

THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JULY 24, 1902.

NO. 23.

Trade at the Star Store.

Where You Get Value Received for Every Dollar Spent.

We handle Dry Goods, Notions, Furnishing Goods, Clothing, Hats and Shoes. Anything you need in our line? Come to see us before you buy.

25 per cent discount on all Ladies' Waists and Skirts
20 per cent discount on all Summer Clothing. We are not selling Clothing at cost, but our prices are the lowest, quality considered.

All prices quoted in our Mid-Summer Clearance Sale are in force as long as the goods last, and you will save money by investigating the merits of the goods and the prices we are asking for them.

The STAR STORE.

Merkel Mercantile Co., Props.

P. S. We will be well prepared to handle cotton this fall, having arranged with two of the best concerns in the South to represent them. You can always count on the Star Store to pay the highest price for cotton.

The Best Liniment for Strains.

Mr. H. Wells, the merchant at Deer Park, Long Island, N. Y., says: "I always recommend Chamberlain's Pain Balm as the best liniment for strains. I used it last winter for a severe lameness in the side, resulting from a strain, and was greatly pleased with the quick relief and cure it affected." For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Try reading The Mail.

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

Repulsive Features.

Blackheads, pimples, greasy faces and muddy complexions, which are so common among women, especially girls at a certain age, destroying beauty, disfiguring and making repulsive features which would otherwise appear attractive and refined, indicate that the liver is out of order. An occasional dose of Herbine will cleanse the bowels, regulate the liver and so establish a clear, healthy complexion. 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

The Higher Life

Value of the Soul.

Rev. George Adams, Methodist. The gain of earth goes no farther than the grave and the treasures of earth have no purchasing power in heaven. The value of the soul is inestimable. It costs infinite love to redeem us, and the Redeemer says we shall profit most if we follow Him, for our soul is so precious we can give nothing in exchange for it.

Study of the Bible.

Rev. L. A. Lindemuth, Presbyterian. The real art of reading once learned, its laws understood and observed, man will no longer have an abnormal craving for the new, but in the old and tested, the standard books of the world, he will have his dearest friends, ministering happiness unto him. Is there a draught richer than from that sacred fountain to which we are led by the reading of the immortal, imperishable, eternal book, the Word of God?

Chief Fact.

Rev. Dr. Hull, Baptist. The chief fact about any nation is its religion. The measure of the energy of faith as is also the measures of the energy of national life. Ignorance is not the mother of devotion, nor of anything else that is worthful. The intelligent conscience is the true power that

makes for permanent national life. This intelligent conscience is to a large extent given by our Sunday-schools.

The Words of Christ.

Cardinal Gibbons, Roman Catholic. The words of Christ have a permanent and an abiding interest throughout the world. They are as true and as convincing as they were a thousand years ago, and will be as convincing and vital a thousand years hence as they are today. Kingdoms and empires may change, science may stifle the world by its discoveries, but the word of the Lord abideth forever.

Immortality.

Rev. Julian K. Smyth, Swendenborgian. Immortality? What is there to die? This physical venture, that is all. What is there to live? The soul, the man who sleeps for a short time, but who, like his Lord, shall rise the third day. And how shall he live? In his spiritual body, into the full uses and freedom of which he shall now come. It shall be no unreal, ghostly life, but more than ever a perfectly embodied life.

Redemption and Duty.

Rev. J. L. Withrow, Congregationalist. Jesus Christ was the one totally complete, fully furnished man. And because this is so, we should recognize the dangerous error that is committed when one, or a few of his words are made to

represent his whole mind in the great matters of redemption and duty. Consider his utterances respecting the moral condition of human nature.

Gifts of God.

Rev. Dr. Stevenson, Presbyterian. Our physical traits, our mental endowments, are gifts of God and the same thing if true of the moral virtue we may possess. The excellences of natural disposition are bestowed by the grace of God, and in these, as well as in the character itself, we see colors as diverse as the tints of a rainbow.

Moral Disorder.

Rev. Dr. Beattie. It appears that there is in the social organism of the human race some sort of moral disorder. The Bible calls this sin. The result of this is decay, disintegration and disaster. The history of the human race is filled with the story of this sin.

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.

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.

The Farmers' Congress.

The Texas Farmers' Congress held at College Station last week was largely attended by representative farmers from all parts of the State. The deliberations were spirited and great interest and enthusiasm prevailed throughout the session. Much valuable information was imparted, which will no doubt be fruitful of good results, showing that those in attendance were alive to their own interests and were there to hear and be heard.

The success of this meeting demonstrates the need of county organizations as auxiliaries to the State body, to the end that all may keep in touch with the progress and advancement along agricultural lines and that the results of these meetings may be far-reaching. Taylor County is in need of just such an organization, and the merchants should see that there is a representative attendance at all the State meetings. At the county meetings small prizes could be awarded for the best displays of products, which would lend inspiration to the work and act as an incentive to systematic competition, with the result that interest and enthusiasm would be great and beneficial to all. Our agricultural resources are thoroughly developed and the success of stock-farming so marked that we are entitled to recognition in all the State organizations which have for their object the enlargement and perfection of scientific farming. Let's organize and in so doing promote the general interests of the entire county.

The awards for displays at the Congress were made as follows:

- For best display of marketable honey, San Jacinto County.
- Best display of vegetables from any county, Williamson County.
- Best display of fruit shown from any county, Smith County.
- For best display of field crops shown from any county, Williamson County.

Ability and Opportunity.

These are the conditions of success. Give a man power and a field in which to use it and he

must accomplish something. He may not do and become all that he desires and dreams of, but his life can not be a failure. I never hear men complaining of the want of ability. The most unsuccessful think that they could do great things if they only had the chance. Somehow or other something or somebody has always been in the way. Providence has hedged them in so that they could not carry out their plans. They knew just how to get rich, but lacked the opportunity. Sit down by one who thus complains and ask him to tell you the story of his life. Before he gets half through he will give you occasion to ask him, Why didn't you do so at that time? Why didn't you stick to that piece of land and improve it, or to that business and develop it? Is not the present owner of that property rich? Is not the man who took up the business you abandoned successful? He will probably say of his own accord half a dozen times: If I had known how things were going to turn out I might have done as well as Mr. A. That farm of his was offered to me. I knew it was a good one and cheap, but I knew that it would require a good deal of hard work to get it cleared and fenced, to plant trees, vines, etc., and to secure water for irrigation. I did not like to undertake it. I am sorry now that I didn't. It was one of my opportunities. The truth is God gives to all of us ability and opportunities enough to enable us to be moderately successful. If we fail in ninety-five cases out of a hundred it is our own fault. We neglect to improve the talents with which our Creator endowed us, or we failed to enter the door that He opened for us. A man can not expect that his whole life shall be made up of opportunities, that they will meet him at regular intervals as he goes on like milestones by the roadside. Usually he has one or two, and if he neglects them he is like a man who takes the wrong road where several meet—the farther he goes the worse he fares. A man's opportunity usually has some relation to his ability. It is an opening for a man of his talents and

means. It is an opening for him to use what he has faithfully and to the utmost. It requires toil, self-denial and faith. If he says I want a better opportunity, that I am worthy of a higher position than it offers; or if he says I won't work as hard and economize as closely as that opportunity demands, he may in after years see the folly of his pride and indolence. There are young men all over the land who want to get rich and yet they scorn such opportunities as A. T. Stewart and Commodore Vanderbilt improved. They want to begin, not as those men did at the bottom of the ladder, but half way up. They want somebody to give them a lift or carry them up in a balloon, so that they can avoid early and arduous struggles of the majority of those who have been successful. No wonder such men fail and then complain of Providence. Grumbling is usually a miserable expedient that people resort to to drown the reproaches of conscience. They know that they have been foolish, but try to persuade themselves that they have been unfortunate. J. B. FERRIER.

Miss Mary Hunter came in Tuesday morning from Oklahoma City and spent a couple of days at the home of Dr. Warnick before going out to the home of her grandfather, B. I. Lowe. The visit of Miss Mary was a very great surprise to Mr. Lowe, and to humor the joke she passed herself off as a school marm in search of employment. They had not met since the young lady was a girl of ten, and the surprise of our friend Lowe, after he found out that the girl, now a woman, was his own grandchild, may be imagined. We feel sure that it was a very agreeable one, however. The Mail hopes that the young lady will enjoy this visit to her childhood's home.

