

# THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, SEPTEMBER 11, 1902.

NO. 30.

## •New Goods! New Goods•

### WE Are Now Receiving...

Our Fall and Winter Goods, and will show a complete assortment of well selected merchandise, which we purpose selling at rock bottom prices. We cordially invite you to call and examine our goods; no trouble to show them; that's what we are here for. Bring your cotton to Merkel (we pay the highest market price for cotton), then give us a chance to figure with you on your fall bill, and if we don't sell you it won't be our fault.

Yours for Business,

## The Star Store,

MERKEL MERCANTILE COMPANY, Props.,

Merkel, Texas.

#### A PLEASANT OCCASION

MRS. WARD, GENERAL DEPUTY  
GRAND MATRON

#### AT INSTALLATION CEREMONIES

Refreshments Served to Make the  
Occasion One of Genuine  
Good Cheer.

Mrs. J. W. Ward of Big Springs, wife of Superintendent Ward of the Texas and Pacific, assisted by Acting Grand Marshal, Mrs. J. J. Clinton of Abilene, installed the newly elected officers of the Eastern Star chapter at the Masonic Hall Saturday night. The occasion was one of unusual interest for the members of that order. Mrs. Ward is very prominent in Eastern Star circles, not only in this district, but throughout the entire State. She is general Deputy Grand Matron of the State, one of the most important offices of the order. A lady of commanding presence, great enthusiasm, and with a thorough knowledge of the work, supplied with the other noble attributes of character which go to make up lovely womanhood, she is loved and esteemed to a high degree. Mrs. Clinton is "home folks," and any attempt to speak or write of her noble qualities of mind and heart would be superfluous. She is one of the best known and most highly esteemed women in all this country, and occupies the same

prominent place in the order.

After the installation ceremonies and a short, though pointed speech by T. A. Bledsoe of Abilene, delightful refreshments, consisting of ice cream, sherbet and cake, were served. It is one of the tenets of this order (as the avoirdupois of some of its most prominent members will testify) that the good things of life should not be overlooked, and a meeting is hardly ever held without this accompaniment. This occasion exceeded former efforts in the amount of good things consumed, the capacity of the consumers, and the short space of time in which to consume. Every member seemed to enjoy it, and diversification was the rule.

Few occasions during the tenure of the chapter here have been more fruitful of genuine pleasure and enjoyment. The visiting sisters and brothers added zeal and enthusiasm to the work, and the installation ceremonies were very beautiful and impressive.

Mesdames Ward and Clinton, who were guests of Mrs. Leeman while here, left for their respective homes that night.

#### 21 Years a Dyspeptic.

R. H. Foster, 318 S. 2d St., Salt Lake City, writes: "I have been bothered with dyspepsia or indigestion for 21 years; tried many doctors without relief; recently I got a bottle of Herbine. One bottle cured me, I am now tapering off on the second. I have recommended it to my friends; it is curing them, too." 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

#### BUSINESS PROSPECTS

VERY FLATTERING FOR THE  
TIME OF YEAR.

#### SHOWS APPRECIABLE INCREASE

Over Former Years So Far--Bright  
Future Outlook--Country  
in Good Shape.

The business outlook for Merkel is bright, indeed, and trade in all lines promises to be unusually brisk—in fact, the future of the town has never before been so resplendent. The prosperous condition of the vast territory of which the town is the recognized commercial center, and the promising showing which crops of all kinds have made the past two weeks have contributed largely to this result.

It is a well known fact that cotton, the principal money crop of this country, is full of deception. One day it promises very little, and the next day there is a perceptible change for the better, and it is this way throughout the entire season. However, it is the general rule to count on every bloom that opens up before the 20th of September, sometimes until the first of the following month. Cotton is loaded down with squares, and if these burst into bloom by the time indicated, a good crop will result. Therefore the whyforeness of the assertion that a fairly good crop is in sight.

As a result of this condition, business is picking up, and trade so far shows an increase over last year at this time. Business men are preparing for a heavy fall and winter trade and expect a prosperous year.

Josh Westhafer of Loogootee, Ind., is a poor man, but says he would not be without Chamberlain's Pain Balm if it cost five dollars a bottle, for it saved him from being a cripple. No external application is equal to this liniment for stiff and swollen joints, contracted muscles, stiff neck, sprains and rheumatic and muscular pains. It has also cured numerous cases of partial paralysis. It is for sale by Rust & Pittard.

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

#### CONDITION OF COTTON

PLANT IS GROWING STEADILY  
SINCE THE RAIN.

#### GIVES PROMISE OF FAIR YIELD

Showers of Rain and Cool Nights  
Have Materially Brightened  
the Prospects.

Cotton, during the past two weeks, has undergone a material change for the better, and former gloomy prospects have brightened considerably. The plant is fruiting very fast, the partial showers and cool nights answering nearly all the purposes of a general rain. Farmers say that worms seriously crippled the prospects during last month, but that the plant has now taken on a new lease of life, and that the worms have disappeared. If the fruit with which it is loaded matures, there is easily a half of a bale on nearly every acre of cotton in this country.

Altogether, prospects are very bright for an average yield of cotton, and in some localities, which escaped the visitation of hail early in the year, there is every indication of a record-breaker. Cotton is still "putting on," but no great things are expected of the crop from this source. Only a very late frost will contribute to a larger yield than is now apparent.

Grass and feed crops are immense, but are needing rain.

### Norris & McDonald...

DEALERS IN

Beef, Pork, Sausage, and Fresh Meats of all kinds

Ice in its Season

Prompt delivery to any part of town. Phone 43.

Your patronage Solicited....

## The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEEMAN, PUBLISHER.

Published Every Thursday.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Office ..... 81  
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.

All good roads lead to Merkel, thus affording farmers the best possible market for their products.

Stump Ashby lost the fight in Haskell county, which makes the sixth consecutive county that has gone dry regardless of his Biblical injunctions that whisky is a mighty good thing for the stomach. The pros should employ Stump to make anti speeches.

Cotton is simmering around the 8c mark, with a downward inclination. Prospects are not flattering for an early rise.

Now for a long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether for the town.

There is health and pleasure in every whiff of West Texas ozone.

All signs point to an early and severe winter. Even the coal man is abroad in the land.

Mr. Boll Worm is a pesteriferous individual, and in evil results is equal to a populist calamity howler.

The coal strike has begun to be felt in Merkel, especially when one's coal bin needs replenishing.

Life is one grand, sweet song in West Texas.

Here's a bouquet of fools. The fool girl looking for a beau, a fool boy proud of his clothes, the fool widow looking for a husband, the know-it-all fool who will not admit that there is a possibility of his judgment being at error, the egotistical fool who thinks he runs the community, and last, but not least, the fool who thinks his money entitles him to be ranked higher in the scale of social excellence than his pauper neighbor. He stands on a self-erected pedestal and exhibits his asinine qualities to the mirth of his fellows. He excites more pity than contempt. Every community has its quota of these fools.—Sulphur Springs Gazette.

Now's the time to advertise.

# ...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.

### Ramblings Through Mexico.

By J. L. VAUGHAN.

(Calendar Stone cont.)

It is a monolith, irregular in shape, but the carvings and figures are in a circle around a face representing the sun, in the center. The diameter is 15½ feet and nearly three feet thick. Barrett says it weighs 60,000 pounds. It was formerly built in the walls of the Cathedral, but was removed and placed in the Hall of Monoliths. It faces the door and is the most conspicuous object in the hall. Tradition says it was quarried near Coyoacan and dragged to the walls of the Aztec temple in 1478.

