mafeking relieved May 18, 1900.

(b) Roberts' march to Pretoria Feb., 1900, to June 1900.

(c) Guerilla war and blockhouse campaign, under Lord Kitchener, November, 1900, to May 1902.

### Some of the Chief Actors.

Lord Salisbury, prime min. of Great Britain and Ireland.

Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of the colonies.

Lord Milner, home commissioner in South Africa.

Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener, commanders in chief.

Gens. French, Ian and Hamilton, Tucker and Kakewish,

President Kruger of South African Republic.

President Stein of Orange Free State.

General Schalk-Burger, acting president of Transvaal.

Gens. Joubert and Botha, commanders in chief.

Coms. DeWet, De la Rey, Cronje, Viljoen and Kritzinger.

### Memorable Events.

British "black week" disaster at Stormberg, Magersfontein and Colenso Dec. 10 to 15, 1899.

Buller suspended by Lord Roberts as commander in chief, with Lord Kitchener as chief of staff, Dec. 18, 1899.

Spion Kop, January 23, 1900.

Cronje surrenders to Roberts at Paardeburg, with 4,000 men, Feb. 27, 1900.

Bloomfontein occupied March 13, Pretoria June 5, 1900.

General Joubert dies March 27, 1900.

Annexation of Orange Free State proclaimed May 28, '00.

Annexation of the Transvaal Oct. 25, 1900.

Surrender of Prinsloo, with 3000 Boers, July 30, 1900.

Pres. Kruger flees from the Transvaal Sept. 11, 1900.

Lord Roberts sails for home Dec. 11, 1900.

DeWet's raid in Cape Colony Dec. and Jan., 1901.

Unsuccessful negotiations for peace Feb. 1901.

Botha's unsuccessful raid on Zululand Sept. 1901.

Kitchener's big drives of DeWet and De la Rey spring '02.

De la Rey's capture of Methuen, spring, 1902.

Peace negotiations begun March 23, 1902.

Death of Cecil Rhodes March 26, 1902.

Terms of surrender signed May 31, 1902.

—Houston Post.

### The Terms of Surrender.

We give below the terms of the recent surrender, showing that in most instances the Boers have the advantage:

1. The burghers are to lay down all their arms and recognize the sovereignty of King Edward.

2. All Boer prisoners are to be brought back as soon as possible to South Africa, Great Britain undertaking that they shall not suffer the loss of liberty or property and that no action be taken against any such prisoners save in cases where they have been guilty of a breach of the laws of war.

3. The Dutch language will be taught in the schools of the new colonies where the parents desire it.

4. The Dutch language will be used in the courts of law if necessary.

5. The burghers will be allowed to retain rifles for self-protection.

6. Military occupation of the colonies will cease as soon as possible, and self-government will be substituted.

7. There is to be no tax on the Transvaal to defray the

enormous cost of the war.

8. The sum of \$15,000,000 is to be provided to the Boers to restock their farms.

9. The Cape rebels are to be tried according to the law of the colony to which they belong, the rank and file to be disfranchised for life, but no death penalty is to be inflicted.

10. The military administration of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony will, at the earliest possible date, be succeeded by civil government, and as soon as circumstances determine representative institutions leading up to self-government will be introduced.

11. The government will make advances on loans free of interest for two years, and thereafter at three per cent, for the purpose of re-establishing the burghers in their homesteads; but foreigners and rebels are not to participate in this benefit.

England has shown by these concessions, which are more than liberal, that she was very anxious to get the war off of her hands. Oom Paul's prediction that humanity would be staggered, has been thrice verified.

# The Merkel Mail

ED J. LEEMAN, Editor and Prop'r.

Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as second-class mail matter.

**Subscription Rates:**  
 One year \$1.00  
 Six months .50  
 Three months .25  
 Invariably in advance.

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

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

## THE SALOONS ARE GOING.

One of the most sweeping results of the success of prohibition and one of the greatest evidences of the growth of the order in this State, is found in the following item from the Dallas News:

"Because of the spread of the sentiment in favor of prohibition, a number of the largest wholesale liquor houses in North Texas are contemplating a removal to Cincinnati, O. This statement comes from one of the firms.

"It is told that since January the success of prohibitionists had reduced the business of one house \$150,000 per annum, and it is feared that the reduction will be still greater.

"The men who are discussing this removal will not permit their names or the names of their firms to be made public at present, but they claim that over 30,000 persons are directly dependent upon them for a living and that the amount of property which they will dispose of runs well up into the millions."

Evidently this is a grandstand play by the Saloon League, hatched out for the purpose of creating sympathy and to make the people believe that prosperity in a great measure depends upon the success of the liquor traffic. It is the same old cry with slight variations. We have yet to hear from a town which has been killed by prohibition.