The croakers have begun to croak already, and some of them even declare that a second Noah's flood has descended. It either rains too much or not enough to suit some people.

Mrs. McCord has been quite sick this week, but is improving.

...Buggies at a Bargain...

I have a large stock of Buggies on hand--too large, in fact, for the time of year--and have decided to make prices on them that will compel them to go. Parties wanting anything in the Buggy line will SAVE MONEY by buying them now, while this car lasts. I mean to SELL them and will NAME YOU PRICES that no one else will duplicate.

GEO. F. WEST.

NO. 6861 REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF The First National Bank of Merkel

At Merkel, in the State of Texas, at the
Close of Business, July 16, 1902

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts	\$ 98,946.69
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	5,545.50
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	15,000.00
Premium on U. S. Bonds	966.25
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	6,000.00
Due from Natl Banks (not reserve agts)	1,741.77
Due from State Banks and Bankers	658.58
Due from approved reserve agents	8,057.56
Checks and other cash items	113.30
Notes of other National Banks	2,186.00
Frac. paper currency, nickles & cents	41.45
LAWFUL MONEY RESERVE IN BANK, VIZ	
Specie	\$2,557.50
U S Cert. for gold depos.	2,557.50
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer	
(5 per cent of circulation)	750.00
TOTAL	\$142,554.60

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	\$ 30,000.00
Surplus fund	6,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	416.68
National Bank notes outstanding	15,000.00
Due to other National Banks	407.24
Individual deposits subject to check	53,034.98
Time certificates of deposit	2,000.00
Notes and bills rediscounted	29,195.75
Bills payable, including certificates of deposit for money borrowed	6,500.00
TOTAL	\$142,554.60

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, ss:

I, Geo. S. Berry, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18, day of July, 1902.

W. W. WHEELER,
Notary Public.
Taylor Co., Texas.
CORRECT—Attest: J. T. WARREN,
G. F. WEST,
J. O. HAMILTON, Directors

Merely a Graft.

A Paris newspaper relates that a party of men, sitting in front of a boulevard cafe, were recently approached by a man who had a clarinet in his hand and who said: "Gentlemen, excuse me, I have to make my living, but I suppose you would rather give me a sou not to hear me." They took the hint. He repeated this performance till, one day, one of the men said he felt like hearing a tune, and asked him to play. "I am sorry," said the man with the clarinet, "but I cannot play a note."

A Novel Testimonial.

George J. Charlton, general passenger agent of the Alton road, is in receipt of a postal card dated at Joliet, Ill., Jun 20, as follows: "Five years ago I used your road to Joliet, and have never used any other since." The writer does not sign his name, but gives his number, which indicates that he is still in the penitentiary. He also gives the official number of the state penitentiary building.

Don't Fail to Try This.

Whenever an honest trial is given to Electric Bitters for any trouble it is recommended for a permanent cure will surely be affected. It never fails to tone the stomach, regulate the kidneys and bowels, stimulate the liver, invigorate the nerves and purify the blood. It's a wonderful tonic for run-down systems. Electric Bitters positively cures kidney and liver troubles, stomach disorders, nervousness, sleeplessness, rheumatism, neuralgia, and expels malaria. Satisfaction guaranteed by Rust & Pittard. Only 50c.

Charley Compton has accepted a position on the Baird exchange as night operator and will leave on first train.

It is thought that the west bound passenger will be able to go through to Big Springs this evening. This town, however, is said to be under water, a rise from the hills having swooped down upon it, but the report may be false. Owing to the fact that no mail has been received here since Monday night, the extent of the flood is not known.

Mrs. Jim Dennis is improving nicely and will soon be well again, her friends will be glad to learn.

Oscar Wilson was here from Caps this week, being water-bound and unable to get home.

War a Business With Kitchener.

They say in London that Lord Kitchener's unwillingness to be the central figure of a big military display on his return to London is quite characteristic of the man. To him, warfare is a business, and the spectacular side of it makes no appeal whatever to his imagination. When he came back from the Sudan, after crushing the khalifa and had received his peerage and a grant of \$150,000, he was entertained at dinner by merchants and business men of London. When it came his turn to speak, he said, in a simple, off-hand way, something like this: "Gentlemen, I am very much obliged for the complimentary things that you have said to me. You say that you are anxious to show your good will. Very well. Tell me how I can invest 1000 so as to get 8 per cent

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.

Ramblings Through Mexico.

By J. L. VAUGHAN.

American tools have not found their way out here yet, and I see wooden plows, made from a crooked stick and drawn by oxen just like pictures in your old family Bible. The wagons are mostly two wheeled carts, with solid wooden wheels, the oxen harnessed by a large beam strapped to the horns.

Heard of one tract of land for sale; the size is four "sitios." A "sitio" is 4,330 acres. The price asked was \$50,000 Mexican money or about \$21,000 American. The rent from the "petaya" crop was \$2,000 a year.

Leaving the Sayula valley near Mouzano we begin to climb and the country is very rough. Around curves and over great ravines—the mountain is covered with trees, mostly oak, and toward the top with long leaf pine—occasional patches of cleared land, where some Indian has his humble home. As we near Zapotlan the country becomes level again. A fine valley surrounded by high mountains and is a thousand feet higher than Sayula. A beautiful lake of fresh water looks to be about 10 miles long and several miles wide. There is talk of an American company piping the waters of this lake down to the Sayula valley for irrigation purposes.

Just before we come to the station of Zapotlan we get our first glimpse of Colima. It is on the west side of the track and distant about 20 miles. It is the "Nevada Colima" or the Old Mountain, 14,370 feet above sea level. It is called Nevada on account of it being capped with snow. The crater can be seen very plainly, but it seems to have blown itself out and quit, while another smaller mountain on the west side was thrown up, and it is now quite active.

The city of Zapotlan has a population of about 20,000. The town is about two miles from the station and is near the west end of the lake. Many cattle are grazing in the meadows along the shores. The land seems very fertile and there are some pretty haciendas. Perhaps the nearness of the volcanoes accounts for its richness. The train stays here half an hour for supper. At the railroad restaurant we find the ever-present Chinaman. Along the railroads we find "John" in charge of most of the eating houses.

From Zapotlan the train is a "mixed." In addition to the coaches there are quite a string of freight cars. Our course is toward the west side of the mountain and the grade is downward and quite steep. We are on the Pacific slope now. We soon get another view of the Volcano Colima. The atmosphere is quite hazy and smoky, caused by the Indians burning off leaves and brush on the mountains, but as we get nearer we get a good view of the volcano. On the west side of the track and quite near is a small mountain with an extinct crater on its top. Evidence of volcanic action is all around us—patches of "malpais" or lava beds. Several fine farms can be seen at some distance from the track. There seems to be plenty of water for irrigation purposes, as the melting snows on the "Nevada" Colima furnishes water at all seasons. The nearer to the volcanoes the richer the land, which tempts the rancher and

farmer to get as close as possible, heedless of the danger of sudden eruption.

At Zapotiltic there is a fine valley which opens back toward the south, where there are large cane fields and a sugar factory, a pretty little town with a handsome church. There seemed to be many fruit trees here and the people have a prosperous, business look about them. Around the station were great piles of sacks of wheat, and the train was delayed about an hour unloading freight and switching cars. There are no beggars here, but many have something to sell. Men with fruit, women with "tortillas," "tamales," "enchilados," "chile con carne" and other delicacies dear to the Mexican palate. Several fine carriages, but of ancient patterns, were at the station, their fair occupants having come to meet friends or see the train. A man on the train remarks that Zapotiltic was noted for its "hospitality, fine fruits and pretty girls."

The higher class of the people are descendants of the Spaniards or of mixed blood, but I noticed that the Indians of this part of Mexico are different from the more northern states. They are light colored, some of them being nearly white, with sharp features and muscular frames and walk very erect. The women do not get fleshy as they get old like the women of Northern Mexico. They are very cleanly and have a neat and intelligent look. The men wear white cotton pants and shirts; the women wear white skirts and bright colored sashes, or a kind of "shirt waist." On enquiring I found that they were pure "Toltecs," just the same (except in language and dress) as when the Spaniards found them. Back among the mountains there are many who know but very little Spanish, but use their original language.