Turning to the right we begin a tour of the hall. Our guide cautions us to not touch anything.

No. 46 is a large idol carved from basaltic lava, four feet nine inches long and one foot, eleven one-half inches broad. It is "Chac-Mool," the god of fire. The idol is a reclining man holding in his hands a shallow bowl, which rests on the center of the body. Our guide said it had been used to put fire in, probably to consume the hearts of the sacrificial victims. We were struck by the marked resemblance of the features and head dress to the pictures and images of ancient Egypt.

No. 268, another very large slab, covered with figures and inscriptions, is a description of the great Aztec temple.

The celebrated "Cross of Palenque" is a large slab with a well defined cross in the center, a tiger's head and a tree said to represent the "tree of life," with blossoms. On its branches sits the bird Quetzal, a species of parrot, with most beautiful plumage, which will not live in captivity and dies when touched by human hands. It is the national bird of Guatemala and is stamped on the Guatemalan silver dollar.

No. 267 is the sacrificial stone. It is much thicker, but smaller in diameter than the calendar stone. The top is round and covered with carvings representing war-

riors holding prisoners. In the center is a deep bowl cut out of the stone. According to Chavero, it was used as a sacrificial stone for the "messenger of the sun." There is no doubt but that it was used as an altar, whereon human beings were sacrificed by having their hearts taken out and held up to the sun. The cavity in the center was to catch the blood.

The guide showed us a large basin carved out of stone, said to have also been used to hold the blood of the victims. He said it had formerly been lined with gold, but the Spaniards, "with an eye to business," had taken out the gold. On the sacrificial stone there is a deep trench cut from the edge to the cavity in the center, said to have been done by the Spaniards in trying to destroy the stone, but to me it looked more like a channel to conduct the blood from the bowl in the center. It was found near the southwest corner of the Cathedral Dec. 17, 1791. It had formerly been on top of the Aztec temple.

No. 171 is the large idol of Teotihuacan, the "goddess of moon and water." The stone is 10 feet six inches high and five feet broad, and weighs nearly 40,000 pounds.

No. 54 is a colossal head of green stone (diovite). Some say it is Aztec sculpture, others say Toltec, but as it was found near the ancient temple and is similar in features and head dress to the other idols found in the city, we would be in favor of calling it Aztec. It does not seem to have ever been on a body. It is called Toltec (time). The expression of this face is peculiar, the drooping eyelids giving it the appearance of being half asleep. Large pendants in the ears somewhat resemble padlocks, the nostrils seem to be stuffed and on the mouth is another ornament that looks like a lock of some kind. On each cheek are what look like three links with hieroglyphics in each link (I guess he

must have been an Odd Fellow). The head dress is a skull cap with wavy lines and covered with shells. Several years ago I came across an article by an American archaeologist who had examined this head and he pronounced it the head of "Atlantis," basing his theory on the head dress, closed eyes and padlocked ears, that it represented a person dead, but imperishable (diovite is the hardest of stone), and that there were traditions among the Indians of Mexico and Guatamala of the lost continent, Atlantis. The imperishable nature of the stone typified that at some time Atlantis would arise from his sleep and the lost continent restored. If you want my opinion about this I can only answer, "quien sabe" (who knows)?

Near this head is a coiled serpent also of diovite. A large figure of a crouching tiger, the "god of fertility," with a number of heads and faces. One very large stone is a new arrival, having but recently been found while making some repairs to the Cathedral. It is covered with carvings, but has not yet been deciphered.

"No. 286 is called the sad Indian. It represents a stooping man wearing a cap with pendants and a blanket across his shoulders. Between his folded hands and feet is a hole to support a banner. It was probably

one of the two standard bearers on the pyramid or temple of Huetzilpochtli. It was found in 1828 in a street of the same name."—Barrett.

I have mentioned only the principal antiquities in this hall. There are great numbers smaller slabs and images, some entire, but many broken, probably by the Spaniards in their attempts to obliterate the records of a conquered people.

The serpent seems to have held a high place in Aztec mythology, as we find many figures and carvings of it. The resemblance of many of the images and carvings to Egyptian sculpture is striking. Perhaps "Atlantis" was not all a myth. But then history says the Toltec, Chickimec and Aztec all came from the north. I can only repeat, quien sabe? J. L. VAUGHAN.

Rust & Pittard have the only line of the celebrated Hawk Spectacles carried in the town. Every glass guaranteed. If the don't suit, bring them back and get your money.

Z. F. Green is opening up his stock of saddlery, harness, etc. in the Flemming building. He has up his ad next week.

We want to close out our stock of Wall Paper and to that end have knocked off all the profits. Now is the time to buy.

Rust & Pittard.

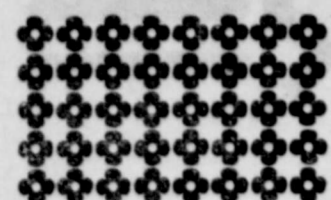
## NEW MILLINERY GOODS!

LEAVE for the market this week to buy my Fall and Winter Millinery Goods. It is my intention to buy a large stock, and of course the reputation of the establishment will be maintained by the purchase of only new, seasonable, fashionable goods.

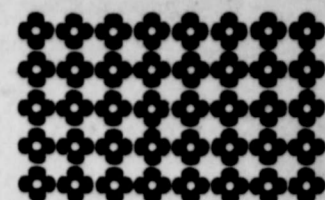
I ask that the ladies await the arrival of my stock, promising them that it will be best, cheapest and most up-to-date line ever carried in Merkel.

Watch for it!  
Wait for it!

Mrs. F. B. Hoople...



# THE GLOBE



Wants your careful inspection of its stock. We are prepared to take care of your fall business, as we are putting in the most complete stock of Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes and Groceries ever carried in Merkel. We want your business and solicit it on a close price basis. We consider Merkel as good a trading point as you will find in West Texas. Bring your cotton to us; we will give you the best price for it.

Yours for Business,

MERKEL, TEXAS.

THE GLOBE.

### Can?

Can a saw-buck?  
 Can a chimney-swallow?  
 Can a monkey-wrench?  
 Can a horse-fly or a horse-fiddle?  
 Can a cow-slip or a bed-spring?  
 Can a chocolate drop or a buck-saw?  
 Can corn-stalk?  
 Can butter-fly?  
 Can wood-box?  
 Can clothes line-up?  
 Can a horse-shoe tobacco?  
 Can a cake walk or a sheep-tick?  
 Can butter-milk or cats-paw?  
 Can fire-shovel, stove-pipe, jack-snipe, carpet-stretcher or a fish-hook?  
 Can a bed-rock, a spring-creak, a cod-fish-bawl, a cat-fish, a ginger-snap, a rail-fence, a railroad-tie or a banana-peal?  
 Can a crocus?  
 Can a dragon-fly?  
 Can a brick-walk?  
 Can a newspaper-press?  
 Can a rail-fence?  
 Catydid!  
 Well, anyhow a catkin!  
 How would a crash-suit?  
 But isn't the weather-vane?  
 Well, well, well! Fare-well!  
 W. P. Browning & Co. will give you a bargain in Sideboards and Folding Beds.

\*Phone the news to No. 31.

