

THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JUNE 26, 1902.

NO. 19.

This Space Belongs to
Merkel Mercantile Co.
Read next week's Price List.

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

A Partial Truth.

Rev. F. M. Larkin, Methodist.
When the Christian scientists say that God is substance, and only substance, not material, we must believe that there is in this a partial truth. The great abiding fact is the spirit. The hard facts of life which we meet every day are passing. They are material and real to our senses, yet, while Mrs. Eddy would have us believe that the senses present only illusions, that senses are the only means by which we realize what she is pleased to call illusions.

Standard of Religious Faith.

Rev. Withrow, Congregationalist.
As the ages run on the authority of Jesus becomes more and more the final normal standard of religious faith. The world is steadily losing satisfaction in the oracles of philosophers and in the doctrines of dogmatists. Hence creeds and councils are of lighter weight than ever they have been in Christian times. Bold and blatant unbelief is neither louder nor as loud in its assertions as it once was.

Motive Power.

Rev. Goshen, Congregationalist.
The history of the past and the verdict of the present tend to show that the nation that will not serve God shall perish. The vitalizing influence of religion was traced successfully through

the history of Babylon, Greece and Rome; it shows that its neglect was the signal for decay.

Faith.

Rev. Dr. Lowry, Baptist.
These are the things with which faith deals. If God in Christ (revealed by the word and spirit) is a necessity—and He is that, because of sin—then faith must abide. In point of fact, we live "the life that now is" chiefly by faith.

Place of Christ.

Rev. J. E. Pounds.
There are some features of the place of Christ in Christianity which have not been ascribed to Him, but upon which we lay especial emphasis. We learn that there is one church and He is head over all, and all the authority, power and honor were vested in Him.

Doubt.

Rev. Dr. Sneed, Presbyterian.
The most useless thing in all this world is doubt. It has left a path of desolation through all history. It makes no heroes, wins no battles, settles no contests, builds no empires. Conviction does. Believe your belief and doubt your doubts.

Positive or Negative.

Bishop Joyce, Methodist.
Every man has a conscience and a sense of some sort of moral responsibility. He will either worship the true God or some false god. All character is either positive or negative. God

blesses the world of true characters.

Door of our Faith.

Rev. Van Dyke, Presbyterian.
Christ is the door of our faith. There is no advance in religious knowledge except through Christ; there is no revision in creeds save that to which He leads. Without Him there can be change, but the change will be no improvement. The only possible improvement is to attune the music of our faith to the keynote of His name. Every forward movement must be through Christ, the door. His word is our charter; His life our guide; His person our star. Our motto is, "Not a new gospel, but more gospel."

Coming of Christ.

Rev. Bartholow, Methodist.
The coming of Christ quickens and develops intellectual and spirital instinct. He complements and satisfies it in such measure as is compatible with growth and discovery. The hopes inspired by Christ are real and abiding.

Happy Time in Old Town.

"We felt verry 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.

BE WISE

and place your Fire Insurance Business with—

T. A. JOHNSON

who writes for the "Old Reliable...."
Liverpool and London and Globe
Phoenix of Hartford
Springfield Fire and Marine
New Hampshire Fire and
Philadelphia Fire Association

These are the "time tried and fire tested" and your policy in case of a loss will be as good as a gold bond.

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.

COUNTY CONVENTION.

DEMOCRATS SPEAK AS TO THE VARIOUS OFFICES.

Delegates to the Several Conventions go Instructed. The Proceedings.

The Democracy of Taylor county met at the court house at Abilene June 12, pursuant to call of Chairman Grizzard, to name delegates to the various conventions and transact such other business as should properly come before it. After the house was called to order A. H. Kirby was elected temporary chairman and J. K. Pittard temporary secretary. Fred Cockrell moved that the temporary organization be made permanent. A substitute was offered by B. A. Cox that four committees be appointed as follows:

On permanent organization and order of business.

On credentials and basis of representation.

To select delegates to the various conventions.

On platform and resolutions.

The Cox substitute prevailed and the committees appointed. Committee on credentials and basis of representation composed of Geo. S. Anderson, B. I. Lowe and Henry James, reported as follows:

We, your committee on credentials and basis of representation, recommend as follows: The court house 15 votes; fire station 10; Merkel 9; Buffalo Gap 6; Trent 1; Jim Ned 2; Nubia 4; Spring Creek 1; Jackson school house 1; Potosi 1; Caps (three boxes) 1 each; Tuscola 1. We recommend that if any one is present from Guion that he be allowed to cast the vote of that precinct in the convention. (The delegates from the various precincts were then named by the committee with the recommendation that they be seated.)

Geo. S. Anderson, Chair.
Committee on permanent or-

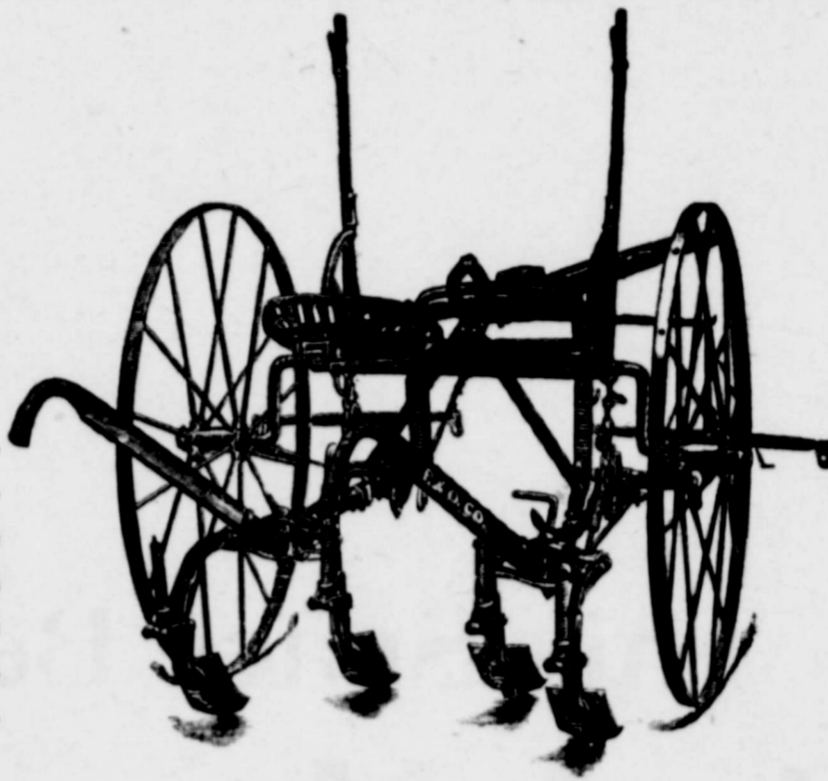
YOU WANT THE BEST..