Since the Supreme Court knocked out the lap lease system hundreds of people are flocking to the Plains and an amateur "Oklahoma rush" has set in. Many settlers were there in advance of the decision and "squatting" ready for action, and now they are strictly in it. It will work a hardship two ways: The stockmen will be forced to hunt other pastures, and hundreds of people who will go there expecting to have an easy time in locating claims will be disappointed. Under such circumstances there is bound to be some suffering.

In the Texas corn belt, where the farmers depend upon corn entirely as a feed crop, the outlook is very gloomy. In the west the farmers put no dependence on corn, but raise sorghum, milo maize and Kaffir corn, and hence the poor showing for a corn crop this year is no menace to the country. There will be an abundance of feed raised.

Dean's band wagon didn't get the crowds in this county. It takes solid facts to reach the hearts of the people.

Dean developed but very little strength at the show down. Bluff and bluster don't amount to anything anyway.

## PRECINCT CONVENTION

### A HARMONIOUS MEETING OF THE DEMOCRATS.

Judge Smith Wins for Congress.  
 Delegates Instructed to Vote as a Unit.

The Democratic precinct convention held here Saturday was very harmonious in its deliberations and all business was transacted with dispatch. Following are the minutes of the meeting: Chairman J. J. Stallings called the house to order and stated the object of the meeting.

J. C. Calvert was elected chairman pro tem and S. M. Sewell secretary.

Motion prevailed that the chair appoint the necessary committees for the business at hand, and the following were appointed:

Committee on Representation: H. C. Williams, W. W. Wheeler, J. L. Mann, J. J. Stallings.

Committee on Resolutions and Permanent Organization: I. S. Allen, Ed J. Leeman, J. A. Adkisson, J. W. Jennings.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES  
 Committee on Representation submitted the following report, which was adopted:

We, your committee on Representation, submit the following names:

I S Allen	Geo S Berry
H C Williams	J C Calvert
Ed J Leeman	J W Jennings
J J Stallings	J O Hamilton
J K Pittard	S M Sewell
W W Wheeler	J T Warren
Dr Leeman	John Elliott
Dr Adkisson	J L Mann

H. C. Williams, Chairman. The committee on Resolutions and Permanent Organization reported as follows, which was adopted:

We, your committee on resolutions and permanent organization, recommend J. C. Calvert as chairman and S. M. Sewell as secretary, and we further recommend that Ed J. Leeman be elected precinct chairman for the ensuing two years.

We recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

That the delegates elected and appointed by this convention to attend the county Democratic convention be, and they are, hereby instructed to vote as a unit in and on all matters and questions that may come before said convention, the majority ruling.

That we hereby renew our allegiance to the principles promulgated by the Democratic party, and that we pledge ourselves to support and vote for all its nominees.

I. S. Allen, Chairman. The following resolution was then offered by J. W. Jennings and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we, the Democrats of Merkel in convention assembled, instruct our delegates to the county convention to use all honorable means to have Taylor county instruct her delegates to the congressional convention to use all honorable means to secure the nomination of Judge Smith for Congress.

Motion prevailed that the delegates to the county convention be instructed to cast their ballots for Hon. W. P. Sebastian for the State Senate.

Motion prevailed that the delegates go uninstructed as to other candidates.

Motion carried that the convention endorse the course of

# 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**



WELL DRESSED AND WELL PLEASED

ARE THE WEARERS OF HEART AND ARROW BRAND SHOES

## The Fitts & Smith Store.

Hon. W. J. Bryan in the State Legislature.

Adjourned.  
 J. C. Calvert, Chairman.  
 S. M. Sewell, Secretary.

### Other Conventions.

The Abilene precinct at the Court House gave rousing instructions for Smith for Congress, while at the Fire Station no instructions were given, but a solid Smith delegation was elected.

Nubia gave no instructions to her delegation, which was as follows: B. J. Riney, Tom Toombs, Chas. Howard, Tom Clinton.

At Trent the following instructions were given: Shith for Congress, Speer for Associate Justice and Bryan for the Legislature. B. I. Lowe, H. L. Propst and P. B. Causseaux is the delegation.

In the county and precinct conventions held at various places Saturday, Judge Smith carried every county except our neighbor on the south, Rannels, which went into the Dean column. Bryan and Hardwicke, Taylor county's two candidates, carried Callahan and their nomination is now a sure thing.

Judge Smith should feel proud of his magnificent victory in this county, which is the result of the tireless energy of his friends. It was a hard fight and victory was practically wrestled from defeat.