### Bible Points.

"Psalms 117 is the middle chapter of the Bible."  
 The shortest book in the whole Bible is III John.  
 Proverbs is the middle book of the Old Testament.  
 The Bible contains 1189 chapters and 31,173 verses.  
 The shortest verse in the New Testament is John 11:35.  
 The middle verse of the whole Bible is Psalms 118:8.  
 The original language of the New Testament is Greek.  
 Acts 17:17 is the middle verse of the New Testament.  
 The shortest book in the Old Testament is Obadiah.  
 The middle book of the New Testament is II Thessalonians.  
 Romans 15 is the middle chapter of the New Testament.  
 The middle verse of the Old Testament is II Chronicles 20:17.  
 Ezra 7:21 contains all the letters of the alphabet except j and q.  
 The shortest verse in the Old Testament is I Chronicles 1:1.  
 The Saviour is supposed to have spoken the Aramnic dialect of the Hebrew language.  
 The word Testament as applied to the two grand divisions of the Bible means covenant.  
 The word Bible is not scriptural. It comes from the Greek tabiblia, meaning, "the books."  
 Genesis covers 5369 years time or 969 years more than all of the other sixty-five books combined.  
 C. F. Gunther's Chicago collection has a Bible that did belong to Martha Washington, which cost \$5,000.  
 There are five books in the Bible having one chapter each—Obadiah, Philemon, II John, III John and Jude.  
 The old testament was written in Hebrew, except portions of Ezra and Daniel, which were written in Chaldee.  
 Before the days of printing it took a Monkish expert over a year to write out on volumn a copy of the Bible.  
 The first Bible printed in America was the Indian translation by John Elliott in 1663. Copies are worth from \$2,000 to \$2,500.  
 Isaih 47 and II Kings 19 are chapters just alike, and so are the closing verses of II Chronicles and the opening verses of Ezra.  
 The first printed book was a Latin Bible in 1450, by John Battenburg of Mainz. A few copies extant, and are worth \$25,000 each.  
 To read the Bible at the rate of 100 words a minute it would take two weeks and two hours. reading at the rate of nine hours

## WHY PAY \$75.00

For a Range When You Can Buy

### ...A MAJESTIC...

for from \$20.00 to \$30.00 less?  
 Ranges we sold in Abilene and Taylor County ten to twelve years ago are still in use. A better Stove for less money is WHAT WE CAN SELL YOU.

ED S. HUGHES & CO.,  
 Abilene, Texas

since Monday, with fairly good crowds in attendance. That interest which has always been a leading characteristic of Merkel people in religious gatherings, seems to be waning, and if good results are to be accomplished during this meeting, the Christian element must put their whole soul into the work. There is room for improvement along religious lines. Let it not be said of our people that they are steadfast and immovable in their attitude of worldliness. Put on the whole armor of God, for by works, and not faith, are you known.

Rev. L. A. Webb of Midland, who is conducting the meeting during the illness of the pastor, is one of the ablest preachers in the conference. His sermon last Tuesday night was one of the best ever heard in the town. He pleaded for better and more useful lives, admonishing all that it is a nobler and higher Christian duty to plant a flower in the pathway of the living than to heap them upon their coffins after they are dead, and that a life made up of such self-sacrifices is the happiest that can be lived. The other discourses have been equally as interesting, and all have been followed with marked attention by both saint and sinner.

The meeting will probably continue throughout the week. Not the least important of the services is the singing, which, within itself, is worth going some distance to hear.

## Consumption

The only kind of consumption to fear is "neglected consumption."

People are learning that consumption is a curable disease. It is neglected consumption that is so often incurable.

At the faintest suspicion of consumption get a bottle of Scott's Emulsion and begin regular doses.

The use of Scott's Emulsion at once, has, in thousands of cases, turned the balance in favor of health.

Neglected consumption does not exist where Scott's Emulsion is.

Prompt use of Scott's Emulsion checks the disease while it can be checked.

Send for free sample.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists,  
 409-415 Pearl Street, New York.  
 50c. and \$1.00; all druggists.



MRS. L. S. ADAMS,  
 Of Galveston, Texas.

"Wine of Cardui is indeed a blessing to tired women. Having suffered for seven years with weakness and bearing-down pains, and having tried several doctors and different remedies with no success, your Wine of Cardui was the only thing which helped me, and eventually cured me. It seemed to build up the weak parts, strengthen the system and correct irregularities."

By "tired women" Mrs. Adams means nervous women who have disordered menses, falling of the womb, ovarian troubles or any of these ailments that women have. You can cure yourself at home with this great women's remedy, Wine of Cardui. Wine of Cardui has cured thousands of cases which doctors have failed to benefit. Why not begin to get well today? All druggists have \$1.00 bottles. For any stomach, liver or bowel disorder Theford's Black-Draught should be used.

For advice and literature, address, giving symptoms, The Ladies' Advisory Department, The Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

WINE OF CARDUI

a day.

Cardinal Hugo divided the Bible into chapters in the thirteenth century, and Athias divided it into verses in the 17th century.

The twenty-seven books of the New Testament are divided into three divisions, viz: historical, (5,) doctrinal, (21,) prophetic, (1.)

Of the forty authors of the Bible, thirty-eight are known to be Jews; Job's nationality is not known, while Luke was a Roman proselyte.

Four forms of government prevailed during the Old Testament periods, viz: Patriarchal, moderate theocracy and monarchy.

The Bible contains sixty-six different books, written by forty different men, who represented fourteen different callings, during 1600 years.

The Old Testament is divided into thirty-nine books, and these represent four grand divisions: Pentateuch (4) the Historical books (12) the poetical books (5) and the prophetic books (17.)"

TO THE PUBLIC.

I have bought the interest of A. J. Hill in the Hill & Eason barber shop, and respectfully ask the patronage of my friends, and the general public. We promise good work and polite attention.

Respectfully,  
 R. A. Rollins.

Remember the City Meat Market. Phone 75.

### A Statue for Pulaski.

American citizens of Polish birth and extraction are interesting themselves in the project for the erection in Washington of a statue of Count Casimir Pulaski, the Lithuanian who served with distinction in the Revolutionary war. In 1777 congress, acting on Washington's recommendation, appointed Pulaski a brigadier general and chief of dragoons in the United States army. He was mortally wounded at the siege of Savannah, October 9, 1779, and died two days later, being then only 32 years old.

### Casper Schenck's Poem.

Pay Director Casper Schenk, who was recently buried in the Naval cemetery at Annapolis was the author of a poem which once attracted as much attention as Admiral Coghlan's "Hoch der Kaiser." It was based on the order of Admiral Foote abolishing the custom of "piping all hands to grog." The grog was abolished and the pay of every enlisted man was advanced 5 cents a day. Schenk wrote a song, the refrain of which was:

They raised our pay 5 cents a day,  
 But stopped our grog forever.

When in need of shoe repairing call at Bennett's saddle shop, for Aught knows how.

### The Methodist Meeting.

The Methodist protracted meeting has been in progress

# == A FORERUNNER ==

## Of What's in Store For the People of the Merkel Country.

With the inauguration of a new season, the formation of new friendships, and a renewal of the pleasant relations with old friends--there is certainly an element of great pleasure in either. Always dominating, and ever foremost, it has been our unswerving determination to give to our customers exactly what we promised. A close adherence to this policy has served us well, and has gradually brought to us the continued trade of some of the best people in this country, first, with small bills to test our sincerity, and later with the bulk of their dry goods trade. Why we can do this is, we make no promises that can

not be fulfilled, and we figure a minimum profit on our business. Some houses demand large profits, and must do it; but our expenses are light, and profits conform. We do a Spot Cash business, therefore lose no credit accounts to be made up on cash customers.

Now we ask you to come to Merkel, see the stocks of goods and get acquainted with the merchants. By all means bring your cotton to Merkel. We'll have buyers on the streets, and guarantee the highest market price. Let our house be your stopping place, and if you need goods, we will be very glad to show and price them to you.