From here we had the best view of the Volcano Colima. It is some distance west of the old mountain and is about 10,000 feet above sea level. For about 2,000 feet from the top it looks like a big cinder cone. From the top considerable smoke was issuing, and although we could not see any fire on account of the sunlight, the puffs of smoke showed it was at work throwing out ashes. The conductor said that a few mornings ago, as the train passed before daylight, considerable fire was coming out of the top and some redhot lava was running down the sides. Since the disturbances in the Caribbean Sea the people say Colima has been acting queerly, but they do not seem to fear it and go about their business as unconcerned as if the volcano was a thousand miles away, instead of only a short distance. Right at the foot of the mountain is a good sized town, Tunila. About four years ago lava ran down the mountain sides and burnt up several hundred acres of fine timber, and the people of Tunila left their homes and took refuge in Zapotlan and Zapotiltic. Before our train leaves the sun sets behind the large mountain, and the reflection of light from the top of the old crater is a beautiful sight.

The station being three miles from Tuxpan, we shelter at Joe Hampson's grading camp.

A Mystery.

W. L. Glasscock, of Taopi, was in town Monday on his way to Sweetwater. He informed the Banner man that the railroad outfit working near this place, had unearthed an old furnace, which had been used for some purpose probably a hundred years ago. It is about 12 feet high and about 75 feet long; it shows to have been used a great deal as the stones in the wall seems to have been burned for years. It is full of charcoal and ashes. There was quite a lot of mussel shells plowed up and where they came from is hard to tell. They also plowed up a grave and a human skeleton, supposed to be that of an Indian or a Mexican. There was a large stone both at the head and foot of the grave, also a bottle of oil of some kind found in the grave. Mr. Glasscock intended to take the oil to some physician and find out what kind it was, but the bottle was accidentally broken.

What the furnace was used for and who worked it is a mystery. Further investigation will be made.—Roby Banner.

Saves a Woman's Life.

To have given up would have meant death for Mrs. Lois Cragg, of Dorchester, Mass. For years she had endured untold misery from a severe lung trouble and obstinate cough. "Often," she writes, "I could scarcely breathe and sometimes could not speak. All doctors and remedies failed till I used Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption and was completely cured." Sufferers from coughs, colds, throat and lung troubles need this grand remedy, for it never disappoints. Cure is guaranteed by Rust & Pittard. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

Greatest Dandy in the World.

The greatest dandy in the world is Prince Albert of Thurn, Germany. This fastidious young man attires himself in a new suit of clothes every day—enough yearly to keep twenty experienced workmen going, and to run up a bill of \$15,000. Each suit of wearing apparel is highly perfumed with attar of roses, at \$25 per ounce. He wears no fewer than 1,000 neckties during a year, being an average of three every day. His castoff boots number 200 pairs a year.

A Lincoln Story.

One day in the summer of 1857 Abraham Lincoln was sitting in his office when he was visited by one of his neighbors, an excellent farmer, but one inclined to increase the size of his crops even after harvesting. He had given on this particular morning a skillfully padded account of the hay he had put in. "I've been cutting hay, too," remarked Mr. Lincoln. "Why, Abe, are you farming?" "Yes." "What you raise?" "Just hay." "Good crop this year?" "Excellent." "How many tons?" "Well, I don't know just how many tons, Simpson but my men stacked all they could out doors and then stored the rest in the barn."

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.



Uncle Sam's Mail Service

requires physical and mental ability of a high degree to withstand its hard labors. The high tension to which the nervous system is constantly subjected, has a depressing effect, and soon headache, backache, neuralgia, rheumatism, sciatica, etc., develop in severe form. Such was the case of Mail Carrier S. F. Sweinhart, of Huntsville, Ala., he says:

"An attack of pneumonia left me with muscular rheumatism, headache, and pains that seemed to be all over me. I was scarcely able to move for about a month when I decided to give

Dr. Miles' Pain Pills

and Nerve Plasters a trial. In three days I was again on my route, and in two weeks I was free from pain and gaining in strength and energy.

Sold by all Druggists.
Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

Advertised Letters.

Following letters remain un-called 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.
Carter, Don H.
Larmon, J. H.
Maxwell, G. W.
Wm. J.
I. C.
erby,

The Best is the Cheapest.

Not how cheap, but how good, is the question.

The Twice-a-Week Republic is not as cheap as are some so-called newspapers. But it is as cheap as it is possible to sell a first-class newspaper. It prints all the news that is worth printing. If you read it all the year round, you are posted on all the important and interesting affairs of the world. It is the best and most reliable newspaper that money and brains can produce—and those should be the distinguished traits of the newspaper that is designed to be read by all the members of the family.

Subscription price, \$1 a year. Any newsdealer, newspaper or postmaster will receive your subscription, or you may mail it direct to

The Republic,
St. Louis, Mo.

The Same Old Story.

J. A. Kelly relates an experience similar to that which has happened in almost every neighborhood in the United States and has been told and retold by thousands of others. He says: "Last summer I had an attack of dysentery and purchased a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which I used according to directions and with entirely satisfactory results. The trouble was controlled much quicker than former attacks when I used other remedies." Mr. Kelly is a well known citizen of Henderson, N. C. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Mrs. Bob Winship came up from Abilene last week to visit her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Richardson.

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

Mr. Grogan's Wail of Woe.

One or two of the papers of the district have taken up W. L. Grogan's wail of woe and are censuring The Mail for what they are pleased to call its unjust attack upon him. Now this does not ease the situation the least bit. The Mail made no attack on Mr. Grogan until after the convention which told the tale, when we termed his effort to run in a "dark horse" as "low and puerile," which it was. Any plan to defeat the will of the people is a dirty one. The Mail gave Mr. Grogan the free use of its columns in which to outline his platform—which he used—and he stated at the time that no other paper in the district had shown him this courtesy. In only one instance did we speak disparagingly of his canvass and that was just after his repeated assertions, in this county, that Mr. Sebastian had voted against nearly every measure in the Legislature in which the people were interested, but that he (Grogan) had stayed with the people and pointed to his record with pride, and even then only two four-line squibs calling attention to the fact that he had probably overlooked his vote on the Wright bill. Many papers in the district fought Mr. Grogan to a finish and said some hard things about him; but he withheld his roasts until the last and fires grape and canister at The Mail. Why? Simply because he knew that the editor of The Mail virtually had it in his power to secure the Merkel vote for him and wouldn't do it. We didn't believe he was the proper man to represent his district in the State Senate, notwithstanding his platform was more in line with our belief that the platform of Mr. Sebastian, although both of them looked like they had been hatched from the same nest—especially when in use in the two extremes of the district. The Colorado Clipper and Snyder Coming West have seen fit to give prominence to Grogan's wail of woe, not knowing, perhaps, the facts in the case, and from the further fact, we opine, that they are not in sympathy with the platform adopted at Abilene. Mr. Grogan is welcome to what little consolation he can get out of the situation, if it will even partly alleviate his soreness. We didn't intend to notice his misrepresentations, but can not afford to be censured by other papers. This is all, for the present and for the future, if the gentleman has no further designs upon the Senate.

Joe Bailey and the Congressional trust, so-called, held a "full house" at the convention. James Stephen, By Gatlins, was in the minority, more's the pity.

The platform of the State convention meets every demand of the Democratic party at this time and is easy of acceptance by both wings of the party. While some of the planks are ludicrous because of their half-heartedness, yet in the main the demands are far-reaching and admit of no compromise along the lines laid down. The platform speaks in no uncertain sounds against the trusts, for the election of United States Senators by popular vote, for uniform primaries, and for the fostering of our educational and eleemosynary institutions—in fact, it is just such a document as the success of the party demands at this time.

The authorities of Meridian, Miss., by convicting three men for dealing in cotton futures, have set an example that should be emulated in Texas. This species of gambling is a menace not only to the morals of the country, but to the business interests as well. A large number of the business failures throughout the country are due to gambling in cotton futures.

June corn and its allies, cane, milo maize and kaffir corn, has solved the drouth problem so far as winter forage is concerned. The acreage planted in Texas this year, because of the short corn crop, is enormous, and insures feed for two years.

