

THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, OCTOBER 2, 1902.

NO. 33.

Foresight Is Better Than Hindsight!

There is no question about that. And the man who buys his fall bill of Dry Goods, Clothing and Shoes from THE STAR STORE will have no cause for regret. We are not given to boastful statements, but there is one thing we can strongly emphasize--"OUR PRICES ARE RIGHT." A close inspection of our new stock will convince you of this fact. Come in and look around; we are anxious to "show you."

We are showing a pretty line of woolen Dress Goods in Venitians, Zibileur, Dress Flannels and Broadcloths, with Appliques, Laces, and Braids to match. Big line of Calicoes, Percales, Gingham, Madras and Outings--all new goods and new patterns.

STAR BRAND SHOES ARE BETTER



For Men, Ladies, Boys and Girls

LOOK AT THESE:

Special value in yard wide percale at7½c
 Heavy yard wide LL Domestic.....4½c
 Good quality soft finish Bleach Domestic4½c
 Best quality Feather Ticking.....12½c
 Mattress Ticking.....4½c
 Extra heavy good width Cotton Flannel.....8½c
 Fair quality Cotton Flannel.....4½c
 25 inch round thread Cotton Checks3½c
 6 spools Clark's O. N. T. Thread25c

These are only a few of the many bargains we have in store for our customers.

We cordially invite the trading public to visit our store. You will always be welcome. We are in the market all the time for your cotton at top figures.

Very respectfully,

THE STAR STORE,
 LEADERS OF LOW PRICES.

Below is a Few Articles a Nickel Will Buy:

10 balls Thread.....5c
 5 papers Pins5c
 2 bottles Ink5c
 4 rubber tip Lead Pencils5c
 4 cedar Slate Pencils5c
 Cork handle Penholder5c
 Keep finers clean by using a "Morning on your penholder--only.....5c
 Extra large Tablet.....5c
 25 good Envelopes5c
 12 inch School Rule5c
 5 spools Embroidery Silk5c
 Box Bachelor Buttons5c
 Horn or rubber Fine Comb.....5c

Latest Styles in...

LADIES'
 MISSES'
 CHILDREN'
 JACKETS.....



AN EMBLEM OF GRATITUDE.

Sthetic Scene Witnessed in a Print Shop.

There was an old printer—a compositor who set type on the evening daily by the "em," so the proprietor might know how much to pay him at the end of the week—and his hand trembled with feebleness as he stood the types on end like little soldiers on parade. He had one little girl at home, and every evening when the file was clear and the case distributed, the old man would go to the editor's room and the discarded exchanges about and select the attractive picture papers for the child, sick at home. The printers joked and called him "the old rag picker," but after a time the editor got in the habit of saving all the picture papers and when the white-haired printer called would tell him "there was some stuff on the table corner that might please his little girl." One day his place at the case was vacant, and when the printers came to work they looked by in breathless silence. No one had told them the old man's child was sick, but now they understood, and when the lunch hour came they assembled about the stone and talked in low tones.

Another day found the old man at his usual place, though his shoulders stooped lower and his hand shook as the type rattled in the stick. But somehow his case was better assorted, and every

"take" he drew from the hook was a phat one. When evening came the old man went to the editorial room, but paused at the door and turned away. It had become such a habit with him that he had started in to search among the exchanges before he thought. The editor saw him and asked him back to a seat, and after completing an editorial on the expansion controversy, he invited the old man to a drive in the country. Soon they were speeding along behind the editor's high-stepping horse, and shortly drew up in front of a large, ivy-covered gateway, with high stone walls. How well the old man knew the place—it was the graveyard. Mechanically he led the way to a new-made grave beneath two great trees. But what a change! When last he had seen that spot it was but an unmarked mound of fresh turned clay. Now a pretty head-stone stood, and on it an angel clasping a baby form, was flying up toward the stars, and beneath was the one word, "Nellie." In the center a cluster of bright flowers waved, from among which a lonely lily lifted its head. Surely there was some mistake. The old man looked appealingly to the editor. "The boys at the office," explained the editor,—"they had it done, and asked me to bring you out and see how you would like it." Then he looked in another direction. The old man knelt beside the grave, while down in the heart of the lily sparkled a teardrop, bright as a diamond. And a teardrop bright as the one the lily held trembled

on the editor's cheek.—Haskell Headlight.