YOURS FOR BUSINESS,  
**AUSTIN FITTS.**

At the FITTS & SMITH SPOT CASH STORE, - - - MERKEL, TEXAS.

### 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.

Immigration to Northwest Texas this fall will be the heaviest in the history of the country. Thousands of debt-burdened easterners have been attracted this way by the adaptability of this particular spot in the oasis of Texas to all pursuits, whether of health, happiness or prosperity, and by the inducement of cheap homes. Many counties in East and South Texas are being almost depopulated. The newspapers of these localities have become alarmed and are trying to ascertain the cause so that a remedy may be applied. But, in the meantime, the influx of people to this country is becoming greater all the time. Scores of prospectors may be counted on the streets almost every day, and real estate men are kept on the qui vive.

The wheat yield for Texas this year is estimated at two-thirds of a crop, 8,000,000 bushels, while of oats about the same number of bushels or one-third of a crop.

One sad result of the land fight in West Texas culminated in Lubbock County last week, when J. W. Jarrott, a prominent lawyer and land agent, was ambushed and killed by unknown parties. This is but a starter of what is brewing. Until State land matters are taken out of the complex column, we may expect just such results, and a reign of lawlessness is sure to follow. It is similar in many respects to the bad feeling which existed between cattle and sheep interests throughout this country a few years ago. Will the Legislature remedy the evil?

Results of The Mail's trade edition are already manifest, not a few people from a distance having been attracted this way by the inducements held out for trade. A prosperous old gentleman of Jones County, who had never seen Merkel and expressed surprise at its business aspect, brought in a bale of cotton Monday which he sold at satisfactory prices, and most of the money went for supplies. This one instance of the good results of advertising repays The Mail for the time and money spent in getting out the edition.

The premium list of the West Texas Fair has been received. The list shows that the people of Abilene in general and the fair management in particular are alive to the interests of the coming event and have spared no pains to make it a complete success. Many valuable premiums have been offered and the purses are unusually large. Altogether, the fair this year promises to break all previous records.

Merkel is the bright particular star in the firmament of Northwest Texas.

It now develops that Mayor Riggins of Waco is leading the anti-prohibition forces in this State under the tutelage of the national organization of whisky spouters. Mr. Riggins' anti-proclivities may be better understood when it is known that he has full sway at the cash box of the whisky interests and that there are millions in it. Waco should make some kind of apology for such prostitution of the mayoralty chair.

The Congressional plum of the Twelfth District fell to the favor of Hon. O. W. Gillespie of Fort Worth after three conventions had been held and over 7,000 ballots taken. The dead-lock was broken by a game of chance, tickets on which were written the names of two of the candidates being drawn from a hat, resulting in the nomination of Mr. Gillespie.

Another hot wave struck Texas this week, but it was soon superseded by a counter charge from the north. Many people believe that the intense heat of the past few weeks, which is unprecedented, was the result of the volcanic eruptions in the Caribbean Sea. The hot wave of Monday, following closely upon the violent eruption of Mt. Pelee, is significant to say the least of it.

David B. Hill is said to boast of the fact that he has never drunk the honey dew from ripe red lips of love, or any other species of the feminine gender. And yet he has designs upon the Presidential chair! A man with such a limited experience of the joys of life won't do.

The oil mill trust has invaded Texas and several mills have been acquired.

The Mail appreciates this compliment from the Brownwood Banner-Bulletin: "The Merkel Mail has published a very creditable trade issue, and is distributing large numbers. Everything The Mail does is creditable. This issue ought to do great good for the Merkel country." It will. Towns should be advertised the same as individuals.

Stock farming is destined to be the wealth-producing avocation of this country. A small farm well tended, a few head of well-graded cattle, horses, mules and hogs, small truck patches and perseverance will pave the way to a greater prosperity for any country.

The Mail is in receipt of season tickets to both the Dallas and San Antonio fairs. These are two of the greatest State attractions, and they will be bigger and better this year than ever before.

It will take something more strenuous than an electric car or automobile to frighten the nation's President.

Out of the 240 counties in the State, over 180 of them have voted out all liquor and many precincts in the remaining 60 are also dry. On with the fight!

And now comes the war of dairy interests that their business has been ruined by the bacteriologists. Evidently the microbe is getting in its work.

The busy hum of the gin, intermingled and mixed up with the pleasant sound of the saw, the hammer, and the trowel, is pleasing music to the ear.

The average size of farms in the United States is 44 acres. In Texas the average is 357.2 acres. Texas is big all over.

The Republican State convention is in session at Fort Worth, and the usual warm attraction is being pulled off.

Merkel merchants are alive to their interests and yours. Figure with them.

Northwest Texas is the greatest stock farming country in the world.

### Your Cotton Money

Will buy MORE GOODS and BETTER GOODS at this store than anywhere else in this country. We sell Saddles, Harness, Bridles, Collars, etc., and run a general repair shop. The prices we are making are the lowest, quality of goods considered. Come and figure with us.

Respectfully,

A. C. BENNETT.

We make or mend anything out of leather

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

The best Horseshoeing in Merkel for only \$1.00, spot cash. All work guaranteed first class. Give me a trial. 4t  
J. W. COMPTON.

Geo. S. Berry went out to the ranch Sunday. He reports cat in good shape, and grass fine. thinks there is a bright outlook in stock interests, the markets being very favorable at this time. Stock in this country will enter the winter in good condition.

Corn chops and bran at Chenault & Hand's.

The Mail was in error in stating that the school bonds had been sold. The offer was made all right, but declined when it became known that the bonds contained a ten year clause. However, a sale is now pending, and work on the building will be pushed.

**Open Your Mouth**  
And swallow one. Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tablets combines the qualities of the best liquid chill Tonics. Dose always ready. Dose always the same. No cure—no pay.

Nearly every section of the county was visited by showers last week. In some localities good rains fell, while in others the showers were light. All were beneficial, however.

9 pounds Coffee \$1.00 at Chenault & Hand's.

**Cattle Shipments.**  
J. M. Bryson and T. J. Coggin each shipped a car of fat cattle to the East St. Louis market Friday.

Saturday C. M. Largent and J. W. Daniel shipped out two cars.

**Fortune Favors a Texan.**  
"Having distressing pains in head, back and stomach, and being without appetite, I began to use Dr. King's New Life Pills," writes W. P. Whitehead, of Kennedale, Tex., "and soon felt like a new man." Infalible in stomach and liver troubles. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

**Justice Court.**  
Justice Miller's court was in session Saturday with County Attorney Bledsoe in attendance. The docket was cleared of the case in which the State was plaintiff and Clyde Reid, charged with resisting arrest, defendant. A verdict of not guilty was found.

For Sale—Horse and buggy. See J. M. Pate. 4t

The following officers were installed into the Eastern Star Chapter Saturday night:  
Mrs. Leeman, W. M.  
I. S. Allen, W. P.  
Mrs. Freemon, A. M.  
J. A. Leeman, Sec.  
Mrs. Ed Smith, Treas.  
A. A. Baker, Chap.  
Miss Kate Craven, Con.  
Mrs. Addie Allen, As. Con.  
Miss Fannie Dunning, Elector.

A crowd of young people, full of life and good spirits, spent Sunday evening on Castle Peak pic-nicing.

# J. T. Warren,

## GENERAL MERCHANDISE

MERKEL, - - TEXAS.

AGENT IN MERKEL FOR.....