Mr. Dean failed to make his promises good in the matter of giving Reeves county the District Attorneyship in exchange for her instruction for Congressman, but, instead, the goods were delivered to an El Paso man.

There is a growing demand for marriage laws which will insure greater publicity for prospective marriages. In this way bigamy would be practically impossible and desertion immediately after marriage reduced to a minimum.

The people have long since ceased to look to the Republican party for any kind of legislation against the trusts. And they have come to realize, also, that any hope of a needed revision of the tariff is a futile one.

Merkel and the entire Merkel Country have been amply blessed with rain the past two weeks. The ground is in better shape than it has been at any time during the past two years.

Mr. Bailey is certainly a clever, astute and resourceful politician, but great will be his fall some of these days. He should lower his sights just a little, and curb that disposition to bigotry.

The whitewash has been liberally applied to General Smith. However, it was put on with an administration brush, and there was no attending appiause.

The State convention met every demand made by the people; then why this howl over the chairmanship?

Ocie Seer Nominated.

The convention to nominate a candidate for Associate Justice of this Supreme Judicial District was held at Henrietta last Friday and Hon. Ocie Seer of Bowie was nominated by acclamation.

The convention of the 29th Senatorial District was also held there. Resolutions were adopted to abolish the absolute lease system, and to make the open season for crossing the quarantine line extend from December 1st to February 1st.

THE DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION

Declares Its Faith in the Principles Set Forth in the Kansas City Platform.

BROAD POLICY TOWARD CAPITAL

Short Term Convicts on the Public Roads. Uniform Primaries. Opposition to Trusts. The Ticket.

Governor—S. W. T. Lanham.
Lieutenant Governor—George D. Neal.
Attorney General—C. K. Bell.
Comptroller—R. M. Love.
Treasurer—John W. Robbins.
Land Commissioner—J. J. Terrell.
State Superintendent—Arthur Lefevre.
Railroad Commissioner—O. B. Colquitt.
Associate Justice of Supreme Court—F. A. Williams.
Presiding Judge Court of Criminal Appeals—W. S. Davidson.
State Chairman—J. B. Wells.

Following is an outline of the platform adopted:

1. A declaration of faith in the principles set forth in the Kansas City platform.
2. "We commend our Senators and Representatives in Congress for their efforts in behalf of tariff reform, of a canal connecting waters of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the election of United States Senators by a direct vote of the people, the securing of appropriations for the improvement of our harbors, waterways," etc.
3. The State administration is commended.
4. "We favor proper legislation regarding improvement of our county roads and we demand that the Legislature pass laws under which a comprehensive system of public roads may be had at the smallest expense to the people."
5. Demand the employment, as far as practicable, of short term convicts on public roads.
6. "We favor the continuance of our present policy regarding our eleemosynary institutions, so that they may continue to provide for all helpless wards of our State."
7. "We favor the substantial re-enactment by the next Legislature of the present textbook law which will expire by its own terms in 1903, with such provisions as will prevent unnecessary changes in the textbooks now in the hands of the children attending the public schools."
8. "Recognizing public intelligence as the best safeguard of social order, and considering the present prosperity and increasing wealth of our State, we make a special demand upon the 28th Legislature to deal generously with all State educational institutions, * * * and generally to promote the cause of education in Texas to the end that its institutions of learning may rank with the best in the land," etc.
9. "We request the Legislature to provide for the establishment of a textile school as a department of industrial education in the A. & M. College."
10. "We favor a broad and enlightened policy toward capital and corporations doing business within our State and toward those desiring to enter our State for the purpose of developing its

great natural resources and for the protection of such, as well as for the protection of all of our people, without regard to condition; we declare our opposition to trusts, mergers and other combinations for the restriction of trade, and demand that the next Legislature shall pass a law or amend our present laws so that it will be impossible for such corporations to do business in Texas."

11. Favors the passage of a well considered riparian law.
12. "We favor the submission of a constitutional amendment authorizing the charter of State banks of discount and deposit under restrictions and regulations for the protection of stockholders and depositors, similar to those governing national banks."
13. "We demand the enactment of a law prohibiting the employment of children under 12 years of age in factories using machinery."
14. "We most heartily endorse and approve the purpose and labors of the Texas World's Fair Commission," etc.
15. "We recommend that the Legislature shall pass such laws as in its judgement would prevent the evils of the issuance of free passes by railroad companies."
16. "While we do not believe in life tenure of office, yet we recognize that the dismissal of subordinates without cause, especially to make room for relatives or political adherents, is detrimental to the public service and contrary to sound public policy, and we recommend legislation for the correction of such evils."
17. "We demand the passage of a law which will regulate our primaries for the nomination of national, State and district officials, so that such nominations of national, State and district shall be invalid if not held on the same day in every county in our State, and recommend all necessary amendments to our present laws that may be necessary to protect the fairness and purity of such primary elections or primary conventions and proper punishment for illegal voting or corrupt practices."
18. "We unqualifiedly advocate and declare for uniform primaries to be held throughout the State for the nomination of State and district officers, the counties to hold same by primary elections or primary conventions, as they prefer, provided they are held upon the same day. To secure this result we hereby instruct the State Democratic executive committee to call said primaries for the next general election upon the second Saturday in July, 1904, and in making the call for the State convention following said primaries, the chairman of the state executive committee shall in his call state that the delegation from any county not holding their primary on said date will be denied participation in the organization of the State convention, and the State executive committee shall enforce this provision."
19. "We endorse and applaud the action of the last Legislature in remitting taxes due the State from the County of Galveston, and favor the further remission of said taxes for an additional period of fifteen years to the end that Texas may do her part in the unbuilding of a great seaport," etc.
20. "We believe that a platform pledge is a covenant with the people, and therefore we declare it to be the highest duty of

Second-Hand Store and New Tin Shop.

Patronize home industry, and buy your Tinware, Well Casing, Well Buckets, Gut-tering, 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 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. Brisk 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

every Democratic nominee to earnestly support and to urge the fulfillment of each promise set forth herein."

Liquor Men Alarmed.

The liquor men are becoming alarmed, as shown by the following from the Dallas Times-Herald:

The liquor dealers of Texas wholesale and retail, the distillers and their representatives, and the brewery men and their agents are evidencing more alarm over the inroads being made by the local optionists and the prohibitionists than they have shown since the struggle of 1887. The march of the prohibition movement has really frightened them and they have begun to organize against it. With over sixty counties of the State, many of them important ones, under the complete control of the prohibitionists, and over one hundred counties containing precincts where local option prevails, it is time, the liquor men say, to begin the battle that has been imminent for years.

The greatest feed crop in the history of the country will be gathered this fall. The crop is immense, and the beauty of it is, it is already made. Scarcity of feed will not be known the next year, at least.

Now watch grass and age crops grow. They v like magic.

If a Man Lie to You,

And say some other salve, ointment, lotion, oil or alleged healer is as good as Bucklen's Arnica Salve, tell him thirty years of marvelous cures of piles, burns, boils, corns, felons, cuts, ulcers, scalds, bruises and skin eruptions prove it's the best and cheapest. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

W. T. Cordill returned Sunday from an extended visit in Arizona.

12 1-lb. bars Laundry Soap for 25c at Chenault & Hand's. tf

Merkel People at Roscoe.

W. E. Woodard was in town today.

J. S. Cordill spent several days in Stanton this week on business.

Miss Mittye Walker spent this week in Merkel visiting the Misses Martin.

Mrs. J. C. Perkins went to Merkel Monday to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. Martin.

Mr. Sparian Woodard, of Nubia is a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wright this week.

S. L. Ensminger returned home from Stanton Saturday night where he has been seeing after his business.

After spending several days in Roscoe visiting his parents John Childress resumed his position as night telegraph operator at Merkel last Wednesday night.—Roscoe Herald.

Dr. Smith, specialist of Weatherford, was in the city Saturday.

J. H. Counts returned from his ranch in Crosby county last Thursday. Good rains have fallen in some parts of the country, he says, while others are still dry. Stock are doing well up there, everything considered.

The recent rains demonstrate to the minds of everyone the need of good roads in Taylor county. With such rains during the season the roads would be impassible. Let the business men think over this proposition.

Texas & Pacific Wreck.