The drouth prevailing over almost the entire State, coming in the face of last year's disaster, is being keenly felt. Another short corn crop is certain.

### A NATION OF DRINKERS.

Our total output of alcoholic liquors for 1900 amounted to 1,325,358,094 gallons, says the Dallas News. It further calls attention to the fact that this vast mass of liquids would equal in weight 533 warships of the size of the Georgia, of 15,000 tons each, and continues: "Equally divided, there would be per year for each American 17.3 gallons of liquors, of which 15.7 are malted, 1.3 distilled and one-third of a gallon wines." Add to this our annual drink bill of a million and a quarter dollars and we have a compilation of facts and figures that is appalling. It is enough to stagger humanity.

It is noticed that the cry of hard times is not coming from the diversifier, but from the one-crop farmer. The farmer who plants everything is bound to make a hit one way or the other.

Dan Jones would have received the instruction from Taylor if he had developed any strength anywhere else. Dan is practically out of the race, but he will be heard from in the future.

There is plenty of time yet in which to make cotten in this country. One of the best crops the country ever produced was planted the latter part of June.

Now, heave, and let your best effort be one good, long, strong, manly pull for the upbuilding of the town, its schools, churches and commercial interests.

Teddy should adjourn with Congress.

### 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**

Roby has voted \$5,000 worth of bonds for the erection of a school house.

Keep a stiff upper lip; it will rain in time.

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.

#### For Sale, Cash or Note.

A wagon and harness in good repair and all complete.

2t Jos. H. Warnick.

A good rain fell at Jno. Cook's farm, 10 miles north of town, Sunday evening. North of there as far as Stamford good rains are reported, which were badly needed.

J. R. Dye left Sunday night for Fort Worth to follow his trade and will go from there to Oklahoma if work is not plentiful.

John Elliott and P. D. Brown joined the excursion to the town lot sale in Oklahoma, Monday night. John is on a pleasure trip, but Pomp carried his violin along, which is a guarantee that they will not have to "hoof" it back home.

J. A. Sosebee reports only a good shower of rain at his farm, north of town, Sunday evening. It will do a world of good, however.

#### Resolutions of Thanks.

Mr. Ed J. Leeman, Ed. The Mail, Merkel, Texas.

Dear Sir:—In accordance with resolutions unanimously adopted by the Prohibition Committee, at its last meeting, I take the greatest pleasure on behalf of the committee, in thanking you sincerely for your untiring efforts in behalf of prohibition in Taylor County, during the recent campaign.

The committee feels that the nappy results realized were largely attributed to your individual efforts, and the manly, vigorous stand you took in your editorial columns, filled as they were with marked ability, measured by the highest moral standard.

We thank you for the liberality you displayed in giving us, without charge the use of your columns, and the committee unanimously asserts that as individuals, none of us will ever fail to return your kindnesses in every possible way. Henceforth we are your friends, and with us the good people of Taylor County who stood so nobly by prohibition in this fight.

We desire also to thank the good people of Merkel precinct for their handsome prohibition majority, which saved us the day, and we request you, by the publication of this communication, to let them know how deeply grateful we feel.

A very important duty still remains for us to perform, and we ask your hearty co-operation and assistance, and that of your noble co-workers, namely: to see that the law is enforced. It is our purpose to vigorously assist the officers of the law in every possible way to make it an expensive luxury to violate local option law in Taylor County.

Again Thanking you, we remain with the highest esteem,  
Very truly yours,  
Taylor County Campaign Com.  
By T. H. Alexander, Chairman,  
Abilene, Tex., June 10.

**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.



J. T. WARREN

#### TEACHERS ELECTED.

##### A Full Corps of Teachers For the Merkel School.

The Board of Trustees have employed the following teachers for the Merkel Public School for the ensuing year:

C. E. Evans, Superintendent.  
S. M. Sewell, Principal.  
Miss Vallie Hill, 4th grade.  
Miss Maggie Hatten, 3rd grade.  
Miss Laura Evans, 2nd grade.  
Miss Opal Harkrider, Primary.

The Mail feels that the selections will prove eminently satisfactory to the patrons of the school, and that this will be one of the most prosperous years in the history of the school. Prof. Sewell and Misses Laura Evans and Opal Harkrider are not experiments, but taught in the school last year and gave universal satisfaction. We are glad to have them with us again. Prof. Evans has been superintendent of the Anson school for several years. He has few superiors in school management and discipline. Miss Hill taught in the Gatesville school the past few years and came to us with many recommendations as to efficiency in school work, while Miss Hatten is one of our own girls and can but prove a valuable acquisition to the most excellent corps of teachers.