Hamilton-Brown Shoes,  
McDonald Fine Dress Shirts,  
McDonald Work Shirts & Overalls.  
Thoroughbred Hats,  
Studebaker Wagons,  
Peacemaker Flour.

We expect to be in the market, as usual,  
for your cotton. Come to see us.

### DR. E. B. GILBERT

—SPECIALIST—  
PRACTICE LIMITED TO THE EYE,  
EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

Permanently located at Abilene; will be in Merkel at Horners' drug store every Monday.

**A Perilous Leap**  
From Pike's Peak, 14,134 feet, will not cure softening of the brain, but a 25c box of Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tablets will cure chills. No cure—no pay.

**Add to Phone List.**  
Johnson, T. A. res. ....8  
Little, Dr. J. W. office, ....76  
Little, Dr J W res. ....79  
Phillips, T. W. res. ....4  
Watkins Meat Market ....39  
Williams, H. C. res. ....12  
Burroughs & Mann drugs ....46  
Sharp, J P store .....44

**We Tell No Secrets.**  
It is an open secret that Hunt's Lightning Oil cures everything except broken hearts and softening of the brain. 25 and 50c.

Several cars of brick for the new buildings under contract arrived this week, and work is now under good headway, with prospects of being completed on time. Merkel is a busy mart these days. The way we do move is a caution.

Prof. Sewell received an apple from Missouri, this week, which tipped the beam at 13 ounces and measured 13 inches in circumference. No good; unlucky both ways. Don't eat it, Professor.

Dr. I. E. Smith, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, of Weatherford, will be at Dr. Leeman's office Sept. 15.

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.

**W. W. WHEELER,**  
Real Estate, Life, Fire and Tornado Insurance Agent,  
Notary Public.  
Takes Acknowledgements, Draws up Deeds, etc.  
Office in First National Bank.

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

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.

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

Barnhill & Wife.

We have seen fit to raise the price of shaves to 15c., and on and after this date the price will be maintained.

Eason & Rollins,  
J. M. Pate.

Wanted—Farm and ranch hand wanted to do work on ranch; inexperienced hand need not apply.  
Samuel Butman,  
Nubia, Texas.

Z. F. Green returned from Dallas Monday, where he laid in a large stock of harness, etc.

Mr. and Mrs. Fitts returned from the eastern markets Monday.

Mrs. Hampton, who has been visiting the family of her brother, Geo. S. Berry, returned to Abilene Monday. Mrs. Berry accompanied her.

20 different brands of Tobacco at Chenault & Hand's.

J. L. Banner says cotton is fruiting rapidly and with favorable conditions a fair yield will be made. He got a good shower of rain Saturday.

H. W. Derstine is looking for rain, which, he says, must come soon if his late feed crop amounts to anything. Cotton is still shedding on his farm, but he seems to be satisfied with its prospects.

The young people were royally entertained by Miss Prudence Allyn Monday night.

Fine assortment of honey at Chenault & Hand's.

T. A. Bledsoe, County Attorney, was in the city Saturday and at night assisted in the installation ceremonies at the Masonic Hall. Tom is a whole team when it comes to refreshing the inner man.

Judge Solomon of Dallas was here Saturday trying to work up an interest in a loan company.

Seth Hamilton returned Sunday from St. Louis.

Will Boring returned from the Plains Sunday.

Miss Sudie White of Roscoe, formerly of this place, is attending school at Abilene.

A slight explosion of Beaumont oil at one of the gins Friday created considerable excitement for a few minutes. The accumulation of gas in the furnace caused the explosion, but no damage resulted. One of the hands was burned about the face, though not seriously injured.

Merkel is far from being a bat cave, but late of evenings hundreds of them may be seen flying and dodging through the atmosphere. Several cords of wood have been stored on the railroad right-of-way near the stockpens for future shipment. This wood has been there all summer and it affords an excellent resort for his batship, with the result that fully a thousand have taken up quarters there. They come out every evening. The small boy and his nigger-shooter should be encouraged to loiter in that neighborhood.

Miss Lucille Miller of Dallas, who had been visiting her sister, Mrs. Dickson, returned home Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Wilson of Caps visited the family of Geo. S. Berry Sunday.

J. J. and Selma Russell left with a car of horses and mules for the Dallas market Monday.

Mr. John Hamm favored The Mail with his usual yearly contribution last week.

W. P. Browning & Co. have just received two cars of furniture. Best prices we have ever made. Come and see our goods.

## REMOVAL NOTICE.

We have moved into the big corner building formerly occupied by the Globe, where we should be pleased to have you call on us when in Abilene. We will make it to your interest to do so.

ROLLINS & YOUNG.

#### It is Said.

That salt will curdle new milk, hence in preparing porridge, gravies, etc., the salt should not be added until the dish is prepared.

That clear boiling water will remove tea stains and many fruit stains. Pour the water through the stain and thus prevent it spreading over the fabric.

That ripe tomatoes will remove ink and other stains from white cloth, also from the hands.

That a teaspoonful of turpentine boiled with white clothes will aid in the whitening process.

That boiled starch is much improved by the addition of a little sperm salt or gum arabic dissolved.

That beeswax and salt will make rusty flat irons as clean as glass. Tie a lump of beeswax in a rag and keep it for that purpose. When the irons are hot, rub them first with the wax rag, then scour with a paper or cloth sprinkled with salt.

That blue ointment and kerosene mixed in equal proportions and applied to the bedsteads is an unfailing bedbug remedy, as a coat of whitewash is for the walls of a log house.

That kerosene will soften boots or shoes that have been hardened by water, and render them as pliable as new.

That kerosene will make tin tea-kettles as bright as new. Saturate a woolen rag and rub with it. It will also remove stains from varnished furniture.

That cool rain water and soda will remove machine grease from washable fabrics.

#### Good for Old and Young.

Love thy schoolmates for they will be thy coworkers for life.

Love knowledge, the bread of intellect. Cherish the same gratitude toward thy teachers as toward thy father and mother.

Make every day thou livest the occasion for some good and beneficial deed; always sow the seeds of kindness.

Honor good men and true women, esteem all men as equals, bend thy knee to one.

Do not bear hatred to anybody; don't insult people. The word revenge shall not be in thy vocabulary, but stand up for thy rights and resist oppression.

Don't be a coward; stand by the weak and respect and love justice.

Remember that all goods of this world are the products of labor. Whoever takes the good things of this world without giving their equivalent in labor, robs the diligent of their just dues.

Exercise the mind; observe and think and try to ascertain the truth of all things. Believe in nothing mysterious, in nothing unreasonable; use no deception either toward thyself or others.

Do not assume that to be patriotic one must hate other nations or glory in war. War is a relic of barbarism.

Let it be thy purpose in life to hasten the day when all men, as free citizens of a free state, live in peace and happiness, in true brotherhood.—Ex.

I have a few good well broke ponies for sale. Good travelers and the very thing for children to ride to school.

E. D. Coats.

For Sale—A good hack and harness and A1 buggy horse. For prices and terms see

J. A. Leeman.

# Your Cotton Money

Will last the longest and go the furthest at this store than anywhere else. Dollars do double duty when invested with J. P. SHARP & COMPANY.... A trial will convince you.

## Fall Announcement.

Our stock of Fall and Winter Goods will be the largest and most complete in every particular that we have ever handled, and great taste has been employed in its selection. We want to impress upon you the wisdom of giving us a chance to bid on your fall and winter bill of goods, and to tell you that we are always underselling, but never undersold. We handle Dry Goods, Groceries, Shoes, Feed, etc. Come and let's get acquainted for mutual good.