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

ganization: L. A. Grizzard, E. C. Pegues, I. S. Allen.

Committee on resolutions: B. A. Cox, C. M. Hunt, John Bowyer.

Committee to select delegates: Henry Sayles, J.M. Cunningham, W. V. Cranford.

Motion prevailed that candidates be allowed to address the convention while the committees were preparing their reports.

The committee on permanent organization reported as follows: We, your committee on permanent organization, recommend L. B. Shook for permanent chairman and J. K. Pittard for permanent secretary.

L. A. Grizzard, Chair.
Report adopted and Mr. Shook was called to the chair.

Committee on platform and resolutions submitted the following report:

To the Hon. L. B. Shook, Chairman: Your committee on resolutions beg to report to this convention:

We reaffirm our allegiance to the time honored principles of Democracy.

That we heartily endorse the administration of Gov. Sayers.

That we pledge ourselves to support the nominees of the Democratic party at the next ensuing election.

That the delegates from this convention to all other conventions are hereby instructed to vote as a unit on all questions coming before said convention, the majority of delegates present deciding how the vote of the county shall be cast except when otherwise instructed.

That the delegates from this convention are hereby instructed to vote for W. R. Smith for Congress, first, last and all the time.

That the delegates to the State convention are hereby instructed to vote for S. W. T. Lanham for Governor, John W. Robbins for State Treasurer, and the other candidates for state offices.

That the delegates to the 42nd Judicial district convention are instructed to vote for A.S. Hardwicke for district attorney.

That the delegates to the Representative convention are hereby instructed to vote for W. J. Bryan for representative, first, last

and all the time.

That the delegates to the Senatorial convention are instructed to vote for W. P. Sebastian for State Senator.

That the delegates to the second supreme judicial convention be uninstructed.

That the delegates to the state convention are hereby instructed to vote for Jos. E. Cockrell for chairman of the state democratic executive committee and to favor uniform date for state and district primaries.

C. M. Hunt,
John Bowyer.

I concur in all of the above report except that part which recommends the delegates to the supreme judicial convention go uninstructed.

A motion was adopted that no speech be allowed longer than five minutes on any one question.

The amendment offered by Delegate Cox to the original report carried, and then a motion was put and carried that the delegates to the supreme judicial convention be instructed to vote for Hon. Ocie Speer.

The committee on selection of delegates reported as follows:

State Convention:

A H Kirby	W V Cranford
J K Pittard	J T Tucker
W J Cunningham	Ed J Leeman
J W Jennings	L A Grizzard
Fred Cockrell	Henry James
S P Hardwicke	H A Tillett
J M Wagstaff	John Bryan
John Bowyer	J L Stephenson
D G Hill	H T King
J V Cunningham	B A Cox
L B Shook	J M Cunningham
Henry Sayles	B C Gaither
J H Thornton	Tom Bledsoe
W T Wilson	D L Middleton
W B Lewis	I S Allen

Congressional Convention

Henry James	A H Kirby
J K Pittard	B A Cox
L A Grizzard	L B Shook
R E Chandler	H A Tillett
T A Bledsoe	C C Jackson
John Bowyer	W V Cranford
B J Riney	C M Hunt
I S Thurmond	B C Gaither
George Fisher	C M Bradshaw
J M Radford	J A Faver
W W Wheeler	J O Hamilton
W J Cunningham	

Second Supreme Judicial District Convention

John Bowyer	Fred Cockrell
S P Hardwicke	J M Wagstaff
B A Cox	A H Kirby
Henry Sayles	H T King
I S Thurmond	L A Grizzard
C M Hunt	J V Cunningham
G S Anderson	R E Chandler
W B Lewis	C S Bass
L M Blakemore	T A Bledsoe
W J Cunningham	Ed J Leeman
J M Cunningham	N W Reeves
E B Bynum	

Senatorial Convention

Henry Rames	A H Kirby
J M Cunningham	J N Ferguson
L A Grizzard	L B Shook
J W Evans	Geo C Harris
J F Cunningham	Ed S Hughes
W J Thompson	W J Bryan
Baylor Crawford	C C Jackson
J L Stephenson	W T Wilson
Fred Cockrell	S P Hardwicke
C S Bass	R G Anderson
J M Radford	J H Parramore
J W Davis	Dr Magee
G W Parks	D G Hill
B I Lowe	T C Crofton
J T Warren	H C Williams

Representative Convention

R W Ellis	B A Cox
W H Grove	E C Pegues
D L Middleton	J M Cunningham
John Tucker	Henry James
B C Gaither	Fred Cockrell
Ab Holt	Ed Muir
Ed J Leeman	John Davis
Clay White	A Q Bateman
John Bowyer	Tom Bledsoe
R E Chandler	W T Wilson
Will Stith	Jack Anderson
D G Hill	J W Jennings
L M Blakemore	B J Riney
W F Barnard	Morgan Weaver

Judicial Convention

B A Cox	S P Hardwicke
D G Hill	J V Cunningham
John Bowyer	H A Tillett
J M Wagstaff	Will Lewis
Tom Daugherty	Tom Bledsoe
A H Kirby	E N Kirby
Ed J Leeman	L B Shook
R E Chandler	Max R Andrews
Bruce Oliver	W T Wilson
J O Hamilton	

The following resolution was offered by A. H. Kirby, which was adopted: "Resolved, that the Democratic executive committee be instructed to order hereafter a primary election for all candidates, state, district and county, instead of conventions as heretofore."

L. A. Grizzard was elected county chairman for the ensuing

two years, and the following precinct chairmen were chosen: Abilene box at Caps—J. E. Kendall.

Nubia—T. J. Toombs.
Buffalo Gap box at Caps—Joe Hammond.

Court House—Henry James.
Merkel box at Caps—Oscar Wilson.

Jim Ned—J. C. Rogers.
Trent—P. B. Causseaux.
Guion—A. B. Britton.

Buffalo Gap—W. V. Cranford.
Spring Creek—C. B. Hurt.
Merkel—Ed J. Leeman.

Potosi—R. A. Pollard.
Moro—J. A. Brasher.
Fire Station—B. A. Cox.

A motion to adjourn was put and carried. J. K. Pittard, Secretary.

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.

Scholastic Census of Taylor County

There are 2627 children in the scholastic age in Taylor county, according to the enumerators, as follows:

Dist. 1.....25	Dist. 20.....50
" 2.....121	" 21.....32
" 3.....55	" 22.....54
" 4.....38	" 23.....55
" 5.....117	" 24.....54
" 6.....72	" 25.....18
" 7.....38	" 26.....56
" 8.....47	" 27.....38
" 9.....119	" 28.....29
" 10.....28	" 29.....33
" 11.....231	" 30.....9
" 12.....120	" 31.....23
" 13.....56	" 32.....57
" 14.....35	" 33.....25
" 15.....51	" 34.....17
" 16.....78	" 35.....33
" 17.....41	" 36.....36
" 18.....43	" 37.....51
" 19.....41	" 38.....5
Abilene...842	" 39

Of this number only 20 colored.