The Pettis Murder Trial.

This morning (Monday) the Pettis murder case, in which defendant is charged with killing Frank Baccus, was called for trial.

The jury of "twelve good men and true" was secured before noon and the examination of witnesses is now in progress.

J. M. Wagstaff and D. G. Hill represent the defendant, while B. A. Cox, special counsel, District Attorney Spann and County Attorney Bledsoe represent the state.

The attorneys are able and vigorous and a strong legal battle is being waged.

The following citizens constitute the trial jury:

Horace Wilson, Caps.
 D. A. Winters, city.
 W. A. Minter, Jr., city.
 R. L. Flippo, Tuscola.
 J. A. Bouchee, Buffalo Gap.
 B. D. Wingo, Abilene.
 J. H. Fuller, Buffalo Gap.
 A. B. Britton, Guion.
 Walter Jennings, city.
 W. S. Daniel, city.
 Geo. Hayden, city.
 D. T. Harkrider, Tuscola.

—Daily Reporter.

Mothers

Who would keep their children in good health, should watch for the first symptoms of worms, and remove them with White's Cream Vermifuge. It is the children's best tonic. It gets digestion to work so that their food does them good, and they grow up healthy and strong. 25c, Rust & Pittard.

Two Bales of Cotton Burned.

Saturday evening Mr. Newberry, who lives just beyond Trent, had a bale of cotton ginned at the Trent gin and drove home, leaving the bale with the seed in the wagon. Sometime during the night it was discovered to be on fire and all efforts to save it were futile. The seed and wagon bed were also consumed.

John Skillern had a bale destroyed in pretty much the same way, which was ginned the same evening. It is not known how the cotton caught fire.

Beautiful Complexions

Are spoiled by using any kind of preparation that fills the pores of the skin. The best way to secure a clear complexion, free from sallowness, pimples, blotches, &c, is to keep the liver in good 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.

Burroughs & Mann this week closed a deal for the Horner stock of drugs and moved into the building occupied by the latter. In connection with their present stock, this will give them one of the most complete drug-stores in the west. They are deserving, and The Mail hopes they will succeed.

The season for killing quail came in Wednesday, and local sportsmen are cleaning up their guns preparatory to "making the feathers fly." Quail are said to be very numerous this year.

J. O. Hamilton has a quarter page advertisement on last page, which you are invited to read. By courteous and fair dealings, he has worked up a good trade, and his past year's business shows an increase of 50 per cent over that of last year.

Do You Want to Yawn?

Feel cold shiverings, aching in the bones, lack of energy, headache, and great depression? These symptoms may be followed by violent headache, high fever, extreme nervousness, a condition known as malaria. Herbine cures it. Take it before the disease gets a fair hold, though it will work a cure in any stage. J. A. Hopkins, of Manchester, Kan., writes: "I have used your great medicine, Herbine, several years. There is nothing better for malaria, chills and fever, headache, biliousness, and for a blood-purifying tonic, there is nothing as good." 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

Madam Rumor has a wedding on the tapis, which is to be pulled off inside of a few days. Now guess.

The Mail is in receipt of an unsigned communication which deals in some wholesome advice to parents, who are slack in authority with their girls and allow them full scope of the town at night. It is to the point, but such articles cannot be published except over the signature of the writer. There is room for improvement along this line in every town, but Merkel has fewer "fast" girls than any town we know of.

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 numbers.

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 Republicans, as usual, are claiming Grand Old Texas.

Texas laws may be good and wholesome, and are when they can be applied, but applying them is the rub. They are too easily evaded, too easily gotten around and too complex and susceptible of being picked to pieces by designing lawyers. Of all the laws on the statute books, those relating to prohibition are perhaps the rottenest. It is almost impossible to put it into execution. Any excuse, no matter how flimsy or weak, can be brought to bear in getting contests of this kind into the courts, and there it hangs fire until one side or the other "throws up the sponge." The contest in this county is now in court, where it will likely remain for some time to come. There is no telling when it will be settled. The law should have been in effect at least three months, but contest papers were filed, an injunction granted, and the case is no nearer a solution than it was at the beginning. The law should be amended so that in the event the contestants failed in substantiating their charges of fraud and irregularities no appeal could be taken. At least there should be some grounds for hope that the will of the people will not be ruthlessly trampled under foot. Perfect the law or else scratch it from the statute books.