The delay of the west bound Texas & Pacific passenger train, Saturday morning, was due to a serious wreck five miles this side of Mineola, due to a bridge giving away. About 27 people were injured, two of whom died, and a few others are perhaps fatally hurt. All the cars fell a distance of thirty feet and all were demolished except the sleeper, which was unhurt.

Antis Get an Injunction.

Judge N. R. Lindsey last week issued a temporary injunction restraining County Judge Hill from declaring the result of the prohibition election held in this county June 7.

The trial has not yet been set, but it is safe to say that it will be put off to the extreme limit. In the meantime, the pros are not idle and will be prepared to meet every charge of the opposing forces.

The little baby girl born to Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Berry, Tuesday of last week, notice of which was unintentionally omitted from last issue, was laid to rest in the City Cemetery the following day. The Round-up joins their many friends in extending sympathy to the bereaved parents. Mrs. Berry is doing nicely.—Cisco Herald.

Dr. Leeman, specialist of Abilene, returned Friday from a month's trip over the Plains country. They report an enjoyable time.

JULY CLEAN-UP SALE

ON

WASH SKIRTS and SLIPPERS

You will be on the Safe Side of Satisfaction if you take advantage of this sale

The season is advancing, and we want to be relieved of all summer goods on hand :-: :-: :-:

Note the Savings Offered:

WASH SKIRTS.

- No. 1040. Fancy Suiting, assorted colors, were \$1.75, now.....\$1.35
- No. 1014. Duck, solid colors, were \$1.50, now..... 1.15
- No. 1026. Fancy Covert, nicely trimmed, were \$1.75, now..... 1.35
- No. 1025. Good quality Crash, elegantly trimmed, were \$2.00, now..... 1.60
- No. 1023. Crash, braid trimming, were \$1.50, now..... 1.15
- No. 1036. Linen, open work trimming, were \$2.00, now..... 1.60

SLIPPERS and SANDALS.

- American Lady, Patent Leather, were \$2.50, now only.....\$2.15
- Isla, Patent Leather Sandals, were \$2.00, now only..... 1.50
- Children's Patent Leather, 6s to 8s, were 85c, now only..... 70c
- " " " 8s to 12s, were \$1.00, now only..... 80c
- " " " 13s to 2s, were \$1.25, now only..... 95c

Try a pair of our gents Patent Leather Colt Skin Shoes, worth \$5.00 at..... 3.00

If you don't know shoes, you have to depend upon the reputation of the shoe. We carry Hamilton & Brown's.

J. T. Warren.

DR. E. B. GILBERT

— SPECIALIST —

PRACTICE LIMITED TO THE EYE, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.
At Horner's Drug Store, Merkel, every Monday.

Cures Sciatica.

Rev. W. L. Riley, L. L. D., Cuba, N. Y., writes: "After fifteen days of excruciating pain from sciatic rheumatism, under various treatment, I was induced to try Ballard's Snow Liniment, the first application giving my first relief, and the second, entire relief. I can give it unqualified recommendation. 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

Joe Large, a Stonewall county stockman, was in the city Saturday.

New Meat Market.

We have opened a meat market on the south side and will keep only the best of fresh meats. Give us a trial order. Also handle cold drinks.

J. W. & L. M. Watkins.
Phone 39.

Dr. Leeman and family returned Friday from a month's trip over the Plains country. They report an enjoyable time.

The Mulberry bridges, both railroad and public, were threatened by the floods of this week, the water being nearly to the top. These bridges are to be fixed after every rain, especially the dirt bridge, and it seems funny that it is not torn away and a good bridge erected in its place. Taylor county is deficient in the matter of bridges, anyway; there is not a first-class bridge in the county.

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.

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.

For Sale—Two good lots, desirable location, fenced, a well. Must go quick. Enquire at this office.

Remember us at the Sheppard old stand.
tf Chenault & Hand.

Mrs. R. J. Reed was quite painfully injured at Abilene last week. She was driving along the street, when a base ball bat in the hands of a reckless boy glanced and struck her, inflicting a painful wound.

The installation of officers took place at the Masonic lodge Saturday night.

Summer complaint is unusually prevalent among children this season. A well developed case in the writer's family was cured last week by the timely use of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy,—one of the best patent medicines manufactures and which is always kept on hand by ye scribe. This is not intended as a free puff for the company, who do not advertise with us, but to benefit little sufferers who may not be within easy access of a physician. No family should be without a bottle of this medicine in the house, especially in summer-time.—Lansing, Iowa, Journal. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Taylor County Tax Rolls.

The following communication from Abilene is taken from the Dallas News:

The tax rolls for Taylor County have been completed for 1902 and show an increase in assessed valuation over last year of \$156,457. Of this amount the city of Abilene has increased \$78,115. The rolls also show that cattle are on the increase, while horses and mules have decreased. This state of affairs is brought about by the extensive purchase of horses and mules in this portion of the State by the British Government.

There is another feature shown that is a lesson within itself, and it is of the relative valuation of hogs as compared with dogs. There are nine dogs valued at \$105, or \$11.66 each, there are 265 hogs that are rendered for \$549, or \$2.03 each.

19 lbs. of sugar for \$1.00 at Chenault & Hand's. tf

NOTICE.

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

tf Barnhill & Wife.

Mrs. Railsback, an estimable lady of the Caps community, died last Thursday, the remains being entered at that place.

Need More Help.

Often the overtaxed organs of digestion cry out for help by dyspepsia's pains, nausea, dizziness, headaches, liver complaints, bowel disorders. Such troubles call for prompt use of Dr. King's New Life Pills. They are gentle, thorough and guaranteed to cure. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Geo. S. Berry and Oscar Wilson went out to the Robertson ranch Monday to assist in rounding up the pasture.

NOTICE.

No more fishing or hunting allowed in my pastures.

Parties who have had permission, please consider cancelled.
tf Resp't., J. T. Warren.

Mrs. C. D. Spann and three children, wife of District Attorney Spann of Eastland, are visiting Mrs. W. H. McCord.

Merkel Camp No. 719, W.O.W.—meets every second and fourth Saturday night in each month at the I. O. O. F. Hall.

G. E. Comegys, C. C.
John Elliott, Clerk.

R. B. Grider is rejoicing over the birth of twin girls at his home, south of town, Tuesday.

Elliott & Miller are selling wind mills and pumps and water supply goods at prices that make their customers smile and competitors turn pale. 4t

Arthur Wiman writes from Fort Worth for The Mail. He is doing well, he says, which will be good news to his many friends here.

Posted.

Owing to the danger of fire, I have been forced to post my pasture, north of town, and, for the time being, must deny all the right of hunting and fishing therein. Please bear this in mind.

C. P. Warren.

The railroad track in the vicinity of Tebo was covered with water for a distance of three miles, the rain almost amounting to a waterspout in many places, Tuesday morning.

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

W. P. Browning & Co.

N. J. Rawlins sent the Banner a letter written by one of his brothers forty years ago, during the war. It was written one evening and the writer was killed in battle the next morning. The blood-stained letter bears evidence of the fearful conflict through which it passed. We would have been very glad to have published it, but the blood stains and time have dimmed it until it can't all be read.—Roby Banner.

Cash paid for eggs at Chenault & hand's. tf

Prof. O. F. Chastain and family are now living at Thurber.

Good Sorghum Molasses 35c per gallon at Chenault & Hand's. tf

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Calvert entertained the young people Thursday evening. tf

... 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 NEWS

WEEKLY BUDGET OF HAPPENINGS THROUGH THE COUNTY...

NUBIA.

(Delayed from last week.)

There was a candy breaking given at Oscar Walker's in honor of Sam Toombs. A large crowd attended and report a nice time.

T. J. Walker went to Dora Sunday to attend the meeting.

Misses Cattie and Rhoda Leslie were in Nubia Saturday.

Mr. Hurley Toombs and Miss Dovie Perry were married Sunday, at 2 o'clock, at the residence of the bride's parents. May joy and happiness go with them through life.

Miss Madie Perry of the Divide is visiting Miss Allie Perry.

Sam Toombs and Miss Lizzie Blackburn went to the Divide Sunday to attend church.

T. J. Toombs is reported no better.

J. M. Blackburn and wife, Oscar Walker and wife, Eugene Strickland and sisters, Sallie and Bettie, went fishing Friday.

J. R. and Jim Toombs went to Merkel Tuesday.

Rosebud.