Dr. I. E. Smith, Eye Ear Nose and Throat Specialist, of Weatherford, will be in Merkel July 4 and 5.

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 appetite 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.

A Character in His Own Book.

An interesting fact about Clara Morris' forthcoming novel or stage life is that the actress may herself be recognized in one of the characters. She is not the heroine, however. The personality that rather thinly disguises her is that of the actress of experience and some success, who is instrumental in introducing to the stage the heroine, a young girl with whose fortunes on the boards the story chiefly concerns itself.

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.

Current Events and the Libraries.

"The news of the day greatly influences the selection of books," said an attendant at one of the big Eastern libraries—recently "Just now the volcanic disasters down in the islands of Martinique and St. Vincent have had a decided effect upon our patrons. A week ago, for instance, there was absolutely no demand for Bulwer's 'Last Days of Pompeii,' and now we cannot supply one-tenth of the calls for this book. Jules Verne's 'Journey to the Center of the Earth' has also suddenly become popular. Nor is the demand limited to fiction. We have had numerous requests for scientific works dealing with volcanoes and their action. Tomorrow some other great event may transpire to turn people's minds into another channel."

Our Buildings Superior.

"If the people of England knew how beautiful the public buildings in the United States are and how superior American hotels are the amount of travel to this country would be many times as great as it is at present," said a Londoner to an interviewer in Washington the other day. "I am on a tour of the world. When I landed in New York I did not expect to find much of interest to me. That city was a series of surprises. Its modern buildings, with perfect elevator service and every convenience, made a great impression on me. I did not expect to find any buildings in this country which would compare with those of the Old World in architecture, but a ride through the streets of Washington was enough to convince me that my ideas of America were very erroneous. The Capitol, congressional library, and other government buildings are as beautiful as any buildings in the world, and their interiors surprise all Europeans. It takes the Yankee to equip a building with every possible convenience."

The Absent-Minded Professor.

At a recent session of the German reichstag an absent-minded member, Herr Wichmann, created no little amusement. He was calling the roll, and upon reaching his own name he paused for a response. Naturally none came. Then he called the name more loudly, waited a few seconds and roared it out at the top of his voice. The laughter of his colleagues finally aroused him to a sense of the ludicrousness of his act, and he joined in the general hilarity.

The Empress' Tall Guards.

The Empress of Germany has a special body guard, consisting of twenty-four picked soldiers from the tallest men of the lofty imperial guard. The kaiser designed the uniform for them, and it resembles that worn by the personal guards of Frederick the Great—scarlet, with white facings and a tricornered hat.

Sunday the Assassin's Day.

Of the six rulers who have been murdered during the last two decades, notes the London Chronicle, four met their doom on Sunday, and the other two on Saturday. Czar Alexander II., President Carnot and King Humbert were all slain on Sunday, and, though Shah Nars-ed-Deen was killed on Friday, that is the Moslem Sabbath, and he was actually shot while kneeling in the mosque. On Sunday, too, Senor Canovas, the Spanish premier, was killed, while the life of President Faure was twice attempted on Sunday in 1896. Next to Sunday is Saturday, and on this day General Garfield, the Empress of Austria, and President McKinley met their fate and it was on a Saturday that King Alphonso stood in peril of his life. Mere mortals hail the week end with pleasure, but to monarchs it seems a season of peculiar peril.

Try reading The Mail.

Ramblings Through Mexico.

By J. L. VAUGHAN.

NUMBER ONE.

May 16. We left Moctezuma at 3:50 p. m. for a trip through the southern part of the Republic. Everything very dry here. Had no rain since last October. In the country around Gallego and Laguna grass is very short, but cattle look well. The large lake at Laguna has disappeared—only a small patch of water near the north end of the valley.

Passed Chihuahua just after dark. The foundry and rolling mill were running, and we could see the men handling long bars of red hot iron at the rolls. It almost made me home-sick; it looked like a corner of Pittsburgh.

May 17. Torreon for breakfast. The country around Lerdo and Torreon is very dry. Cotton fields in the valley look badly; only scattering plants up. Many fields not planted yet. Corn very short. This is the banner cattle district of Mexico. Lerdo and Torreon both have large cotton mills. The country for many miles is very level and nearly all under cultivation. Several good sized streams furnish abundance of water for irrigation when the seasons are favorable, but at present they are almost dry. The people say they expect rain not later than June 1st, then they will make a good crop. As frost does not come till about Christmas, and then very little, they still have a long season. Plenty of fruit for sale around the station, mostly figs of a superior quality. Was told that the soil around Torreon was well adapted to fig culture.

From Torreon to Calera we ran over a dry and dusty plain. Passed only two small streams that had water in them. The alkali dust is very disagreeable. Very little grass, but plenty of cactus and Spanish daggers of several varieties and scrubby mesquite. Some cattle and horses are seen among the bushes, but how they live is a mystery, as they look to be in fair condition. At Ojuelos is a fine flouring mill that was in operation. They seemed to have plenty of grain around the mill and in the warehouse. There is a well watered country back in the mountains that furnishes most of the grain for this mill.

From Calera to Zacatecas the country is a high plain. The mountains are in the distance on the west, but on the east it seems to slope down toward the Gulf of Mexico. Dry, dusty and barren, immense sections of country covered with prickly pears and Organ cactus (Petayas). The size of these prickly years (Opuntia) is immense. Some of them are at least 15 feet high. The fruit, called "tunis," is quite an article of commerce. Large quantities are preserved and pressed into cakes called "queso de tuni" (tuni cheese). The ranches and farms are enclosed with stone fences. Much ground is plowed, but very little planted. Was told that they have had very little rain for three years. The land looks rich, but owing to the elevation, which is from 5,000 to 9,000 feet above sea level, the rain is very uncertain. Much ore is being loaded at the stations and mining seems to interest the people more than agriculture. As we near Zacatecas the elevation is getting greater. The country

ahead of us seems to be all mountains. The train keeps climbing and the engine labors heavily around the short curves and up the heavy grade. A gentleman on the car platform has a barometer and keeps calling the elevation—seven thousand, eight thousand and finally nine thousand feet. The air is chilly. The view to the west is grand. The sun setting behind a distant range of mountains and far below us a beautiful valley that seems very fertile, as it is covered with ranches and groves of trees.