Merkel merchants paid a half cent a pound more for cotton this week than was paid at any town in this country.

The bonds of the Merkel Independent school district were sold this morning to C. A. Kean, a Chicago capitalist, at par value, with accrued interest, less two per cent., or, in round numbers, \$7,987. The State made a bid of face value on the bonds, which is \$13 more than they brought, but the other deal was pending when the State's bid was received, and hence they were too late.

Mr. Bennett, a son of the saddle man, came in yesterday from Gorman.

...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.

THE ALAMEDA.

One of the most beautiful parks in Mexico is the Alameda. It contains about forty acres and is near the center of the city. There are beautiful walks, fountains, statuary and tropical vegetation arranged with gracefulness, and there is no crowding. At each turn of the walks are new surprises of fountains, statuary or flower beds arranged in numerous designs; beneath the trees the grass forms a green sward. During the week the children are allowed to romp and play and concerts are given on Thursday evenings and on Sundays, mornings and afternoons. The customary promenade on Sundays or feast days is a moving mass of bright colors. The youth and beauty of the capital are out, and cupid is kept busy as they pass and repass under the strict rules of Mexican etiquette. A portion of this beautiful place was at one time the place of punishment during the reign of the "Inquisition." On the west side was the "Plaza del Quemadores," where there was a stone platform on which religious criminals were burned. In 1770 this "Quemadore" was removed and the beautifying of the whole park began. The main fountain is a marvel of beauty. Near the northern entrance is a large wire bird house, which contains some rare birds. On the south side, fronting on the Avenida Juarez, is a building of Moorish design that was brought from the New Orleans world's fair. It is now occupied by a lottery company.

THE VOLCANOES.

Leaving the Alameda we go to the Zocalo and take the electric cars marked "Guadalupe," and are soon speeding on our way to the most famous shrine in America. It is getting late in the afternoon. The road runs through fields of maguays and gardens of flowers. It is quite open here and we remark that we might get a sight of the volcanoes. We look, and look, but see nothing but a level land-

scape and a bunch of clouds. We were beginning to despair of seeing them, when we happened to look up and, lo! There they were, their snowy heads towering above the clouds. We had been looking too low. Pretty soon the clouds cleared away and we had a magnificent view. Old Popocatepetl, with his gracefully rounded top towering to the height of 17,630 feet above sea level and covered with snow for over a mile from the top, and his companion, Ixtaccihuatl, 16,360 feet high, also covered with snow. The top of the smaller mountain seems to be more broken, and there is nearly always a cloud hanging over the west side. There are large glaciers on this side and the condensation of the moist atmosphere by the mass of snow and ice causes the cloud. This mountain is very hard to climb and has never been ascended to its highest point, but "Old Popo," though a thousand feet higher, is much smoother and the ascent can be made without much difficulty or danger. Several American ladies have made the ascent to the crater. The descent is easy enough. The Indian guide spreads a "petate" (rush mat) and you sit on this and coast for over a mile on the smoothest toboggan slide on the continent. Today we met a couple of young men from Chicago who were getting supplies and were going to make the climb by way of Amecameca, but we decided we would not try it this time, but would be content to admire its grandeur from the valley. The evening sun shone full on their glistening tops and sides—so pure the light and so far above the toils and troubles of the busy city in the valley. The Aztec name, Popocatepetl, means smoking mountain. It is a volcano not quite extinct, but in the sulphur stage, like the La Sufriere mountain on St. Vincent Island. Since the trouble with the West Indian volcanoes, some people say it smokes occasionally and no doubt many people in the

valley say their prayers and take a look toward the volcanoes before they go to bed. The name, Ixtaccihuatl, means "white lady" from the fancied resemblance to a woman when the white cloud covers it like a drapery.

Ajusco on the west side of the valley is another volcano that has been extinct for over a hundred years; but Vesuvius in Naples and Mt. Pelee in Martinique were extinct for hundreds of years. By looking at the map of Mexico you will find a string of volcanoes reaching from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific Ocean. The most important are: Orizaba, Popocatepetl, Ixtaccihuatl, Ajusco, Jorullo, Toluca and Colima. Scientists say that there is a weak place in the crust of the earth near the 19th parallel north latitude.

J. L. VAUGHAN.

Work will probably be resumed on the new school building next week. Several cars of brick are on the track, but some of the other material has not yet arrived, which has delayed the work.