Press Pleasantries.

"Backward, turn backward, oh, time, in thy flight; feed me on gruel again just for tonight. I am so weary of sole leather steak, petrified doughnuts and vulcanized cake; oysters that slept in a watery bath, butter as strong as Goliath of Gath. Weary of prayer for what I don't eat, chewing up rubber and calling it meat. Backward, turn backward, for weary I am; give me a whack at my grandmother's jam; let me drink milk that has never been skimmed, let me eat butter whose hair has been trimmed. Let me once more have an old-fashioned pie, and then I'll be ready to turn up and die."

"Our heart swells up with gratitude and our voice is choked with emotion, like a muley cow with a turnip in her throat. The world is after all a happy one, and as we gaze from the window of our editorial monastery at the sun-kissed landscape, sweet visions of milk and honey, mocking birds and molasses, brick cheese and ambrosial nectar dance before our astonished visions like a calf before a circus procession. Last Monday one of our subscribers came in and paid

in cold cash and in cold blood, three years arrearage and one year in advance."

The girl who expressed so much sympathy for the poor farmer because of his cold job in harvesting his winter wheat, is equal in agricultural knowledge to the one who expressed a desire to see a field of tobacco when it was plugging out. But the damsel who asked which cow gave the buttermilk is entitled to the whole bakery. And a girl on her return from her visit to the country who was asked if she ever saw anyone milk a cow, replied: "Oh, yes, indeed I have; it just tickled me to death to see uncle jerk two of the cow's faucets at the same time."

We are dismayed by the action of a jury who recently decided that a hug was worth only a cent. Besides the fact that it was a lie it is an awful cheapening of a valuable asset. Just think of it! One hundred for a dollar. A man could go out this beautiful bright weather and hug his collar bones loose for fifty cents. Everybody knows that a hug is worth more than a cent. Most of us would willingly pay as high as a dime. But now here comes a jury and awards a woman who has been hugged one cent. If this is fixed by law as the ruling price there won't be any other work done this year.

An editor dreamed he went to heaven and while looking at the rights and soliciting "ads," saw a man chained and asked St. Peter if they punished people in heaven. St. Peter replied: "Well no; only we have to tie Texans here to keep them from going back."

A Texas editor has found a few unused sorts in the cap case. Here is the result: "The of our girls are small, tapering and beautifully shaped; their iii are as brilliant as ***; they are without || in this or any other \$; their frowns are like +++; their 12345 excite !!! of pleasure. Read this closely; do not ? its readability, and try to ~ the situation."

A colored brother at Austin was expounding the gospel to his

little flock and after vividly describing the place of the damned, concluded his discourses as follows: "Bretherin, sisterin as it has been asked how hot is hell and I would say dat ef ye tuck all de muskeet wood in Texas an all de coal in de world an pile dem all in one heap an pore un all de ile in Berumont an set it on fire an den take a man out of hell and put him into that burning mass he would freeze to death. Dats how hot hell is."

This morning our wife informed us that she was out of money, says an Indiana editor. We were naturally surprised for on January 17 we gave her a \$2 bill to be used for nothing except groceries, meat, milk, wood, soft soap, face powder and other luxuries. Getting rich is the hardest job we ever tackled, anyway.

Add to Phone List.

Johnson, T. A. res.8
Little, Dr. J. W. office,76
Phillips, T. W. res.4
Watkins Meat Market39
Williams, H. C. res.12

A GLORIOUS RAIN.

The Past Week's Fall Has Been Enormous.

Rain began falling here Friday night, and up to the time of going to press (Thursday morning), is still raining, and perhaps the precipitation will amount to 14 inches all told. Another such rain, or series of rains, protracted and contracted, have never before been known during the month of July. The past two months of dry windy weather has been a great drawback to farming interests; the corn crop is a complete failure, while cotton has suffered to a great extent, but the latter crop has plenty of time in which to mature and yet make a good yield. Cane, milo moize and kaffir corn are made without further rain. Grass, which had begun to burn during the protracted drouth, has livened up, and now gives promise of a fine growth.

Altogether the outlook for good crops is very bright. A fine season—in fact, the best for over a year—is now in the ground, and the moisture is sufficient to mature all crops.

When it is considered that the precipitation the past week has almost reached the average yearly fall during the past ten years, some idea of the amount of water on the ground can be gleaned. The streets are in an almost

Old hunters say The MARLIN

has so many things to commend it. The top of the action is always closed, the mechanism the most simple, the finish elegant, the form attractive. It seems to throw its bullets a little more accurately and plant them with a little more force than any other rifle. For deer take a 38-55 or 30-30. 120-page catalog, 300 illustrations, colored cover by Remington, for 3 stamps.

MARLIN FIRE ARMS CO. NEW HAVEN, CONN.



impassible condition and resemble young rivers. There is not a bridge or culvert left in the town, and very few in the country. The town is practically isolated, no mail from any direction having come in since Monday night. Both trains are delayed, as well as the stages from inland towns. West and east, north and south, heavy rains have fallen. At Odessa on the west the railroad track is said to be 18 or 20 feet under water and many washouts are reported, while on the east similar reports have come in.

The rain was glorious, but not destructive. Appearances indicate that it will be protracted indefinitely.

The Dust Mulch Process.

C. L. Boynton of Comanche county kept 25 acres of native corn green and growing this summer, while that of his neighbors were burned up by the drouth and hot winds. In an interview he said:

"This corn was planted about the 12th to 20th of March in the ordinary way and was plowed out three times, the last time just before the rain on the 18th of May. It had one other rain about the 5th of May. The entire cultivation was very shallow as I realized that I had no bottom season and it was very necessary to keep what little there was. The 18th of May rain was a very good one and I feared it would be the last one, so I began the Dust Mulch process. It has proven such a decided success that I wish every farmer would try it.

What is the Dust Mulch process? Nothing but keeping the surface of the ground evenly covered with a coating of dry earth finely pulverized. It is not expensive. It will not cost over 25c per acre. The way I do is

using what I call a float, which is a simple contrivance that does the work in a most effectual manner. Take two pieces of 4x4 timber five feet long, put them together like a capital A with three or four 1x3 pieces nailed on the bottom, a clevice on top at the front. It should be about six inches less at the widest part than the rows. Load it with rocks, or better, fix a box as a seat and let some of the kids drive back and forth between the rows. This crushes and pulverizes the surface, closes all cracks, covers the whole surface with an even coating of dust that effectually keeps the moisture down and the earth cool.

"Now it is a fact that just as long as the earth is cool the corn will not burn up by the hot winds or dry weather. It will keep moist almost indefinitely if you will keep the hot sun and winds from it by the Dust Mulch process. Place a few ashes on the lid of a skillet and all the fire you can make will not burn dry earth on the surface and the sun will never heat it. It will remain moist and cool, keeping the corn in good condition through a long drouth. My corn under this treatment kept green and was making a fair crop in spite of a 40 days drouth. The rain on the 28th will push it to a splendid crop. I would say that the float was used three different times—often enough to close all cracks in the soil and keep the mulch evenly spread.

The Boss Worm Medicine.

H. P. Kumpe, druggist, Leighton, Ala., writes: "One of my customers had a child, which was sick, and threw up all food, could retain nothing on its stomach. He bought one bottle of White's Cream Vermifuge, a it brought up 119 worms from the child. It's the boss worm medicine in the world." White's Cream Vermifuge is also the Children's tonic. It improves their digestion and assimilation of food, strengthens their nervous system and restores them to the health, vigor and elasticity of spirits natural to childhood. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Mrs. W. S. Maddox and son, John, of Lawn, Taylor county, are visiting Lee Maddox and family this week. John says they had four good rains, in as many days, since Saturday, the fields are too wet to work and the crops are looking like Ballinger Ledger.

...the Perfect Liver Medicine.

rs. M. A. Jolley, Noble, O. writes: "I have used Her- ne for a number of years, and can cheerfully recommend it as the most perfect liver medicine, and the greatest blood purifier. It is a medicine of positive merit, and fully accomplishes all that is claimed for it." Malaria cannot find a lodgement in the system while the liver is in perfect order, for one of its functions is to prevent the absorption of fever producing poisons. Heraine is a most efficient liver regulator. 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

How McCombs Got Promoted.