Zacatecas is the greatest mining city in the Republic. The mines were worked by the Aztecs, then by the Spaniards, and now by Mexicans and Americans. Shafts, ore dumps and mining machinery are scattered all over the surrounding mountains. The different claims are each marked by large white stone pillars. They say that the hills and mountains are honey-combed with mines and even underneath the city are shafts thousands of feet deep. Zacatecas is about 9,000 feet above sea level and distant from El Paso 785 miles.

Darkness shuts off our view shortly after leaving here. We are going down grade again and the train is moving rapidly. We pass a small station and the last sounds we hear from the outside are, "Deme un centavo, un centavo," from a group of children.

(NOTE—This is the first of the series of articles entitled, "Rambling in Mexico," by J. L. Vaughan, formerly of this place. The articles are somewhat in the form of a diary, but grow more interesting as nature opens the panorama before the eyes of the writer. Keep up with them if you wish to learn more about the Land of the Montezumas.—ED.)

Elder J. M. Howel of Chico, Texas, will preach at the College building on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, July 3, 4 and 5. Everybody cordially invited. No contributions will be asked for. 1t

Signs of all kinds and designs to suit the times and your dimes. "Mc," the old reliable sign writer, will be in your midst for a few days. Give him your work.

Other Conventions Called.

The Representative convention will meet at Baird Monday, June 30, at 11 a. m.

The 42nd Judicial convention has been called to convene in Baird July 8, at 1 p. m.

Other convention dates will be found on page four, of this issue.

Drs. McCauley and Little will extract teeth Saturday and Monday, next, using nitrous oxide gas. 1t

How the Kaiser Got His Health.

The German emperor ascribes his good health and vigor to the advice given to him by his favorite doctor, and he has learned by heart the latter's "rule of life," which is as follows: "Eat fruit for breakfast. Eat fruit for lunch. Avoid pastry and hot cakes. Only take potatoes once a day. Don't drink tea or coffee. Walk four miles every day, wet or fine. Take a bath every day. Wash the face every night in warm water. Sleep eight hours every night."

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.

CONVENTION DATES.

The State convention will be held at Galveston July 15th.

The Congressional convention at Mineral Wells July 8th.

The Judicial conventions have not been called, neither has the Representative convention.

The Senatorial convention is called to meet at Abilene to-day.

Calls for the other conventions will probably be made soon.

THE COUNTY CONVENTION.

The county Democratic convention held at Abilene Saturday was long drawn out and full of snap and ginger. It was a fight between the people on one side and the bar on the other, and the result was a signal victory for the people. The fight lasted three hours and every inch of the ground was hotly contested. Resolutions, substitutes, motions to table, appeals from the decisions of the chair, balloting, wild cheering, speech making and hurrahing were the principal features of the stormiest convention the county has ever known. Hon. Fred Cockrell led the delegation which whooped 'em up for an uninstructed vote and he seemed to have the advantage in parliamentary tactics, but they were just a little too short on votes, and every blow of the opposition hit 'em below the belt. After exhausting every resource they finally gave under, and the convention was at an end. The fight was precipitated by the action of the committee on resolutions in recommending that all delegates go instructed except those to the Second Supreme Judicial convention. This was obviously a move to defeat Speer. But Mr. Speer had a majority of the precinct instructions, besides many warm friends in other delegations, and the effort was defeated. With less enthusiastic friends, however, he would have stood a very slim chance to get the instructions from this county.

Proceedings of the convention will be found in another column.

Any proposition which has for its object the reformation of the social fabric is not a political question and should not be mixed up in politics. It has been evident all along that an effort would be made to engraft the prohibition question into county politics, but, happily, this disaster was averted by the application of common sense and common decency into the situation. Only one attempt was made in this direction at the county convention Saturday and it was too weak to even reach the "spasm stage." The prohibition question is a dead issue. The people have spoken, their verdict is unimpeachable and any attempt to revive it will meet with the condemnation it deserves.

Prohibition is still sweeping the country, the gains during the present month being seven out of the ten counties in which elections were held. A few years ago only the sparsely settled counties were able to vote in prohibition, but the tide has turned and the congested counties are now coming up with big prohibition majorities. Society, politics, morality demand the extinction of the saloon and its baneful influences. It is not so much a fight against whiskey as a fight against the open saloon, for herein lies the danger to the morals and intellect of the country.

Mr. Grogan made a spasmodic effort to force an uninstructed delegation from this county to the Senatorial convention and he was in a fair way to win out, but a few words thrown in against the prohibition question, which he characterized as a damnable fraud in its application and manifestly unjust, dampened the ardor of even his most loyal supporters. Many delegates from the county boxes were favorable to his candidacy, but he is to blame for their change of heart. Silence is sometimes golden, Mr. Grogan.

Ex-President Cleveland's address at Washington a few days ago, in which he was very conciliatory and put in a plea for Democratic harmony, created a sensation in political circles. The wisdom of his remarks is apparent and much good will be the probable result. Democrats generally are hostile to President Cleveland and are disposed to resent any advice from him as to the best way to bring about rehabilitation, but his utterance, it is believed, will make peace among the factions easier.

Having lost out in its own county through its efforts to unload Dean on the people, the Breckinridge Democrat, a former Maxwell organ, has stooped to dirty insinuations by hurling unjust and unfair charges of collusion with the cattle barons at Judge Smith. Such silly twaddle will rebound on the Democrat's head if it is not careful. How much of the Dean slush fund did the Democrat come in for, anyway? And did Mr. Dean get value received?

The action of the county convention in instructing the Democratic executive committee to hereafter order a primary election for all candidates—state, district and county—instead of conventions as heretofore, is in line with the policy of this paper. And the endorsement of Hon. Joe Cockrell for State chairman is the same as a plea for uniform primaries all over the State. The Mail can endorse the action of the convention in toto.

There is a firm belief in many quarters that Grover Cleveland is a candidate for the Presidential nomination in 1904. And why not? Evidently he is the only available Democrat that can make a division of the vote in the North, or, at least, in the states which gave sweeping majorities for McKinley in 1900, and Democratic supremacy hinges on the ability of the party in controlling at least one-half of this vote.

The Dean delegation was conspicuous only by its absence from the county convention. The indiscriminate use of money for campaign purposes is not countenanced by the people of Taylor

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 some-time 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.

county, and the action of the convention was an emphatic declaration of this fact. We have no room here for "ward heelers" and others of that stripe.

Farmers should make it a point to plant June corn wherever land is available. Corn is almost a total failure—not only here, but everywhere,—but if it is cut now and the land planted in June corn, maize or cane, good feed crops may yet be made. Of course all of these have already been extensively planted: however, one can not have too much feed stuff.

The clergy have gained a signal victory for Christianity through their successful efforts in gaining the consent of the Saint Louis World's Fair commission to close the gates on Sunday. Of course it means the loss of dollars, lots of them, but their action in establishing the precedent will result in incalculable good.