Arguments in the Pettis murder trial were begun yesterday. It is expected that the case will go to the jury today or tomorrow and that a verdict will be rendered by Saturday night.

The west bound passenger was six hours late yesterday, due to a wreck on the east end near Longview.



Mrs. Fred Unrath,
President Country Club, Benton Harbor, Mich.

"After my first baby was born I did not seem to regain my strength although the doctor gave me a tonic which he considered very superior, but instead of getting better I grew weaker every day. My husband insisted that I take Wine of Cardui for a week and see what it would do for me. I did take the medicine and was grateful to find my strength and slowly returning. In two weeks I was up and in a month I was able to resume my usual duties. I am very enthusiastic in its praise."

Wine of Cardui reinforces the organs of generation for the ordeal of pregnancy and childbirth. It prevents miscarriage. No woman who takes Wine of Cardui need fear the coming of her child. If Mrs. Unrath had taken Wine of Cardui before her baby came she would not have been weakened as she was. Her rapid recovery should commend this great remedy to every expectant mother. Wine of Cardui regulates the menstrual flow.

WINE OF CARDUI

Work is progressing in the Warren building, the work being completed up to the joist. It is to be ready for occupancy Nov. 1.

NEW MILLINERY GOODS!

LEAVE for the market this week to buy my Fall and Winter Millinery Goods. It is my intention to buy 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...

NEW BUSINESS!

New Store! New Goods!
Old Buyers! Experienced Merchants!

You Read Other Advertisements; Read This One; it will interest you.

It's a new business and a new store, but our number of years of experience and unqualified success will be known when you see our prices and our goods. We are not over-enthusiastic; we want every person in and around Abilene to see our exhibit, compare it with others, and give us **ONLY THE CREDIT DUE**. Read our prices, examine our goods and pass upon their merits. Read the following closely, then come and see for yourself as to its **TRUTHFULNESS**.

AN OLD ADAGE:
Self Praise is Half Scandal.

Staples

Yard wide LL Brown Dom....4c
 Yd wide LL heavy "5c
 Yd wide S I "4½c
 " " very heavy "7c
 " Bleach sof fin "5c
 Yard wide Bleach Domestic 8c,
 7c and down to.....6c
 10-4 brown sheeting.....15c
 Heavy brown drilling, good...6c
 Cotton plaids and checks 3,4 & 5c
 Good stand. fancy calicos 4 to 3c
 Good stand, indigo blues and
 calicoes4c
 Oil red blues and greens.....5c
 Good stand. silver grays.....4c
 A C A feather ticking only...10c
 Fancy feather ticking, double
 fold10 to 15c
 Mattress ticking 8, 7, 6 down to 5c
 Staple checked gingham....4c
 " " better 5c
 Fancy dress gingham....7 & 8c
 Fancy dress gingham and Mad-
 ras cloth.....10c
 Cotton flannels.....3½ to 5c
 " "12, 10, 8 to 7c

Shoes

Men's heavy solid all leather
 work shoes.....\$1.00
 Men's heavy oil grain—best shoe
 for the money.....1.25
 Men's dress shoe lace or con 1.00
 Men's dress better goods 1.25,
 1.35 and1.50
 Our guaranteed shoes from 2.00,
 2.50 to 3.50 are the best goods on
 the market. See our shoes be-
 fore you buy.
 Ladies heavy shoes...80c to 1.00
 Ladies nicer and bet. 1.25 to 1.75
 Ladies dongola lace nice patent
 tip80c
 Ladies vici lace better1.35
 Ladies vici lace, the best shoe on
 earth for the money.....1.50
 Our ladies 2.00, 2.50, 3.00 and up
 shoes are beauties for the money.

Boys work shoes, 4s to 5s...1.10
 " " better 1.25 to 1.50
 Boys nice dress shoes.....1.00
 Boys nice vici and box calf shoes
 from.....1.35, 1.50 to 2.00
 Childs fancy soft shoe 1 to 3, 15c
 Childs fancy, better25 to 50c
 Childs in blue and red, some-
 thing nice.....85c, 1.00 to 1.10
 Childs dongola button tip, sizes 3
 to 535c
 Childs dongola but., 5 to 7½, 50c
 Childs nicer and better goods
 at.....75c and 1.00
 Misses heavy shoes 50, 65c & 1.00
 Misses heavy, better and nicer
 goods....75c, 1.00, 1.25 and 1.50
 Misses nice dress shoes all prices
 from.....75c to 1.00 and up.
 Our line of misses and little gents
 school shoes will be put against
 anything in the state for quality
 and price.