A correspondent who signs himself William Cannon contributes the following rather unnatural tale to a Philadelphia paper: "It was while an American fleet was lying in a harbor in the Mediterranean sea that Head Gunner McCombs, of the League Island navy yard, won the high honor of gunner. There were also a German, a Russian and a British fleet in the same harbor. The captain of a British cruiser made a remark while ashore among a crowd of sailors and officers that he had a sailor on board that could lick any man on the Yankee ships. The American admiral heard of it, and he accepted the challenge for a Yankee tar. McCombs' name was put before him, and he was sent. Just before he left the admiral said, "If you lick him I will have you promoted to a gunner." McCombs beat the Englishman to a jelly in a very short time, and sure enough, he was promoted to a gunner."

The Vanity of Little Men.

"Little men," said a shoemaker yesterday, "are generally conceited, and yet they are sensitive on the point of their height. I have quite a number of them among my regular customers, and almost to a man they demand high heels on their shoes, under the misapprehension that it makes them taller. Actors who are short of stature often resort to this, and on the stage it really does have some effect, probably because the spectator is not on with the people on the stage. But with the ordinary individual the effort is wasted. Of course, I don't tell my customers this, and it wouldn't have any effect on them if I did, for the illusion is very deep-rooted. In reality the only difference that high heels make is to pitch the body lightly forward without really affecting the height."

Cranks Drive Burke From Home.

Cranks have bothered John Mason Burke, the man who gave \$20,000 to charity last week, to such an extent that the aged benefactor has been compelled to leave his home in Forty-seventh street and move to Nantucket, Mass. Before he left it became necessary to ask Captain Titus to detail detectives to guard the house. Among those asking his assistance were a man who decided to borrow \$25,000 and a woman who wanted \$10,000. Mr. Burke is nearly 90 years old, so rest is imperative.

A Highbinder His Servant.

Governor Gage, of California, has roused a storm of disapproval by securing the parole from San Quentin prison of Mah Noon, one of the most desperate and blood-thirsty highbinders ever caught and hanged. Mah is a fine cook, and the governor has installed him as chef in his own home. The Chinaman was sentenced not long ago, fourteen years for attempting to order another Celestial. He also shot and dangerously wounded an officer who went to arrest him. The fellow republicans are

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Glassware
Tinware
Graniteware
Crockeryware
Etc. Etc.

MERKEL,
TEXAS.

W. H. DICKSON.

Couldn't Identify It.

The following little scene at an inquest upon the body of a murdered man is reported by a correspondent of "The Anglo-Russian" from Astrakhan: The coroner dictating to his clerk: "On the table was found a bottle . . . No; stop for a moment; we must ascertain its contents." The coroner, tasting the liquid, dictates: "The bottle contained English gin . . . perhaps not, I am not sure; taste it yourself. The clerk, having done so, replies: "I think it is simply strong vodka." The coroner, tossing off another glass: "No, really, it tastes like gin." The clerk, tasting the liquor again: "I still think it is only vodka." The bottle having gradually become empty, the coroner proceeded to dictate in a decisive tone. "Write: An empty bottle was found on the table and all measures taken to ascertain what it contained were of no use."

Went Him One Better.

No day passes in Washington without giving gossips a new story about President Roosevelt. One of the latest tells that immediately after Senator Fairbanks rushed into the senate with the resolution appropriating \$100,000 for the relief of Martinique sufferers some one called the president up on the telephone and told him what had been done. That same afternoon Mr. Roosevelt sent a message recommending that \$500,000 be appropriated. "The \$100,000 would have been enough, but, you know," said one member of congress, "Fairbanks has been talked of as a candidate for the presidential nomination."

Tennis Regaining Its Popularity.

The introduction of ping-pong has brought on a boom in lawn tennis. For a year or two past, tennis has been in the background, put there by the more popular golf and cycling. With the increasing popularity of these two games, tennis receded until it was so far out of sight as to be considered almost entirely out of the category of popular games. By participating in the indoor game of ping-pong people who never knew the game of tennis before have developed an interest in it, and now, as they take their departure for the country, they wish to continue the delight of the game by playing out of doors. Manufacturers of sporting goods report increased sales in tennis goods, and the tennis courts of the city parks are filled on every bright day with enthusiasts, while crowds stand around waiting for a chance to play.

Discoverer of Cripple Creek.

"Bob" Womack, who discovered the riches of Cripple Creek, Colo., but who never profited by what he learned regarding the wealth concealed there, is working as a day laborer in Colorado Springs. He was invited to spend Fourth of July at the great gold camp, near which he lingered until his old-time herding ground had yielded nearly \$100,000,000 to the men whom he induced to investigate his find in the winter of 1890-91.

An Over-Zealous Official.

Two printed forms, valued at one farthing, were lost recently at Baku on the Trans-Caucasian railway, and the station master had telegrams sent to every station in the Russian empire to ask if they had been seen anywhere. The company has since had to pay telegraph charges amounting to nearly \$10,000, and the over-zealous official is now out of employment.

Millions in Popcorn.

The retailing of popcorn doesn't look like an especially dignified or promising commercial enterprise, but that there is big money in popcorn, if you can only sell enough of it, is proved by the experience of the Humphry family, of Cleveland. In 1891 the Humphreys, four of them, were worth \$25,000 less than nothing. They managed to secure the small capital necessary to start them in the popcorn business on a hand basket bases. At first they didn't sell much popcorn but they managed to keep alive and stuck to popcorn. Today they are worth something like a million dollars out of popcorn.

Anti-Osculation Society.

Some time ago Professor Crook, of the Northwestern University, astonished the public with the declaration that he did not believe in kissing, and never indulged in it. Now some sixteen Northwestern students have formed the Anti-Osculation Society, and elected Professor Crook an honorary member. Their pledge starts out with the words "Realizing that kissing is very demoralizing and detrimental, but still delicious," etc.

Hill Reads His Speeches.

It has been noticed that for a year or so David B. Hill on the occasion of his public appearances has always read his speeches, doing so, however, with such a show of off-hand speaking that it is difficult to realize the fact. Mr. Hill, it is explained by one of his intimates, of late has been a busy man, and cannot afford the time to commit his speeches to memory.

Egyptian Cotton in Texas.

Egyptian cotton is being introduced in Texas, and promises to revolutionize the cotton industry of the South. It is much more desirable than the cotton raised in the United States now, and is even better than the sea island cotton. The Egyptian cotton has much longer fiber than other cottons, and its seed can be removed so easily that it is not necessary to cut up the cotton in ginning it.

Governor Odell and His Hat.

Governor Odell, of New York, says the best way to wear a silk hat is to carry it in a grip. He is having a dress suit case made with a compartment for his "stove-pipe," so that he needn't wear it when he's off duty nor carry an extra hat box.

Novel Education for Indians.

Charles F. Lummis, the author, who is intensely interested in the Indian race, always has two Indian children at his home near Los Angeles, Cal. He chooses two children from one of the neighboring tribes, keeps them for a year, and then exchanges them for other children. He contends that the little Indians will learn more in one year of family life in a civilized home than in many years of attending school and living among their own people.

Men Outnumber Women.

In all but eleven of the fifty-two States and Territories the male outnumbers the female population. The eleven States are along the Atlantic seaboard. California contains the greatest excess of men, the recorded number being 156,000; Minnesota comes second, with 113,586; Texas third, with 109,000, and Pennsylvania fourth with 106,007.

Tree in a Coal Mine.

In a coal mine in Derbyshire, England, has been found the trunk of a tree in a vertical position. This is an extremely rare discovery. The tree is 1,500 feet below the surface of the earth. On one side of the trunk, which is 2 feet 7 inches in diameter, is clearly shown the impression of a climbing vine.

Tennessee's Pensioners.

Tennessee now has 1,445 names on its state pension roll of old soldiers, and the total amount paid to them in the last year was \$149,220. No more names can be added unless the legislature increases the appropriation. The pensioners are divided into three classes—the first receive \$300 a year each, the second \$200 and the third \$100.

Zade Polk and Burrell Wheeler are visiting at Baird.

Heredity of Crime.