Judge Smith has a right to be proud of his victory in Taylor county after such questionable methods were employed to defeat him. There wasn't an opposition man on the floor of the convention to make a death struggle, and it was hinted that the entire Dean delegation went a fishing.

Uniform primaries are growing in popular favor and an effort will be made at the State convention to bring up an issue that will result in the fruition of this cherished plan two years hence. The politicians will fight the measure, but the will of the people will not be balked.

B. A. Cox was a whole team by himself in the convention. He

lined up with the "common scrubs" and championed their cause in a way that made him a host of friends and admirers. If you don't see what you want, B. A., ask for it.

The dry weather still holds on, not only in this section, but throughout the entire State. Only a few places have been blessed with rain, and crops of all kinds are suffering.

Hon. Fred Cockrell was "sat down on" in the convention, but he is big enough and broad enough to accommodate a good-sized delegations without "thumping" himself.

The coolness of the atmosphere Saturday was no doubt due to the fact that a certain candidate for Congress was "snowed under" in this county.

The per capita circulation in the United States is said to be \$28.54. If that is the case, some fellow has \$28.24 that of rights belong to us.

The Weatherford Democrat was the victim of a fire Friday night. Disasters have fallen thick and fast on the Texas press this year.

The drouth still prevails in Zapata county and aid is badly needed. The entire county is a barren waste.

When it comes to naming "warm propositions" the county convention should head the list.

There was enough wind wasted at the convention to inflate a 20-ton balloon.

To Colonel Dean: "Veni, vidi, vici!" Where are you "at?"

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

The Mail appreciates this compliment from the Pecos News.
The Merkel Mail did magnificent work in the prohibition campaign in Taylor County last week—fair, honorable, dignified

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.

G. W. Dunning, E. D. Coats and family, R. E. Counts and others left Tuesday for the Plains country.

John Elliott returned Friday from Oklahoma.

In remitting \$2.00 for The Mail, L. M. Blakemore of Caps takes occasion to express his commendation of the attitude of the paper in the recent election. Luce was a rock-ribbed prohib., and did some valiant work in his community.

A Freak.

D. E. Compton, who lives northwest of town, brought in a freak Saturday which attracted considerable attention and curiosity. It was nothing more or less than the winter quarters of a species of spider, and was unique in many ways. The object or freak was a compact ball of mud about the size of a goose egg, and was so perfectly formed that the most careful observer would, at first glance, declare that it had been moulded by machine. Inside of the ball was a cell lined with the fine web which the spider uses to entrap the wary fly. This was so perfectly woven that the naked eye could not distinguish it from the soil, except as to color. But the most interesting part of the contraption was in the lid which fitted on top of the ball. It was hinged on the threads of the web connecting with the lining, and could not be distinguished from the ball proper. His spidership was snugly ensconced in his quarters and seemed to be enjoying his winter snooze, unmindful of the curiosity which he was exciting.

Mr. Compton values the freak very highly and has had it encased in plaster of Paris, which, he hopes, will preserve it for some time to come.

A vinegaroon, on exhibition at Burroughs & Mann's drug store, has also attracted considerable attention. This is one of the most deadly of insects, and its very appearance gives one a creepy feeling. They are not common to this country, but in former years many were observed here and many people have succumbed to their deadly poison.

Wheat and oats, together with cotton, all over the eastern and northern part of the county, were ruined by the hail Tuesday.

There was an electric storm passed over 70 acres of cotton on the Hailey farm, two miles south of Anson, Wednesday, and burned it completely up.

Several farmers, whose crops were destroyed by Tuesday nights hail, have borrowed cotton planters from the hardware stores in Anson and will make a rush of cotton planting just as soon as the ground is dry enough.—Anson Register.

We met G. T. Johnson of McCamant, who formerly lived here, at Abilene Saturday, and he shoved a few shekels our way. He seems prosperous.

Otho Williams has accepted a position with the Globe.

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

B. I. Lowe of Trent captured the convention Saturday. A man of Mr. Lowe's earnestness, backed by right and fairness, can do more good in a convention than a whole lot full of politicians.

The picnic Thursday at the Warren grove was attended by about 250 people, mostly residents of the town, and the occasion was a very enjoyable one. As one expressed it, "there was 'scads' of good things to eat, the day was lovely, and we had an immense time."

Anson and parts of Jones county were visited by destructive winds and hail storms last week. Many buildings were wrecked and crops totally destroyed in the paths of the storms. Farmers are replanting.

Professor White came in last Saturday morning from Lampasas, where he had been teaching, to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. V. White.—Roscoe Herald.

The Presbyterian Sunday school held interesting services at their church Sunday evening. A nice program was carried out.

Chas. Craven and Comer Clay returned Friday from their visit to "distant lands." They report an immense time.

Quite a number attended the Truby picnic Saturday.

Mr. Compton, a merchant of Stephenville, was here prospecting Friday. Corn in Erath county, he says, is a complete failure, most of it having been cut for fodder, but cotton is fine, though suffering for rain at this time.

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.

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.

Rev. Lowry, pastor of the Methodist church at Roby, who formerly resided here, is in the midst of a big revival meeting at that place and the people are greatly interested. He is an earnest, conscientious worker and the meeting will no doubt result profitably.

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

W. P. Browning & Co.

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.

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

Tom Chambless, a brother of Burt and who lived here several years ago, was here this week en route to El Paso.

Mrs. J. T. Warren and children returned Sunday from a month's visit to her mother at El Paso, Ark.

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

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.

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

tf W. P. Thurmond.

The cemetery association has closed a trade with L. A. Matthews for an addition to the cemetery grounds of about 10 acres. The deal includes a 60 foot street on the north and west sides and takes in additional land on the east, almost doubling the size of the cemetery. The streets will do away with the risk of hitching near the railroad track and hence the wisdom of the move is seen at a glance. Now if provisions will be made looking to the keeping of the lot in a presentable condition, a long felt want will have been fulfilled.

Saturday, June 21, was a remarkable day in two respects: It had the distinction of being the longest day of the year, and was ushered in by a norther, which made winter clothes in demand. The cold wave came all the way from Canada. Such days have been very rare in this country during the month of June—in fact, in the memory of the oldest inhabitants, such a phenomena has never before been felt here.

Mr. and Mrs. Norton were before the board of examiners at Abilene, Friday, making applications for teachers' certificates.

The Methodist District Conference convenes here Friday, continuing over Monday. There will be over a hundred delegates in attendance and the hospitality of the town will be taxed to its utmost capacity. It must not be equal to the occasion, but every citizen should throw open their doors to the visitors and entertain them in a way that will reflect the hospitality of the town and the push and enterprise of the people.