The completion of the list gives us one more teacher than we had last year, and now, if work on the projected new school building is hastened, we can hope to make the school this term one of the greatest "drawing cards" the town has ever had. At least, let's give our best efforts to the cause of education.

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.

The Mail congratulates Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sheppard upon the birth of a baby girl.

Prof. S. M. Sewell will meet with the board for the examination of teachers' certificates at Abilene tomorrow.

Henry West is at Dallas for a two weeks' visit.

#### 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.

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.

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.

E. D. Coats returned from Lubbock Sunday. He reports that country as being rather a dreary waste at this time, no rain having fallen there for many months. Rains on the Plains, like other places, have been spotted.

#### 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.

A Mexican baby died at the Story wagon yard and was buried Saturday. It was six or eight months old and bore the distinction of being the only baby of that nationality to first see the light of day in Merkel, and also to be buried here.

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

tf W. P. Thurmond.

J. H. Beall of Sweetwater was in the city Saturday. Mr. Beall visited other places in the interest of the candidacy of Judge Smith for Congress.

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

W. P. Browning & Co.

Mr. Witt of Ysleta was the guest of his daughter, Mrs. J. H. Ensminger, last week.

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

Rev. R. S. Heizer preached an interesting sermon at the Methodist church Sunday on the "Fulfillment of Prophecies," taking for illustration the fall of Babylon and Ninevah, which was presented in a clear, concise manner. He had a large audience.

Lost, one small black pig about one month old. Any information leading to its recovery will be appreciated. I. T. George, 1t at South Side Hotel.

A man remarked, the other day, that he could not understand why the people of Merkel are a unit on prohibition. A few days after that he attended church and was inspired to remark the next day: "There was not the least disturbance, not a whisper, but perfect deportment on the part of everyone. Now I can understand the cause for unity among your people." He is right. The two virtues go hand in hand and constitute the sum total of religious fervor.

Dr. Leeman and family left Tuesday morning for the Plains on a month's recreation and to visit relatives. They went by private conveyance.

S. R. Curtis and niece, Miss Eva Merchant, joined Dr. Leeman and family on their trip to the Plains.

# ... PROHIBITION DON'T PROHIBIT ...

## The People From Trading at this Store.

We realize the fact that you have had a short crop year and must buy goods as cheap as possible. Knowing this to be the case, we have shaved most of the profits off of every line of merchandise. The prices are right. Come in and see us and inspect our goods. We will save you money on every purchase, large or small

## J. P. SHARP & CO.

### TOWN and COUNTRY.. NEWS

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

#### Interesting Items.

During the three months ending Dec. 31 last there were 1,481 railroad collisions and 877 derailments in the United States, in which 274 persons were killed and 2,089 injured. Accidents of all other kinds increased the total to 813 killed and 10,235 injured.

The damage to cars, engines and roadway by these accidents amounted to \$2,075,091.

The Department of Agriculture has been investigating the mesquite bean as a food for man, and announces that when properly prepared it is as nutritious as any of the varieties of peas and beans now used as food. The department also announces that Texas produces enough of the beans to supply the world.

Since the greater part of the whites have left Martinique the negroes imagine that the Island is at length their own. They have met and elected a negro governor and other officers. The "governor" has already distinguished himself by looting and excesses. He is said to have amassed considerable wealth by pillaging houses all over the island. His followers are inflamed by drink and give themselves up to orgies of the most revolting description.

Cattlemen in Bee county have been forced to use crude oil on their cattle to kill ticks. From every section of the country come reports that ticks are more numerous this year than formerly.

It has been demonstrated that Beaumont oil will kill Johnson grass when poured on it. The oil penetrates to the roots and the plant dies immediately. Some think, however, that the oil will injure the land, but this has not been proven.

From all parts of Texas come complaints of the dry weather and hot winds. In the corn belt a great deal of corn has been cut for fodder and hundreds of acres will not make seed. And in the black land belt much of the cotton is reported to be dying and all other crops are suffering. The west is not alone suffering,

but has plenty of company.

It is expected that the recent decision of the Supreme Court in invalidating the lap lease system will result disastrously to stockmen, who have large bodies of land under lease, by forcing them to ship to a market which is already crowded. But in the face of this charge comes the report of the scarcity of beef cattle. It will not effect the price of cattle either way, and it can not be doubted that it will result in the rapid settlement of the country.

Another effect of the drouth is reported from Orange, where cattle are dying of charbon and murrain.

Crops in the Panhandle, both corn and cotton, are said to be immense, the best for years. This is a lucky spot this year.