Yours for Fall Trade,

# J. P. Sharp & Co.

## 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.

#### A Boy's Wild Ride For Life.

With family around expecting him to die, and a son riding for life, 18 miles, to get Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, coughs and colds, W. H. Brown, of Leesville, Ind., endured death's agonies from asthma, but this wonderful medicine gave instant relief and soon cured him. He writes- "I now sleep soundly every night." Like marvelous cures of consumption, pneumonia, bronchitis, coughs, colds and grip prove its matchless merit for all throat and lung troubles. Guaranteed bottles 50c and \$1. Trial bottles free at Rust & Pittard's.

R. A. Miller is in receipt of a letter from his son, Will, who is stationed with the army near Tacoma, Wash., announcing his approaching wedding. His term of enlistment expires the 20th inst., and he is to be married the 27th. Will has many friends in this county who will join The Mail in sincere congratulations in advance of the happy event.

A. C. Bennett has the only manufactory of knee pads in Merkel. Only 50c a pair.

#### A Parson's Noble Act.

"I want all the world to know," writes Rev. C. J. Budlong, of Ashaway, R. I., "what a thoroughly good and reliable medicine I find in Electric Bitters. They cured me of jaundice and liver troubles that had caused me great suffering for many years. For a genuine, all-around cure they excel anything I ever saw." Electric Bitters are the surprise of all for their wonderful work in liver, kidney and stomach troubles. Don't fail to try them. Only 50c. Satisfaction is guaranteed by Rust & Pittard.

Just think: 60c will buy a pair of reversible collar pads at A. C. Bennett's.

#### Devoured by Worms.

Children often cry, not from pain, but from hunger, although fed abundantly. The entire trouble arises from inanition, their food is not assimilated, but devoured by worms. A few doses of White's Cream Vermifuge will cause them to cease crying and begin to thrive at once, very much to the surprise of the mother. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

#### A Certain Cure for Dysentery and Diarrhoea.

"Some years ago I was one of a party that intended making a long bicycle trip," says F. L. Taylor, of New Albany, Bradford Co. Pa. "I was taken suddenly with diarrhoea, and was about to give up the trip, when Editor Ward of the Laceyville Messenger, suggested that I take a dose Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. I purchased a bottle and took two doses, one before starting and one on the route. I made the trip successfully and never felt any ill effect. Again last summer I was almost completely run down with an attack of dysentery. I bought a bottle of this same remedy and this time one dose cured me. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

#### The Days and Weeks.

An English paper records the recent marriage near Cornwall of Miss Jane Weeks to Mr. Thomas Day, and adds:

A Day is gained,  
A Week is lost—  
But time cannot complain;  
For soon there will  
Be Days enough  
To make a Week again.

#### A Communication.

Mr. Editor—Allow me to say a few words in favor of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I suffered for three years with bronchitis and could not sleep at nights. I tried several doctors and various patent medicines, but could get nothing to give me any relief until my wife got a bottle of this valuable medicine, which has completely relieved me.—W. S. Brockman, Bagnell, Mo. This remedy is for sale by Rust & Pittard.

#### The Reason of It.

Judge Henry McGinn, who was recently elected state senator in Portland, Ore., tells this story: Two days after the last election when the returns showed a close race between McGinn and Harry Lane, two Irishmen.

One asked the other: "How is it, Mike, that in so many votes it should be nick an' nick between Hinnery an' Dock Lane?"

"Well, I'll tell ye," was the answer. "They're both very unpopular men, an' if ye knowed wan, ye'd be certain to vote for th' other, an' both av them are d—d well known."

#### A Case 37 Years Old.

The case of Justus Smith, who was charged with intoxication on June 14, 1865, was only disposed of, on Saturday, thirty-seven years late, in a New York city court. The papers were only then found, and who Justus Smith was and where he is, or where the policeman who made the arrest if indeed either of them is alive—may never be known. Justice Hagan, however, who indorsed the charge, is living, and thinks it a relic of the days when returning soldiers were often arrested for their protection, without any purpose of prosecuting the charges.

#### Steel Trust's Big Stockholder.

In the course of some litigation in New Jersey recently, the fact was made public that Bertram Cutler is the largest individual stockholder of record in the United States Steel corporation. For a day or two Wall Street, won who this was that owned 123,977 shares of the United States Steel preferred and 25,365 shares of Steel common. He was finally located as a stenographer and typewriter for John D. Rockefeller and his salary is \$18 a week. The stock standing in his name is said to be worth about \$20,000,000.

#### Patti's Well Preserved Voice.

When Patti sang recently in the great Albert hall, London, the critics agreed as to the extraordinary preservation of her voice, which, since her retirement from the arduous work of concert tours, seems to have regained much of its pristine brilliance and beauty. One veteran critic declared that her voice seemed as resonant and powerful as when she first astonished London forty-one years ago. Mme. P. has always been extremely careful in conserving her voice, and now reaps the reward. Forty years is a long career in any profession.

#### Statue for General Clark.

Sixty years after his death General William Clark of the famous Lewis and Clark expedition is to have a monument erected over his grave. The monument is to be erected by Mrs. Mary Susan Glasgow, of New York City, the widow of Jefferson Kearney Clark for many years a prominent St. Louisian, who died in New York about two years ago. The money for the memorial was left in the will of Jefferson Kearney Clark, who was the youngest son of the great explorer.

## PROHIBITION WON OUT

IN FOUR OF THE SIX COUNTIES IN WHICH

ELECTIONS WERE HELD LATELY

Montgomery, Denton, Haskell and Titus Dry--Navarro and Nolan Wet.

In the elections held last week, the prohibitionists won out in four of the six counties in which there were contests. In every instance the fights were fought to a finish, and to the victors belong the spoils.

In Titus county the pros had an easy victory, as they also did in Montgomery. In Denton the contest was close and prohibition won by only about 100 votes.

Navarro county went wet by a very small majority, not over 100 votes at the outside.

Reports by telephone from Haskell county indicate that the county went dry, Monday, by about 8 votes. Cyclone Davis and Stump Ashby stumped this county, Cyclone for the pros and Stump for the antis.

On Tuesday Nolan county went wet. The majority was about 20 votes, with two boxes to hear from, which will not materially change the result.

It seems that either a clerical or geographical mistake occurred in the report of State Revenue agent Cunningham, which was published in this paper last week.

It was stated that 177 of the 240 counties in this State are under prohibition control, but this has been denied and the number placed at 77. With last and this week's victories added to the number, if the correction is right, the total number of dry counties is 87.

The prohibition contest in this county was set for hearing before Judge Lindsey at Comanche, but up to going to press, if a decision has been reached it has not been given out.

### ABILENE.

Arthur L. Witt and Miss Maggie Carr of the Merkel country, were married here the first of the week at the court house, Judge D. G. Hill officiating.

The premium lists of the West Texas Fair are now ready and all who expect to exhibit anything should send for a catalog. A postal card to Max R. Andrews, the secretary, will bring one. Send for it--there are some valuable premiums.

Cotton has commenced to roll in pretty lively and the gins are running nearly all day.

Ben Woods and Miss Willie May Jones were married at the residence of the bride's mother last Friday night. Both are very popular young people and their friends wish them much joy.

J. M. Cunningham's new building on Chestnut street is about ready for occupancy, and will be occupied by S. W. Grimes with a mammoth stock of dry goods.

### The Way of It.

Someone has solved a problem, and offers the following explanation why a locomotive is called "She:" "They wear a jacket, an apron, have shoes, hose, and drag a train behind them. They have a lap, need guides; ride wheels, will not turn for pedestrians, sometimes foam and refuse to work, they attract the men sometimes and act contrary and it always takes a man to manage them."