W. B. Hale of the Abilene country, who, with his family, is visiting relatives at Avalon, was in town Saturday and called at News-Herald office. Mr. Hale is well pleased with his new home in Taylor county. He said that crops were fine, as plenty of rain had fallen in that county. He also stated that real estate values were looking up and that the land he purchased about one year ago for \$8 per acre was ready sale now at \$15 per acre.—Italy News-Herald.

... 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...

ABILENE.

Suit has been filed by Ike Brown against T. H. Alexander for damages in the sum of \$10,000 in the district court of Taylor county. The suit is the outgrowth of the prohibition election held in the county recently, and an injunction will soon be sued out restraining the officials from enforcing the law until the suit is disposed of. The antis will contest every inch of the ground, it is said.

Bob Taylor of Eastland county was jailed here yesterday morning on the charge of counterfeiting. The arrest was made by Deputy Marshall Girard of this city and Capt. Forsyth of Dallas. Some of the spurious coin was found in his possession.

Quite a number of Abilene people attended the barbecue at Tuscola Tuesday and all report a most enjoyable time.

Following marriage license have been issued since our last report: Henry C. Smothers and Miss Kydie W. Pollard, Will Nesmith and Miss Blanch Bright, L. C. Rae and Miss Erah Ray.

The blistering winds the past week have done much damage to growing crops and unless rain comes soon to stop them cotton will be suffering severely.

Quite a number were down from Merkel last Saturday attending the county democratic convention.

NUBIA.

(Delayed from last week.)

Hot and sultry. Sunday was a big day at Cross Roads; it was foot washing day.

S. H. Leslie's daughter of McClellan county is visiting him this week.

Mrs. Dayton Snow is improving rapidly. She is able to be up a great deal.

Oscar Biggs was stating that he was going back to Scurry county Monday morning.

Rigger Clark of Center Point was in Nubia Monday morning. He says he is going to Scurry county.

Eli Cordill and family of near Nubia started for the Plains last week.

T. J. Toombs has a very sick baby this week.

Rosebud.

Cool and pleasant.

There was an ice cream supper given at the residence of J. M. Moore's last Friday night. A large crowd in attendance and everybody enjoyed themselves.

There was a crowd went to Castle Peak Sunday evening consisting of the following: Mesdames S. H. Leslie and Bridges, Miss Rhoda Leslie and Lon Watkins, Miss Cattie Leslie and Rufus Cavenport, Miss Lizzie Blackburn and Sam Toombs.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox, Misses Ella and Dovie Hughes, Charley Hughes and Willie Cox went fishing last Friday.

Mrs. Mary Blackburn and daughter, Lizzie, went to Merkel last week trading.

Henry Porter visited at T. J. Toombs' Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Tipton, of Nubia, visited at Mr. and Mrs. Harvey West's Saturday and Sunday. Nubia is about to get over its wash-a-ways. All of the bridges have been put back.

John Blackburn and wife of Fisher county are visiting relatives in the Canyon.

Lon Watkins and family of Nubia visited at A. W. Hunter's Saturday and Sunday.

Rosebud.

DORA.

(Delayed from last week.)

G. W. Hawkins and R. D. Brandon went to Abilene Friday after a mower to cut their oats.

John Holder went to Merkel Friday.

Bailey Sligers was up from Valley Creek Saturday.

The Hylton ball team came up to Dora Saturday evening and played the Dora team. Playing 7 to 24 in favor of Dora.

Several of the young people enjoyed an ice cream supper at Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Jenkins Saturday night.

Preaching Sunday morning by Rev. J. L. Elliott of Sweetwater. Singing Sunday evening at A. R. Sanders'.

O. H. Holland was up from Valley Creek Sunday.

Hurley Toombs and R. Davenport of Nubia were seen on the Divide Sunday.

Ed Rounsaville and sisters, Misses Meda and Mae, were here from Nolan Sunday.

J. E. Friar came up from Spring Creek Sunday.

Kat Klaw.

Hot and dry.

Albert Elliott went to Merkel Wednesday.

J. M. Bryson went to Merkel Wednesday.

Henry Porter went to Nubia Thursday.

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

Dora and Valley Creek ball teams played Saturday evening. Score stood 7 to 11 in favor of Valley Creek.

Henry Porter went to Nubia Sunday.

Mr. Kitchens of Valley Creek was on the Divide Sunday.

Preaching at Dora Sunday evening by Rev. Cooper of Abilene.

Mrs. Lillie Beall came home Sunday after a week's visit to friends in the Canyon.

Singing Sunday night at Mr. and Mrs. Elliott's.

Kat Klaw.

Be Comrades.

Let there be the closest possible comradeship between parents and children. Let it never, for an hour, cease. Never give your young people any reason for seeking sympathy in confidants outside the home circle. 'Remember your own childhood and youth.' Enter into the lives of your children heartily. Let them have the information they will surely seek somewhere at home. Anticipate their natural curiosity by discreet revelations from time to time. Teach them modesty and purity and how to avoid evil companions. If they have an especial bent in any direction sympathize with it and encourage it. Nature is the best guide toward a successful career in life. Try to see things from their standpoint. The more you do this the more they will learn to look at things from your own standpoint of greater knowledge and experience.

Hold their confidence as a priceless treasure to you and to them. Let nothing separate you from their loving trustfulness, let nothing mar the beauty of the closest possible intimacy.—Christian Work.

Reads Like a Novel.

Strange things are always happening, but one of the strangest that has come under our notice comes from Brownwood and Houston Childers and wife and a man by the name of Hall play the leading role in this little drama.

Some months ago Houston Childers and wife removed from

Comanche to Brownwood. Then in steps Mr. Hall and it seems that he and Mrs. Childers fell desperately in love with each other. This attachment became so open that Mr. Childers could but notice it, but like a hero of old he saw the love of his wife whom he had sworn to love and protect go out to another man. The situation became unbearable and Childers and wife held a consultation over the matter and she told him that she loved Hall much better than she did him and if she had a divorce she would marry Hall. Childers then went to Hall and told him the conversation he had had with his wife and Hall told Childers that he loved the woman and wanted to marry her if a divorce could be had. Childers and wife at once repaired to the court house and the district judge heard their story and promptly divorced them. Monday of last week and within 30 minutes after the divorce was granted Hall and Mrs. Childers were married, Mr. Childers witnessing the ceremony.

Houston is a son of J. M. Childers of this place and the now Mrs. Hall is a daughter of Z. P. West, also of this city.—Comanche Visitor.

What is Home?