A Milam county man says that the farmer who suffers his fodder and the stalk to waste, saving only the ear and shuck, loses 37 1/2 per cent of the value of their corn, and that if the farmers will cut and shock their corn right now, before it dries up, they will get more good out of it than if the crop had made well and nothing but the corn is saved. He urges the farmers to cut and shock their corn and states that it is a fact that as provender in can not be beat.

#### Railroads and Postal Expenses.

Farm, Stock and Home. In a recent article Prof. Frank Parsons gives the amounts paid to railroads by several European governments for carrying the mails, and compares them with the sum paid by the United States for the same service. The figures are very interesting at this time, when it is proposed to reduce the expenses of the postal department by restricting the amount of reading matter passing through the mails instead of reducing the unreasonable remuneration given to railroads for carrying the mails. Prof. Parsons says:

The United States pays railroads, for carrying mail, about \$37,900,000, rental of mail cars included. In France, the railroads, in

return for their grants of right of way, carry mails free. If the government uses a postal car of its own the road receives about a cent a mile for hauling it.

In Switzerland the roads receive nothing; their concession from the government provides that the railroad companies shall carry the mails free.

In Germany the railroads carry one mail car to a train free. Where a second or more cars are needed the government pays, if a government car 5 pfennig per axle per kilometer, or 10 pfennig if the car belongs to the railroad company. This amounts from 8 to 12 cents a mile per car, representing barely the cost of hauling the cars.

In Austria the same regulations prevail as in Germany, except that the hauling of extra cars averages from 10 to 15 cents per mile.

Italy pays nothing to the railroads for carrying the mails, as it is provided in concessions made to transportation companies that the government mails must be carried free.

In this country railroads receive one-third of the entire money expended to run the postal department.

It seems that instead of railroad companies here doing something for the government, which makes their property valuable through rich concessions, they tax the government to the highest figures they believe the public will stand.

The hot dry weather is playing havoc with the corn crop. The crop has reached the stage where it cannot survive many days longer without moisture. It is indeed a serious and distressing condition that confronts the people of this county. The feed crops were almost a failure last year and with another failure this year it is hard to figure the disastrous results that would come as a consequence. The ground has not been thoroughly wet in more than a year and the showers this spring have only furnished moisture sufficient to keep crops growing. The moisture in the ground is not deep enough to stand many days of hot sunshine and even cotton may fail to hold its own if the dry weather continues many weeks.—Italy News-Herald.

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

W. P. Browning & Co.

#### A Portrait of John Brown.

An entertainment planned for a Tacoma, (Wash.) theater recently, the proceeds of which were to be used to buy a portrait of John Brown for the city's art museum, had to be given up on account of a lack of patronage. The portrait, which is said to be a genuine work of art, belonged to the collection of James Sutton, the New York publisher, and was offered by his son at a low figure. It was painted by J. Boling a short time before the tragedy of Harper's Ferry. Hope is still entertained at Tacoma in spite of the present disappointment that a way may be found to procure the portrait.

#### Central Park Nearly Worn Out.

If New York's great Central park is to be preserved, its landscape architect thinks that it must have two feet of new soil spread over it in every section, and this soil must not be taken from Manhattan, but must be brought over from Long Island or New Jersey, where vegetation is rich and luxuriant. The cost of doing this would amount to about \$700,000. There are 700 acres in Central park, including park ways, drives and lakes. There are, probably, all told, 30 acres of land. Estimating the cost of the dirt delivered at 75 cents a load the soil alone would reach that \$700,000 figure.

#### Minister Wu's Real Name.

Wu Ting Fang acquired his pungent English in London. He was a student in the Middle Temple in 1876, and was known by his proper and unpronounceable name of Ng Choy. Subsequently after he had entered the public service of his country at Tien Tsin and had been promoted to be a mandarin he followed the custom of adopting an official name. Ting-fang is said to mean "hall fragrance," and is intended to indicate that the one so designated is so just and eminent a lawgiver that the sweet savor of his reputation "fills the court."

#### The Electric Light and the Eyes.

A Russian specialist has decided that, contrary to the general opinion, electric light plays less havoc with the eyes than other forms of artificial light. He bases his deductions on the fact that disease and damage to the eye are proportioned to the frequency of the closure of the lids. He found that the lids close in a minute 6.8 times with candle light, 2.8 times with gas light, 2.2 times with sun light and 1.8 times with electric light.

#### Big Prices for First Editions.

Some first editions of Oliver Goldsmith brought high prices in London recently: "The Citizen of the World," \$530; "The Vicar of Wakefield," \$670; "The Life of Henry St. John, Lord Viscount Bolingbroke," \$310. Horace Walpole's copy of Gray's "Odes" brought \$855; Herrick's "Hesperides," \$375; Pope's "Essay on Man," \$950; FitzGerald's "Rubaiyat," \$200, and Charles Tennyson's "Sonnets," with pen and ink sketches by Thackeray, \$1,500.