# ...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  
Crockeryware  
Etc. Etc.

MERKEL,  
TEXAS.

## W. H. DICKSON.

**The EGGS**  
which some coffee roasters use to glaze their coffee with--would you eat that kind of eggs? Then why drink them?  
**Lion Coffee**  
has no coating of storage eggs, glue, etc. It's coffee--pure, unadulterated, fresh, strong and of delightful flavor and aroma.  
Uniform quality and freshness are insured by the sealed package.

### 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.

Mrs. Hoople left last night for St. Louis to buy her fall stock of millinery goods.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

### Raised From the Dead.

C. W. Landis, "Porter" for the Oriental Hotel, Chanute, Kan., writes: "I know what it was to suffer with neuralgia, deed I did, and I got a bottle of Ballard's Snow Liniment and I was 'raised from the dead.' I tried to get some, but before I had 'deposed' of my bottle, I was cured entirely. I am telling de truth too." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

Sam Eason accompanied a shipment of cattle to St. Louis last week.

All our jewelry, consisting of watches, rings, etc., is sold under a strict guarantee. We have a new stock and the prices are the lowest in the city.

Rust & Pittard.

### Summertime Quips.

Wit is a sunbeam, sarcasm an icicle.

The forward person is frequently set back.

A bank account is the greatest labor saver.

Revenge is not sweet to one of exalted mind.

Some of the rough riders are very smooth men.

There is some excuse for poverty, but none for filth.

In the spring the liar's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of fish.

The novel the villain of which doesn't hiss should be a howling success.

The subtle mind is only submissive when submission subserves its interest.

"Vain imaginings" bring some

people more misery than does hard reality.

When one gets too drunk to hit the ground with his hat he must be all at sea.

"Absence makes the heart grow fonder" when it comes to the bill collector.

### How to Succeed in Business.

Keep your liver in good condition by using Simmons' Liver Purifier (tin box). It corrects constipation, cures indigestion, biliousness, stops headach, gets your heart in the right place so you can smile at your neighbor.

### Fairland, I. T.

Time has flitted by and we are again citizens of a new town, to us, with new environments and we are seeing new faces and forming new friendships.

But one cannot so suddenly break away from old ties, even when forced by circumstances to do so; the mind will revert to old time associations and dwell there in spite of the new claiming its attention and thus our thoughts often wandered back to Merkel and our friends there, and we thought by using your columns we could give some idea of the land we now live in.

Fairland, the town in which we find ourselves, is a small though thriving town on the Frisco R. R. is in the northeastern corner of the Cherokee Nation. The country surrounding us is very fertile and its future seems very promising, all kinds of vegetables being raised here in immense quantities, fruit trees loaded with luscious fruit, wheat having yielded a fair crop, corn field bearing the largest crop ever known in this section and the hay crop never before equaled, all speak for its future welfare. There is, I am told, eight or ten tribes of Indians represented here, though very few full bloods. The Baptist and Methodist both have good church buildings and there is also one Mormon church. We have as yet no free school except the Cherokee free school, but the town is working now for a free school system and bids fair to succeed. So with the pluck and perseverance of our enterprising business people we are fast coming to the front.

A Friend.

The Pike's Peak Daily News chronicles the arrival of Mrs. Lola B. Shell on the summit of that lofty peak. We do not envy Mrs. Shell her lofty condition this bracing weather.

### 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-hazzard 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.

## Headache.

Sick headache, nervous headache, tired headache, neuralgic headache, catarrhal headache, headache from excitement, in fact, headaches of all kinds are quickly and surely cured with

### DR. MILES' Pain Pills.

Also all pains such as backache, neuralgia, sciatica, rheumatic pains, monthly pains, etc.

"Dr. Miles' Pain Pills are worth their weight in gold," says Mr. W. D. Kreamer, of Arkansas City, Kan. "They cured my wife of chronic headache when nothing else would."

"Dr. Miles' Pain Pills drive away pain as if by magic. I am never without a supply, and think everyone should keep them handy. One or two pills taken on approach of headache will prevent it every time."

MRS. JUDGE JOHNSON, Chicago, Ill.

Through their use thousands of people have been enabled to attend social and religious functions, travel, enjoy amusements, etc., with comfort. As a preventative, when taken on the approach of a recurring attack, they are excellent.

Sold by all Druggists,  
25 Doses, 25 cents.

Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

### 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 Oct. 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

Box, M D  
Chapman, Mrs. Sarah  
Douglass, Wm H  
Hill & Horton  
Olson, A J  
Pressly, B D  
Surber, M G

W. P. Browning & Co. sell the best Sewing Machine on the market at \$18 and \$20.

## AFFIDAVIT OF SALE.

STATE OF TEXAS, }  
County of TAYLOR. } To Whom it May Concern, and to the Public Generally:

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that we have sold to J. A. Joiner our interest in the cotton gin at Trent, Taylor County, Texas, and do not have any control whatever of said gin.

Witness our hands this the 3rd day of September, 1902.

MERKEL GIN & COMPRESS CO.

per Sam Hunt.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this the 3rd day of Sep. 1902. W. W. WHEELER,

[seal] Notary Public Taylor Co., Texas.

## EASON & ROLLINS, BARBERS

Bath room in connection.  
Your patronage solicited.

## J. M. PATE, BARBER.

NORTH FRONT STREET.

First class work and prompt and  
polite attention to all.

## J. J. MILLER,

### Justice Peace and Notary Public

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

## I. O. O. F. LODGE

No. 355 meets every Tuesday  
night. Visiting brethren cordi-  
ally invited to attend.

N. HARRISON, N. G.  
CHAS. CRAVEN, Sec.

## DR. T. S. HOLLIS, THE DENTIST—

Office over Harris' Drugstore, Abilene, Texas.

## H. C. WILLIAMS,

### Real Estate and Insurance Agent

Notary Public

Takes Acknowledgments, Draws up Deeds, Etc.  
OFFICE AT WARNICK'S BANK

## G. H. RICHARDSON

### Physician and Surgeon.

Residence, West Merkel.

## DR. J. W. LITTLE, Resident Dentist.

EXAMINATIONS FREE—OFFICE IN  
FERRIER BUILDING.

## LEEMAN & KING, Physicians & Surgeons

Diseases of

Women and children a specialty.  
Office, Burroughs & Mann's Drug Store.

## BEST PASSENGER SERVICE IN TEXAS.

4-IMPORTANT GATEWAYS-4



NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS

*No Strateck  
cleanest  
to our best line  
on our part*

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

## MORE LIVES ARE SAVED ...BY USING...

## Dr. King's New Discovery,

...FOR...

### Consumption, Coughs and Colds

Than By All Other Throat And  
Lung Remedies Combined.

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

Advertising is the secret of  
success in every business.