Recently a London magazine sent out 1,000 inquiries on the question, "What is home?" In selecting the classes to respond, it was particular to see that everyone was represented. The poorest and richest were given an opportunity to express their sentiments. Out of 800 replies received, seven gems were selected as follows:

1. Home—A world of strife shut out, a world of love shut in.
2. Home—The place where the small are great and the great small.
3. Home—The father's kingdom, the mother's world and the child's paradise.
4. Home—The place where we grumble the most and are treated the best.
5. Home—The center of our affections, round which our heart's best wishes twine.
6. Home—The place where our stomach's get three square meals daily and our hearts a thousand.
7. Home—The only place on earth where the faults and failings of humanity are hidden under the sweet mantle of charity.

Miss Dota Garoutte visited in Abilene last week.

Dr. Clayton McCauley and wife of Chicago spent the week here as the guests of the family of Dr. Rust.

The telephone girl and the bill clerk to whom she had promised her heart and hand were sitting in front of the fireplace talking about the happy days to come when they would be one. From one little detail to another the talk finally drifted to the subject of lighting fires in the morning. He stated it as his emphatic opinion that it was a wife's place to get up and start the fires and let her poor hard-working husband rest. After this declaration there was a silence for the space of about three quarters of a second. Then the telephone girl thrust out the finger encircled by her engagement ring and murmured sweetly but firmly: "Ring off, please; you have got connected with the wrong number."—Exchange.

Delegates Keep Cool.

Call at the Star Store and get a nice palm leaf fan free. It '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 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. E. 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.

A Married Man's Musings.

The happiness of the man who has just bought a wedding ring is equaled only by the happiness of the fellow who's just got a divorce.

It will always be a question whether a man would better pick out a rich, cross father-in-law or an amiable, poor mother-in-law. Just before a girl is married she is apt to be pensive; afterward, expensive.

Adam could have had lots of fun with Eve when they had company for supper by asking them if they ever heard his wife's great snake story.

A good many girls cast their bread upon the waters and then get mad if it doesn't come back in the shape of a wedding cake.

On his wedding morn a fellow feels like a criminal about to be hanged; a year later he begins to wish he had been the criminal.

No man has any business to marry until he is able to shave with one hand, rock the cradle with the other and listen to what his wife is trying to tell him about the Sewing Society proceedings, all at the same time.

The man who married his supposed ideal often wishes he could have another deal.

A woman's idea of bliss is to have her husband get sick the day she happens to have a dozen free samples of patent medicine in the house.

Authorities agree that women require more sleep than men, but most wives are obstinate enough to sit up until their husbands come home.

A bachelor can never understand why a 2-months-old baby can't be taught to sit up on its hind legs and beg.

A dimple makes a woman an optimist; a wrinkle a pessimist.

The maddest woman on earth is the one who has thought what he is going to tell him for staying out so late on the night that he happens to come home early.

If love is a disease it is one of a rash nature.

It is a good plan for every young wife to obtain a lock of her husband's hair on the day of their marriage. He may not be gone for many a year, but his hair will.—Ex.

Her Composition.

A young teacher who was graduated from the normal school last June was asked one day last week to substitute a higher grade than her own. She was a little nervous over the temporary promotion, and was anxious that everything should go off in the usual good order. While instructing the class in composition she said: "Now, children, don't attempt any flights of fancy. Don't try to imitate the things you have heard, but just be yourselves and write what is really in you."

...THE BEST DRAWING CARD...

The Best Goods at the Lowest Prices.

Implements
Wagons
Buggies
Barbed Wire
Nails, Stoves
Tools

Etc. Etc.

We claim that we handle the best line of Hardware Implements, etc., on the market. We have handled 'em long enough to know this. They are the cheapest because they last the longest. Come and take a look at our mammoth stock.

Hardware
Queensware
Glassware
Tinware
Graniteware
Crockerware
Etc. Etc.

MERKEL, TEXAS.

W. H. DICKSON.

As the result of this advice one little boy turned in the following composition:

"I ain't goin' to attempt no flits of fancy; I'm just going to write what's in me an I got a h'art, a liver, two lungs and some other things like that; then I got a stummick, and it's got in it a pickle, a piece of pie, two sticks of peppermint candy, and my dinner."—Chicago Journal.

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

The Learned Premier of France.

Short men can take fresh courage in view of the fact that the new French premier is only five feet three inches tall. M. Combes, it is interesting to know, is by profession a physician, but he cannot have practiced much. He was at one time a schoolmaster, and is a leading authority on French educational affairs. His scholarly and literary activities have for years been large and comprehensive, embracing such topics as the Latin poet Virgil, Kant's metaphysics, the philosophy of St. Augustine and the social theories of St. Simon. There is no other ruling statesman now alive, nor has there been one in a generation, except Mr. Gladstone, who equals M. Combes in the range of his mental labors.

A New Evarts Story.

A story about the late William M. Evarts, which is believed new to print, is told by Adrian H. Joline in his "Meditations of an Autograph Collector," just published. It is that on one of his later anniversaries Senator Hoar wrote to Evarts, congratulating him on his length of years, and the old lawyer replied that he reminded himself of the old lady, who, arriving at her 13th page, asked her correspondent: "Please excuse my longevity."

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.

Reviving an Old Custom.

According to a Paris correspondent, Frenchmen have started a league the object of which is to revive an old custom, that of men showing their respect to women by kissing their hands. It has much to commend it, the Boston Herald thinks, but fears that as soon as the graceful, delicate hand kissing begins the cranks will discover a new microbe in it that no amount of manicuring will render innocuous.

Wilhelmina a Careful Ruler.

Queen Wilhelmina, when in health, insists on knowing the contents of every document she signs. In case of doubt she summons an expert to explain the matter to her. Herein she follows the example of Queen Victoria, who always acted on this principle, though she had to sign an average of 200 documents a day.

Didn't Care to Double His Money.

Andrew Carnegie is not often a visitor to Wall street, and when he went down there a few weeks ago he passed unobserved down the famous thoroughfare, right into the arms of a runner for a bucket shop. "Come to put up a little money on the rise of the market?" asked the runner. "Sure thing; can't lose. Stocks are going up. I'll show you where you can double your money in half an hour." Double all I have?" asked Mr. Carnegie, assuming an air of eager innocence. "How much've you got?" inquired the runner. "Oh, a little less than \$175,000,000," replied the scanny Scotsman simply. "Wh—what?" gasped the man. "But I am trying to get rid of it, not double it," went on the ironmaster. "Why, are you Andrew Carnegie?" asked the runner. "I am," said he, going on and chuckling quietly to himself.

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.

Henry's Clipping Library.

Emperor William directed, before Prince Henry went to the United States, that a complete collection of newspaper clippings be preserved in the archives of the Hohenzollern family perpetuating the trip. Huge volumes are now growing up under the hands of his secretaries.

Long Is a Sultana Survivor.

Robert D. Lone, for a time one of the survivors of the engineers of the steamboat Sultana, which blew up in 1864 on the Mississippi river with soldiers on board, causing over 1,000 deaths, is now living in Indianapolis. Long left the boat the trip before the one on which the explosion occurred, because of the condition of the boilers.