#### A Few of His Kind.

Mr. Lucy, a working newspaper man of London, who has reported the proceedings of parliament for nearly thirty years, is one of the few of his profession who have accumulated wealth. He has just given \$5,000 as the nucleus of a fund for the benefit of the families of deceased newspaper workers, and \$5,000 more for the endowment of a bed in the Westminster hospital to be occupied by members of the guild.

'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

#### SPECIALY 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.

## No Hair?

"My hair was falling out very fast and I was greatly alarmed. I then tried Ayer's Hair Vigor and my hair stopped falling at once."—Mrs. G. A. McVay, Alexandria, O.

The trouble is your hair does not have life enough. Act promptly. Save your hair. Feed it with Ayer's Hair Vigor. If the gray hairs are beginning to show, Ayer's Hair Vigor will restore color every time. \$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.

R. H. Byers was down from his farm near Trent Monday and reported that the Massie boy, who was hit on the head with a hoe handle last week, is doing nicely and hopes are now entertained for his immediate recovery. Alexander is still in jail at Anson. His family is in hard circumstances and an effort will be made to secure his release as soon as possible.

The ice cream supper under the auspices of the Epworth League, Saturday evening, netted the neat sum of \$30. The proceeds will be used to seat the Methodist choir with chairs.

Saturday and Sunday were scorched. The hot winds of those two days played sad havoc with all vegetation and especially corn, which was considerably fired.

The merchants have agreed to close their places of business today from 10 until 4, in order that all may have an opportunity of taking in the picnic at the Warren grove.

Many of our citizens are contemplating a rush for the west in search of the land which is now open to actual settlers. That country is no place for a poor man at this season of the year, and many will find it out to their sorrow.

W. A. Cozart left Saturday night for Cooper as an attached witness in a murder trial. The case has been in court several years and the State has squandered thousands of dollars, but it has been put off from term to term.

S. A. Walden has a good organ for sale or will trade for a good cow. See him.

### Masonic Election.

The Masons elected the following officers at their last regular meeting:

- J. A. Leeman, W. M.
- J. W. McCraw, S. W.
- S. A. Walden, J. W.
- J. O. Hamilton, Treas.
- S. M. Sewell, Sec.
- J. H. Ensminger, Tyler.
- W. W. Wheeler, S. D.
- A. C. Browning, J. D.
- A. A. Baker, Chaplain.
- S. A. Freemon, S. S.
- Arthur Browning, J. S.
- J. L. Harris, Mar.

### Cattle Sales.

C. P. Warren sold 100 head of steer yearlings from his ranch north of town, last week, to T. J. Coggin at good figures.

M. M. Mayfield of Abilene purchased 40 steer yearlings

J. T. Warren at private figures. They will be put on grass in the south French pasture, which Mr. Mayfield recently leased.

F. E. Allyn was down from Skota yesterday.

# 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.
- Walker, Mrs Willie

Mrs. Parrish of Colorado City is visiting her husband's sister, Mrs. J. J. Stallings, this week.

Mrs. McCord has been quite sick, but we are glad to note that she is recovering.

### Hallett Kilbourne Insane.

Hallett Kilbourne has been adjudged of unsound mind and committed to the St. Elizabeth's hospital for the insane at Washington. Mr Kilbourne was formerly one of the prominent real estate brokers of Washington. He became widely known about twenty-five years ago because of his suit against the sergeant-at-arms of the house of representatives to recover \$100,000 as damages for false arrest and imprisonment. The jury which heard the testimony awarded Mr. Kilbourne damages in the full amount asked. The sum was afterward reduced to \$28,000, which was paid by congress.

### Deplorable Shooting.

Sunday night at about 10 o'clock, Thos. E. Lloyd, one of Taylor county's best and most highly respected citizens, shot and perhaps fatally wounded Chas. Wright, at Mr. Lloyd's farm five miles south of Abilene.

The wounded man and young Clack rode up in front of Lloyd's home and called him out, after which the shooting took place, under what circumstances rumors conflict.

A later legal inquiry will throw light upon that.

One thing seems to be agreed upon and that is that another young man named Spurrier was near the house to meet Mr. Lloyd's daughter to elope with her, but what connection, if any, these young men, one of whom

was shot, had with the projected elopement, we are, in justice to all, unable to say.

The wounded man is in Abilene under treatment, a number of turkey shot from a double barrel gun entering his back.—Daily Reporter.

Wright died Tuesday evening from the effects of the wound. Lloyd is in jail.