A mere boy was jailed at Brenham last week for burglary. His family history furnishes strong proof of the doctrine of heredity. In 1894 a man was convicted of theft in the district court of Washington county and given a sentence at penal servitude in the penitentiary at Huntsville. It was developed on the trial of the cases that he was a born thief and had been playing his trade systematically in Brenham for years. This man's family consisted of his wife and three sons, the boys all of tender age. Two years later the oldest, who had attained the age of 12, was convicted of burglary and sent to the reformatory at Gatesville. His offenses were numerous.

Some years later the second son was convicted of burglary and sentenced to the penitentiary. The youngest and last of these sons, a boy of perhaps 10 or 11 years, has been caught in the act of robbing a store and jailed. Investigation shows that he had quite an assortment of keys in his possession, and had been at the business for some time.

It is seen that the dishonest proclivities of the father were transmitted to every one of his sons, and for transgressing the law in the same way, they have suffered the same penalty.—Ex.

An Epitaph for Morgan.

A member of parliament is said to be circulating about the London clubs a typewritten copy of an epitaph, which he solemnly declares is intended for John Pierpont Morgan, and should be taken by him as a warning not to push his world grabbing enterprise too far. The epitaph is as follows:

"Here lies his head at last upon his earth;

He now belongs to what he made his own;

He bought the world for what he thought it worth,

And God once more is running things alone."

William Doesn't Like Wagner.

His versatile and irrepressible majesty, Emperor William II., has been fulminating again. This time it is one of the idols of his own nation, the late Richard Wagner, who has incurred the royal disaffection. The emperor has been attending some opera performances at Wiesbaden, and it is reported that he delivered himself thus weightily in comment thereon: "Wagner," affirms his majesty, "I do not like; he is too noisy for me; indeed, the simple and withal so wonderful music of Gluck is more to my liking."

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Phone the news to No. 31.

A Russian Heart Breaker.

Female society is all broken up
over the untimely end of Prince
Lordkipinidse, the gayest dancer
and most reckless heartbreaker in
St. Petersburg's winter season for
many years. His highness died in
Tiflis at the hands of the czar's ex-
ecutioner, who deftly strangled him
with the aid of a silken chord be-
tween the head and shoulders, for,
when not making love in the cap-
ital, the prince followed the trade
of the lamented Jesse James, he
was sentenced to death for holding
up thirty-seven coaches in the Cau-
casus and shooting a dozen or more
of his victims, all men. "To the
ladies he was lovely," says the re-
ports of his trial. Many women
testified that he treated them to
to candy, tea and fruit after taking
their valuables. "And he was as
gallantly dressed as Fra Diavolo in
the opera," said another enthusi-
astic witness, "and shot dead in my
presence one of his band who had
frightened my children for fun."

Forgot the Lighthouse Keepers

The lighthouse keepers on Percy
island off the coast of Queensland,
in 1900, were "forgotten" for
months by the government authori-
ties. The food supply of Percy Isl-
and is supposed to be delivered once
a quarter, but no food arrived at the
island after the first week in June
until a British sloop chanced to pass
in October. The islanders, twenty
in number, were delirious from lack
of food, managed to hail the vessel,
which left behind an ample supply
of provisions and reminded the
Queensland government of the
lighthouse men whose existence it
had forgotten.

Aping King Edward in New York.

Since it became known that
King Edward VII. has been in the
habit of taking a pint of cham-
pagne at breakfast some of the
younger swells of New York have
tried it, too. Before that, though,
many of these young men were ac-
customed to sip a pint of sauterne
at breakfast. They considered that
a mild "hair." Champagne is more
of a "horse hair."

Vast Gold Content of South Africa.

It is estimated that for every mile
in length along the course of the
reefs, down to a vertical depth of
1,000 feet for the dip of these reefs,
gold to the value of about \$50,000,-
000 will be extracted. This is a
conservative estimate at least as ap-
plied to the central section of the
Rand. If we assume these condi-
tions to obtain to a depth of 6,000
feet vertically, we have the enor-
mous sum of \$300,000,000 for each
mile in length. It is not unreason-
able to suppose that these conditions
will be maintained along most of
the central section, say for a dis-
tance of ten miles, in which case
we would have an auriferous area,
within practicable mining depths,
containing upward of \$3,000,000,-
000 value of gold.

A Military Stamp Fiend.

One of the most persistent stamp
collectors in the ranks of philately
is an expert and dashing fighter in
the United States army, Captain
Joseph M. T. Partello, Fifth in-
fantry, military governor of the
province of Abra' Luzon. The cap-
tain has just started on his return to
Luzon after a short visit to his
home in Washington. His collec-
tion contains over 40,000 stamps,
and as he had not seen it in four
years, the interest with which he
pored over the books was intense—
amounting almost to a neglect of
spousal and parental duties. His
daughter accompanies him back to
the Philippines. In his sojourn
there since 1898 he did not miss his
opportunities to pick up a few Ma-
labon issues from the insectos, and
these considerably enhance the
value of his collection.

General Eagan's "Duel."

The Arizonian and Mexican min-
er whom General Charles Patrick
Eagan, of "embalmed beef" fame,
challenged to fight at Guaymas, a
month ago, is visiting New York
City, and relates the story of the
duel that never came off. It seems
that Eagan and Colonel Harlow
both want the same tract of coal
land in the State of Guaymas, and
each of them has had his turn in
driving off the other's men from the
claim. Harlow was in possession
when he met Eagan at a Guaymas
hotel, and when he spoke politely,
and the general wanted to know
who the devil he was, he shook his
fist under Eagan's nose, with the
remark: "I'm not the embalmed
beef hero." General Eagan liked
this no better than he liked Gen-
eral Miles' opinion of the beef, and
sent a challenge. The thing went
so far that each party secured his
second, Eagan's being a Mexican
judge and Colonel Harlow's Unit-
ed States Consul Crocker, who re-
signed his position by telegraph in
order to serve. Harlow chose shot-
guns at twenty feet, but that did
not suit General Eagan, and he re-
fused to fight. After that, Colonel
Harlow, dining with friends, in an
impulse of hilarity turned challeng-
er, and told General Eagan he
might use a thirteen-inch gun, but
as for himself Harlow would be
content with a can of embalmed
beef. To conclude, the Arizonian
says that "to be perfectly honest, I
am ashamed of the whole transac-
tion."

The Lazy Brazilian Native.

United States Counsel Furniss,
of Surgipe, Brazil, says of the shift-
less native Brazilian: "He need not
own land, as he can put up his mud
hut anywhere; he has an abundance
of fruit, such as the banana, paca,
caju; the tidal rivers are full of fish,
shrimp, crabs and oysters, and the
woods abound with game. He can
raise his small patch of manioc, and
as it is never cold enough for a fire,
he works only when there is need of
money to purchase articles which
he does not produce. I have been
shown fields full of cotton and other
products which were going to
waste because of the proprietor's in-
ability to induce the laborers to
harvest them. One would think that
laborers living on a farm would be
compelled to work for the proprie-
tor, but that does not seem to be
the case here, as, in spite of the fact
that in most cases they pay no rent,
they will either refuse to work at
all or will work only a few days at
a time; yet they are allowed to re-
main upon the land preempted."

The Biggest Money Lender.

Howard Philip Frothingham, of
No. 2 Wall street, according to the
New York Press, has lent more
money than any other man that ever
lived, and, without being a usurer
in the legal sense has gotten big-
ger interest than all the Shylocks
of history. Representing as he
does the leading banks and trust
companies on the floor of the Ex-
change, it is no uncommon thing
for him to lend in times of money
stringency, from \$1,000,000 to \$20,-
000,000 a day at prices ranging
from 3 to 180 per cent. On these
loans he receives a handsome com-
mission, and is today one of the
richest brokers in the street. He
has been noted long for the per-
fection of his dress and the urban-
ity of his manners. In Morris and
Sussex counties New Jersey, he is
regarded with respect and rever-
ence for his ercive in the protection
of fish and game and in the im-
provement of country roads. The
splendid turnpike from Mount Ar-
lington to the Lake Hopatcong he
built with his own money and pre-
sented to the people. His home, I
understand, is the old Dunlap place,
at Mount Arlington.

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 lessened 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?
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Black powder; "Leader" and "Repeater," loaded
with Smokeless. Insist upon having Winchester
Factory Loaded Shells, and accept no others.
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