Mens Furnishing Goods Department.

Mens rib. fleece undershirts..20c
 " fancy " " ..25c
 " heavy " " ..35c
 " wool " lined " ..50
 A Cotton flannel drawers with
 elastic ankle25c
 Bleach drill, Scrivens patent 50c
 A Good Heavy Overshirt—Our
 line of overshirts from 50, 75, 1.00
 1.50, 2.00 and 2.50 are the best in
 the country for the money.
 Mens fancy dress shirt.....35c
 " " " " 50c, 75c 1.00
 Mens work shirts 25, 35 and 50c
 Mens work pants 75, 1.00 and 1.50
 Mens dress pants 2.00, 2.50 to 5.00

White Goods Dept.

White table damask22½c
 " " " 25, 35, 50, 75 to
1.25
 Red table damask 20, 25 and up.
 A bleach cotton towel 5c each or
 10c a pair.

Bleach cotton towel, larger and
 better, 20 and 25c a pair.
 A nice large linen towel 25c each
 or 50c a pair.
 Bleach linen towels 75 to 2.00 pr.
 Bleach crashes and toweling 4 to
 10c per yard.
 White counterpanes 60, 1.00, 1.50
 2.00 to 2.50 and up.

In men's fur hats, we think we
 have the best line in Abilene for
 the money.

Mens fur hats, a good one...90c
 " " better grade, 1.00,
 1.50 to 2.50.

Also a line of Stetson hats.
 Boys hats...25, 35, 50c and up.
 Mens caps...15, 25, 50c and up.
 Boys caps...5, 10 to 50c and up.

Our line of hosiery in mens,
 ladies, misses and children's will
 be the best shown in Abilene, and
 as to prices, we will say that no
 house in the state will sell you
 better, or as good, for the money
 as we will sell you.

Mens sox5c and up.
 Ladies seamless hose at...8½c.
 And are the best goods that
 can be shown for the money.

We handle the celebrated Jane
 Hopkins line of boys clothing,
 which are the most up-to-date
 line of boys and children's cloth-
 ing made. See them for style
 and price.

Skirts and Jackets.

The prettiest line of skirts in
 the city, all colors and styles, the
 very latest to be had. In wool-
 ens from \$1.00 to \$10. Our silk
 skirts are beauties, handsomely
 trimmed and elegant in every
 detail, from \$10 to \$20.

We also take orders for tailor-
 made suits from the leading tail-
 ors, with satisfaction guaranteed.
 Ask to see samples.

Jackets.

We made this a special feature
 while in market. Every lady
 wishes a handsome wrap, for that
 is half the winter. Our Monte
 Carlo's are just the thing in ele-
 gance and style. Just look at
 them and see.

We also have short jackets,
 ranging from \$1.25 to \$5.00—
 jackets that will always be the
 style.

Dress Goods Dept.

Our line of high grade dress
 goods and novelties of this sea-
 son's product are beauties in
 Vigoroys, Venetians, Panama,
 Suitings, Melton Cloths, Broad-
 cloths, Corkscrews, Satin Soliel
 Cloth and many other fine fab-
 rics, which we will show you and
 the prices we will not attempt to
 quote on these lines.

Millinery Dept.

Our millinery department is the
 most up-to-date this side of Fort
 Worth, and stands her own with
 any in the state.

Miss DeLane is one of the best
 designers and trimmers to be se-
 cured in St. Louis, and will be
 ably assisted by Mrs. Grimes,
 who has had about eighteen
 years practical experience in this
 line. Call and see them to be
 pleased.

Flannel & Silk Waists.

Ask to see the short waists.
 They are something that never
 "goes out" with the season, and
 we think we have a beautiful
 line. Fine flannels and silks, all
 prices, something that will catch
 your eye.