A. W. Cook, one of our Dora subscribers, dropped in yesterday. They are not suffering for rain in his neighborhood, but one would not be amiss. Corn is better there than here.

J. M. Powell, who lives on the river, 15 miles north of town, culled by and chatted with the "push" yesterday. Mr. Powell is not cast down by the dry weather, but says there is yet plenty of time in which to raise cotton and feed stuff. He was here during the drouth of '86, in fact, settled on his present place just 20 years ago, and, naturally, is not easily discouraged. His cotton now is five times more promising than at this time last year.

Mrs. Bigham and daughter, Miss Willie, came in yesterday from Alexandria, La.

The Mail is issued a day early this week, in order that the push might take in the picnic.

### \$5.00 REWARD

For one red Durham cow branded XT on left and W on right side, no mark. J. J. Russell, Merkel, Texas.

The Mail is in receipt of many letters similar to the following:

"I endorse your course on the prohibition question; like your paper from general principles. May you live to bless the country for many years."

In South Texas, the winds are almost as hot as a furnace, when as a usual thing the gulf breezes are cool and refreshing. The opinion is expressed that the hot winds are the result of the eruption of Mt. Pelee and neighboring volcanoes.

There are some complaints of depredations of the cow "rustler" and many milk cows are coming up missing, which, when found, are usually in some pasture or out of way place, no doubt being driven off to get the reward offered. Some fellow will find his neck in a loop some of these days.

Prohibition carried in Hill Co., Saturday, by about 500 majority, every precinct in the county going dry.

As we have said before, the Merkel Mail is always on the right side. Its fight against the open saloon won out in Taylor county last Saturday by a nice majority. You can always judge a tree by its fruit.—Anson Western News. Thanks.

### Summer Normal.

Those wishing to attend a normal this summer please bear in mind that the Abilene Normal will begin the 26th and close July 31st with state examinations. Outlook is encouraging for a good attendance. For special information apply to F. W. Chatfield, Abilene, or S. M. Sewell, Merkel.

### Strange, but Sadly True.

A young man in Crowley, La., the other day walked up to the jailer and asked to be locked up. It seems he had been fined for carrying a pistol and was unable to raise the money, and his mother had tried to sell her little home in order to meet it, but could not, and so he asked to be locked up. The Crowley Daily News in reporting this incident makes a very natural comment: "It seems strange that boys who have mothers like that can find it in their hearts to cause them trouble." Yes, it is strange and stranger still that so many do it, for in nine hundred and ninety-nine cases out of a thousand mothers are just like that one—aye, would sacrifice their lives for their boys, who are today breaking their hearts. All over the world can be found, as a companion picture to the youth gone wrong, the broken hearted, sorrowing woman who prays and hopes that some day her boy will turn and do right. Yes, it is strange, passing strange, and stranger again that so many who have grown from youth to manhood, will still persist in doing wrong, knowing as they do, that the ones whom, after all they love best, are wearing themselves away in anxiety for them and in many cases have been called away by a merciful God from a world of worry and a life of pain caused by them, to be at rest with Him. It is strange indeed; it is pitiful; and many a heart-rending story is hidden underneath the police court report "fined \$25—or any other amount.—Beaumont Enterprise.

### 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.

### 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 35-55 or 30-30. 120-page catalog, 300 illustrations, colored cover by Remington, for 3 stamps. MARLIN FIRE ARMS CO., NEW HAVEN, CONN.



He criticised her pudding and he criticised her cake; he wished she'd make the biscuits his mother used to make; she didn't wash the dishes and she didn't mend the stockings as his mother used to do. Oh, well, she wasn't perfect, but she tried to do her best, until at length she thought it time for her to have a rest. So when one day this man had growled and whined the whole day thro', she turned him up and fanned his pants—as his mother used to do.—Swiped.

An incorporated town has a great many advantages that an open town don't have.

R. A. Miller was in Abilene yesterday.

**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 acknowledgements, pay taxes on land, fur-  
nish abstracts of title and transact all other  
business entrusted to him.

**I. O. O. F. LODGE**  
No. 355 meets every Friday  
night. Visiting brethren 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

*Mr. Stewart,  
Dear Sir,  
I am from  
San Antonio*

P. TURNER,  
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  
Fever, Pleurisy, LaGrippe, Hoarseness,  
Sore Throat, Croup and Whooping  
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.