Increasing Speed of Trains.

Both the New York Central and Pennsylvania lines will put on a 20-hour train between New York and Chicago the 15th instant. The distance over the Pennsylvania is 912 miles, and the schedule accordingly calls for an average speed of 45.6 miles, including stops. This is four hours less than the present fastest service between the two cities and eight hours less than the usual service. The fare on these trains will be \$28, or \$1 additional to the regular rate for every reduction of one hour from the ordinary time of passage. Equally fast trains now run from Chicago to Denver, and it will not be long evidently before the traveler can go from ocean to ocean at an average speed, exclusive of stops, of 50 miles and more an hour.

Led a Lincoln Funeral Horse.

Martin Lewis, one of the eight colored men who led the horses that drew President Lincoln's hearse, died in Chicago last week. He had been in the employ of the Inter Ocean for ten years as messenger, and had acted in the same capacity for various Chicago newspapers since 1864. Of the eight colored men who took part in the Lincoln funeral the only one now living is Joseph W. Moore, who works for the American Express Company.

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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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 plumb them with a little more force than any other rifle. The deer take a 30-55 or 30-30, 120-page catalog, 200 Engravings, colored cover by Remington, for 3 stamps.

MARLIN FIRE ARMS CO.

NEW HAVEN, CONN.



Society and the Herberts.

Society in New York is rejoicing over the appointment of the Hon. Michael Henry Herbert as ambassador at Washington, to succeed Lord Pauncefoot, the New York correspondent of the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle writes. Mr. Herbert's wife was Miss Belle Wilson, the sister of Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt and Mrs. Ogden Golet and Richard T. Wilson, Jr. Mr. Herbert was attached to the British embassy at the time he married Miss Wilson. The coming of the Herberts to Washington will insure a brilliant season there next winter, as a large contingent of New York society will unquestionably be present at many social functions.

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Towels clean.

Bath room in connection.
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NORTH FRONT STREET.

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polite attention to all.

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Justice Peace and Notary Public

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

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...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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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.

This is an English "Joke."
A story heard in the house of
commons is of some one's meet-
ing Sir Wilfrid Lawson, the tem-
perance leader and radical, and
asking him, "Well, Lawson, and
what do you feel about the war?"
Whereupon Sir Wilfrid replied:
"I try to feel about it as our Cap-
tain Christ would wish us to feel."
"Ah," rejoined the other in a dis-
gusted tone, "I might have
guessed that you'd be a pro-Boer."

A Joke on Woodrow Wilson.
When Woodrow Wilson, the
new president of Princeton, was
a new professor he was interrupt-
ed during one of his lectures by
a student who kept tapping on
the floor with a fire brick. When
he ordered the culprit to bring the
contraband article to his desk,
fifty students arose, each armed
with a fire brick, and built a wall
in front of him that shut him out
of sight of the class. President
Wilson is only 45 years old.

Conclusive Evidence.
A man who knows the Virginia
"darkey" like a book was discuss-
ing his characteristics the other
day, and told the following yarn:
"Some years ago an old colored
uncle living in one of the lower
counties of Virginia died, leaving
behind a small estate. It seems
that in the will which he left there
was made a rather peculiar dis-
position of the property. Instead
of leaving it to two sons, who had
been the comfort of his declining
years, he had left it entirely to
more distant relatives. The boys,
highly dissatisfied, of course, de-
cided to contest the will, on the
ground that their father had been
unduly influenced while mentally
unsound. While counsel for the
contestants were adducing evi-
dence, endeavoring to prove the
allegation, an old colored man,
who had intimately known the de-
ceased from boyhood, was called,
and asked if he had ever seen or
heard anything in the later years
of his friend's life that could be
construed as evidence of an un-
balanced mind. Assuming a re-
flective air and scratching his
head, he replied: 'Yaas, boss; I
think I did; remembah dat one
day, 'bout fo' yeahs ago, he axed
me if 'possum was good to eat.
The contestants won.'"

Justice Gray's Only Joke.
The only time Justice Gray, of
the United States supreme court,
was ever known to make a joke
while seated on the bench was
one day when Judson Harmon,
then attorney general, was argu-
ing a case before him. Mr. Har-
mon had occasion to display a
map, quite a small one, and he re-
ferred to it as a "birdseye view."
The justice could barely see it
from the bench, and after peering
at it for a moment, he said: "Mr.
Attorney General, I regret to tell
you that I'm not a bird." As Mr.
Harmon folded up the tiny map,
the grave and dignified justice
was heard to chuckle audibly.

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."

A Salmon Trust.
All of the salmon canneries of
British Columbia have been "mor-
ganized." In other words, there
is a salmon trust. The capital,
however, is small, only \$3,000,-
000. The idea is to save the by-
products, which hitherto have
been wasted. The canned prod-
uct will be, as usual, a portion of
fish chucked into a tin of grease.
From the scales and bones will be
manufactured guano and glue.
The "by-product" is the salvation
of many a business these days.

A King Who Plays Tennis.
The King of Portugal is an en-
thusiastic lawn tennis player, and
both the king and his brother, the
Infante Don Alphonso, played for
the South of Portugal against the
North in the recent tournament
at Cascaes for the challenge cup
offered by the Queen of Portugal.
The king plays a hard volleying
game, with good judgment in
placing, and can hold his own
with the best players in Portugal.

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.

Proud of Her Name.
Josephi Andreszkwerowitzka
is the name of a young Polish girl
who arrived in this city on the
Haverford from Liverpool last
week, says a Philadelphia paper.
She has the longest name of any
immigrant that ever came to Phil-
adelphia, and when they told her
so as they examined her at Wash-
ington avenue wharf she smiled
with gratification. "I thought my
name would be the longest," she
said. "I thought you would tell
me that, for that is what I have
been told by everybody since I
left home." Miss Andreszkwer-
ownitzka is bound for St. Paul,
where a place as housemaid has
been engaged for her in a hotel.
She was advised to change her
name on account of its awkward
length, but she replied: "No, in-
deed, I will not change it till I
get married."

Eagles to Draw His Flying Machine.
Professor Kaiser, a South Ger-
man mechanical genius, has pub-
lished a pamphlet on "How to
steer an Airship with Eagles."
Professor Kaiser says an eagle
has sufficient strength to draw a
balloon, and, by means of numer-
ous diagrams and elaborate calcu-
lations, he shows how eagles can
be harnessed and the weights
they can pull through the air. In
spite of the ridicule with which
the pamphlet has been received
among mechanical aeronauts,
Professor Kaiser is training a
team of eagles for a balloon which
he has in readiness.

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,
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able prices. Come
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We are receiving our New
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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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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.

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

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