## Fruit Eaters Need no Doctors.

We were struck recently by the remarks of a doctor friend of ours, who said no one thing will do so much to make people independent of the medical profession as the daily use of fruits. He had noticed that those farmers, in whose families fruit was regularly and largely consumed, seldom needed his services. We thought what a pity that every farmer in the land could not be convinced of these truths. It is a deplorable fact that farmers' families do not enjoy that robust health that country air and out-door life, with plenty of exercise, should give. It is also a fact that living on farms whose rich acres are aching to produce abundant crops of the varied fruits, but very few have plenty, and many never have any fruit. The standard food in a majority of farmers' houses consists largely of bread, butter and meat (mostly pork) fried in grease, and where pastry and cake is used it has lard in large proportions in its composition; and this food is eaten at least twice, and in many families three times a day, year in and year out. Is it any wonder that they are not more healthy, and that their prevailing diseases are such as indicate an over consumption of greasy food? If fruits were expensive or difficult to raise, there should be some excuse; but there is no part of the country without plenty of varieties adapted to its soil and climate, and just such as are fitted by nature to both nourish and cleanse the body, and no more skill is required to grow them than to grow corn or wheat. Why is it that so few farmers make any attempt to provide an adequate supply of what would add much to their pleasure, and save many times its cost in doctors' bills, to say nothing of the sufferings and anxieties? Decide right now, farmer friend, to not let another season pass without planting a fruit yard. It is better to grow fruit than to be continually dosing with medicine.—Exchange.

### Croup

Unusually begins with the symptoms of a common cold; there is chilliness, sneezing, sore throat, hot skin, quick pulse, hoarseness and impeded respiration. Give frequent small doses of Ballard's Horehound Syrup, (the child will cry for it) and at the first sign of a croupy cough, apply Ballard's Snow Liniment externally to the throat. 50cat Rust & Pittard's.

To grow alfalfa properly, the land should be thoroughly prepared before planting, by plowing, harrowing and rolling. The after treatment is equally important. An alfalfa field may be seriously injured by too close grazing, and cutting too often, and too near the ground. Some of the best alfalfa fields in the West have been almost ruined by too much pasturing, especially in wet weather. It is better to take the stock off and feed or graze elsewhere when the ground is wet. Such injury may be partially remedied by disking. An alfalfa field is in the nature of a permanent investment, and should be drawn on very lightly for at least two years.

### Repent of Your Sins

And use Hunt's Lightning Oil for all pains, catarrh, neuralgia, rheumatism, cuts, burns, colic and diarrhoea. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money refunded. 25 and 50c.

## The Higher Life

### Nearer, My God, to Thee.

This touching hymn was written by Sarah Flower Adams, a gifted English woman. She was of frail constitution, and, amid many bodily sufferings, kept her pen at work on various poetical productions. At what time she caught the inspiration to compose that one immortal hymn, which is now sung around the globe, has never been learned. Probably it was some season of peculiar trial, when the bruised spirit emitted the odor of a child-like submission to a chastening father. It must have oozed from a bleeding heart. Her hymn first appeared in a volume of sacred lyrics by Mr. Fox, in England, about the year 1841. The authoress did not live to enjoy the fame it was to bring, for she died in 1846, aged 24 years, and was buried near Marlow, in Essex.—Our Dumb Animals.

Rev. S. G. Neil, Baptist.  
God's likeness is the soul's supreme good.

Rev. A. B. Coats, Baptist.  
There should be no question in our minds that God's way is best.

Rev. Dr. Woods.  
No nation has a right to live entirely for itself any more than an individual.

Rev. Geo. Adams, Methodist.  
Hypocrisy is contemptible in any walk in life; especially is it so in the church.

Rev. E. E. Crawford.  
The fact that the life of Christ inspires me is the greatest proof of the essential Christ.

Rev. W. T. Euster, Methodist.  
When faith in the authority of scripture is destroyed it takes with it all confidence in Methodism.

Rev. Dr. Wylie, Presbyterian.  
This country is bounden to extend the kingdom of Jesus Christ, both in its own borders and throughout the world.

Rt. Rev. J. L. Spalding.  
One cannot think of any phase of life without carrying it forward to religious thought. Not to be religious is not to be conscious of knowledge.

Rev. F. E. Mason, Independent.  
The essential elements of spiritual mindedness are to concede to yourself all the powers and purposes of God; then to actualize them by demonstrating God in your life.

Rev. Dr. Holderby, Presbyterian.  
Some are sanctified and made meet for the Master's use; others are unholy and un sanctified vessels, and, therefore, unfit for the Master's use. Sanctified means "set apart" from an unholy to a holy use.

### The Universal Homesickness.

Can any of us hear at any time the haunting refrain of that human song, "I'm a pilgrim and I'm a stranger," without a curious response in the soul? Does not this essentially express the underlying consciousness of us all, even in our sunniest and most prosperous hours? Our religious speech is not homely enough. Let us not talk of palaces and thrones and dominions. What the spirit of

man wants is home. The highways and the high seas are well enough in their place, but what is their place? They are there to lead us home.

For myself I want—and here I am not singular, but know well that I express the universal heart not fame, or power, or wealth, but that spirit, on the large and permanent scale, in eternity, in the universe, which I remember when I was a little child, and the fire glowed on wintry evenings, and the tea-urn sang on the table, and my mother's voice was crooning some sweet hymn; when the world of care was shut out—as if it were not—and the world of love was shut in.

Poor, forlorn, and homeless creatures, we want but one thing in this lonely universe—alas! It is not to be found in this world but for a season in early youth—we want the atmosphere of a comprehending sympathy, the tone of welcome.

The Christian gospel has done three things for us, the magnitude and value of which few of us can at present realize. 1. It has defined the homeland. 2. It has lit up the long seas with shimmering paths of light which mark the way home. 3. It has brought into our hearts the experience and foretaste of our home, and has thus made even the land of our exile rich in visions and the house of our pilgrimage jubilant with songs.

Mind you, it has emphasized the fact that life is an exile. It has written over the door of our dining-chamber this reminder. Each meal is taken in remembrance, "Till He cometh." We sit down girt, holding the pilgrim staff. For the haste of the jour-

ney does not allow us to settle down or to rest. But who minds the exile, if the homeland and the way home are defined?—Robert F. Horton.

### Mistakes are Costly.

You can make no mistake by using Hunt's Cure for itch, tetter, ringworm and itching piles. No cure—no pay.

### Farm and Ranch.

Wood ashes is one of the best fertilizers for cabbage. Potash in other forms is equally good.

An early morning hour spent in the garden with a hoe in killing weeds will add more to the relish for breakfast than either sauces or tonics.

Any good commercial orchard should yield a profit of \$50 per acre. In other words it will pay 10 per cent on a valuation of \$500 per acre.

Hogs are adapted to every farm, for the simple reason that they will eat almost anything. Even that which other animals have eaten, but failed to digest they will also convert into pork.

The average cost of keeping a dairy cow is placed by Dairy and Creamery at \$32 per year. But to feed a cow properly on \$32 worth one must know something of digestible nutrients and balanced rations.

### Not Doomed for Life.

"I was treated for three years by good doctors," writes W. Greer, McConnellsville, O., piles and fistula, but, when all failed, Bucklen's Arnica Salv cured me in two weeks." Cures burns, bruises, cuts, corns, sores, eruptions, salt rheum, piles or no pay. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

## S. W. SHEPPARD

<p><b>Groceries Vegetables Fruits Country Produce and Fresh Meats, etc.</b></p>	<p><b>We sell almost everything afforded by the market and sell at reasonable prices. Come to us for your groceries.....</b></p>
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## SPECIAL SALE.

In order to make room for fall stock I am offering all summer goods at greatly reduced prices. Everything in Lawns, Dimities, etc., going at about what they cost.

Have just received a large shipment of shoes; if you need anything in the shoe line call and examine same.

Full stock of groceries at bottom prices.

## J. O. HAMILTON

## ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

...Wind Mills, Pumps and Water Supply Goods...

We keep in stock the Star steel mill, direct stroke and back gear; Eclipse wood mill, Dandy and Aermotor steel mills; a full assortment 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.