**Millions Made in Politics.**  
Even should Tammany be  
beaten again at the next munic-  
ipal election the real leaders in  
New York will not have to go to  
work. Others besides Richard  
Croker have made millions of dol-  
lars by following politics as a  
business. Hugh McLaughlin, of  
Brooklyn, is the richest demo-  
cratic politician in New York  
state. He has \$8,000,000 and two  
daughters who will get it. Mc-  
Laughlin has not held office in  
twenty years, but his influence  
enabled him to get in on the  
ground floor in the ownership of  
stocks in corporations that re-  
quired franchises from the board  
of aldermen. He is a heavy  
holder of Telephone, Gas, Elec-  
tric Light and Rapid Transit  
stock. He is the largest owner of  
real estate in Brooklyn. His first  
lieutenant, James Shevlin, has  
\$2,000,000 to his credit. "Bob"  
Furey can draw on \$1,000,000 and  
John McCarty's fortune long ago  
passed the million mark. These  
are only a few of the Willoughby  
street Democrats who have big  
bank accounts. In Tammany  
John F. Carroll is rated a million-  
aire. Patrick Keenan is a \$200,-  
000 man. "Charlie" Murphy long  
ago passed the \$300,000 mark.  
Thomas F. Gilroy has real estate  
and stocks that run well into six  
figures. No one rates John  
Whalen under \$800,000. James  
P. Keating has blocks of real es-  
tate. So has Senator Plunkitt.  
Tim Sullivan has theaters, a rac-  
ing stable, uptown property and a  
big bank account. These are only  
a few, and yet not one of them  
had \$10,000 ten years ago.

**Stevenson's Brilliant Ward.**  
Robert Louis Stevenson's ward  
and step-grandson, Austin  
Strong, is turning out to be a ge-  
nius. A boy just out of school, he  
has come to the front of his pro-  
fession, that of landscape archi-  
tecture, by laying out success-  
fully one of the greatest public gar-  
dens in the world—Cromwell  
Park, in Auckland, New Zealand.  
He was 20 years of age when he  
accepted the commission. His  
father was J. D. Strong, one of  
the foremost artists of the older  
school in San Francisco, and his  
mother, Isabel Strong, writes and  
illustrates for the leading maga-  
zines.

**What She Was Waiting to Play.**  
An English paper tells a story  
of some children's theatricals. A  
party of children were giving a  
little drama of their own, in  
which courtships and weddings  
played a leading part in the plot.  
While the play was in progress  
one of the "grown ups" went be-  
hind the scenes and found a very  
small girl sitting in the corner.  
"Why are you left out?" he asked,  
"Aren't you playing, too?" "Oh,  
I've not left out," came the reply.  
"I've the baby waiting to be  
baptized."

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."

**No Difference of Opinion.**  
Ex-Governor Boutwell's "Grant  
Reminiscences" include a horse  
story. President Grant was at-  
tracted by a horse owned by a  
Washington butcher, and he  
bought it for \$500. Subsequently  
he took Senator Conkling out to  
ride behind his new acquisition,  
and the president asked the sen-  
ator what he thought of the ani-  
mal. "It strikes me," said the  
senator, "that I would rather have  
the \$500." "Well, that's what  
the butcher said," remarked the  
president.

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.

**Copies of the Declaration.**  
Several communications have  
recently reached the Philadel-  
phia Record asking if the original  
copy of the Declaration of Inde-  
pendence was in existence, and if  
duplicate copies could be had.  
The Record says it is a rather cu-  
rious fact that while facsimiles of  
the declaration were common  
enough several years ago, and  
were largely used for advertising  
purposes, they are now very  
scarce—so scarce that a Phila-  
delphia collector only last week  
paid \$10 for one bearing the ad-  
vertisement of a Western rail-  
road. The original document,  
preserved in glass, is still to be  
seen in the possession of the de-  
partment of state in Washington,  
but it has become so faded as to  
be nearly illegible, by reason of  
which a photographic reproduc-  
tion would be valueless. James  
D. McBride had plates made and  
secured a copyright to them in  
1874, but these plates were later  
destroyed by fire, and none are  
now in existence. Consequently  
the copies that have been pre-  
served are constantly increasing  
in value.

**The Men Behind the Bidder.**  
The new owners of the Phila-  
delphia Record turn out to be  
John Wyeth, a rich drug manu-  
facturer; Henry B. Gross, a  
rich soap manufacturer; James  
Kerr, ex-congressman and former  
secretary of the Democratic con-  
gressional committee, and W. S.  
Stenger. All are Pennsylvanians  
and Democrats. That they  
bought the paper for political rea-  
sons does not appear, although  
they may have desired to keep  
the Record out of Republican  
hands. Their chief inducement  
to buy, probably, came from the  
value of the Record as an earner  
of big dividends. It is announced  
that the paper will be run on the  
old lines.

# 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"

**I**F 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**