WE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EVERY LITTLE DISCOVERY, consequently our goods are the
 most up-to-date in Style, Quality and Price, the Designs and Fabrics the Newest. Nothing
 is worse in business than advertising that says one thing and goods that speak another. we believe
 in buying and selling goods that you can tell the truth about. The truth is enough. Such goods do
 not simply supply a demand today; it creates one for tomorrow. Honesty, Quality, and Prices are
 worthy of consideration. Remember we have a commodious room especially fitted up for the
 ladies, where they can rest before and after shopping. Don't forget the place, the big Daylight Store
 on Chestnut and South Second St., ABILENE.

S. W. GRIMES & CO.

What Do You Want?

Is It Enumerated Below?

- | | |
|---|--|
| Is it Something New in Trimmings? | Is it Something New in Shoes? |
| Is it Something New in Dress Goods? | Is it Something New in Ladies' or Children's Wear of Any Kind? |
| Is it Something New in Waist Goods? | Is it Something New in Men's Wear--- Clothing, Shoes, Hats, Shirts, Underwear, Collars, Hose, Etc? |
| Is it Something New in Silks or Satins? | |
| Is it Something New in Shirt Waists? | |
| Is it Something New in Kid Gloves? | |

If there is anything in the above lines you want, come to us and we will save you the trouble of chasing over town for it. As usual, **OUR PRICES ARE THE LOWEST** to be found on **FIRST-CLASS, REPUTABLE MERCHANDISE.**

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 printer 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. Positive no deviation from this rule.

AMENDE HONORABLE.

The Baird Star last week devoted three columns to an explanation of its attack on The Mail's "prohibition proclivities," but after digesting the multiplicity of words and phrases we are as deep in the mire as ever. Some papers seem to forget that every man has a right to express his honest convictions on all topics of the day, especially if those convictions are not the popular craze. The Mail sincerely and without equivocation championed the cause of prohibition in this county, and a few papers and individuals have seen fit to hold it up to public ridicule, though before small audiences. The Star, too, it seems, though on the other side of the question, has been confronted with a similar clan of bigots and foul-mouthed critics.

The Star again asserts that the reports enumerating the number of "dry" counties in Texas came from prohibition headquarters and not from the State Revenue

Agent. We can not be mistaken about this. The dispatch was dated at Austin Aug. 29 and published in the Dallas News on the 30. In the same dispatch was an open letter to Tax Collectors, calling attention to violations of the law by evasions of the revenue tax. We have the paper on file if the Star is still in doubts. We saw only one correction of this report, which was made by the secretary of the "League of Liberty," an organization to promote saloon interests, although there may have been others.

The Mail has been so persistently and unmercifully "jabbed on the tenderloins" for the unpardonable sin of being a prohibitionist (or rather local optionist) that those organs have become sore, very sore. There is an effort being made in this county to injure us, and The Star, by lending its influence in this direction, though not purposely, stepped on a protruding bunion. The Mail has stood enough—too much—and the unjust and uncalled for attack of an Abilene sheet, which stuck its nose into the affair last week, was the straw that broke the camel's back. The affair must come to a head. Somebody must suffer for it. And when we get through with 'em—well, they'll know it. A newspaper can not afford to disgrace its columns by even half-way comment upon the dirty affair, so nothing further will be said at this time.

The Mail returns threefold the Stars expression of esteem and good will in the following, and so far as we are concerned the matter is dropped:

"The Merkel Mail is one of the brightest and best country newspapers in Texas, and no exchange comes to this office that

is more generally read by the entire force in the Star office. We doubt if a town in Texas the size of Merkel has a paper equal to The Mail in editorial, local and general makeup, and so neatly printed as The Mail, edited by Ed Leeman, for whom we have always had the most kindly feeling, though often differing with him, but so far as we are concerned never giving this difference a serious thought." * * *

Many farmers have prepared their land for fall wheat sowing; others have been prevented from doing so by the continued dry weather. It is evident, from present appearances, that the acreage of wheat and oats will be largely increased in this country this year. Two short crop years in succession have opened the eyes of the farmers to a complete realization of the fact that it won't do to depend altogether on cotton as a money crop, and that there must be "go-betweens" if the present prosperity of the country is maintained. A wise conclusion, and may it take deep root in the hearts of the people. Stockfarming—diversification—is the word.

The yield of the cotton crop of this country hinges on the weather from now until the middle of November or the first of December. If frost holds off until that time the average yield will perhaps be a half bale to the acre, but if it comes earlier than usual this year only about a fifth of a bale to the acre will be made. Never before in our recollection has a frost appeared in this country earlier than the 7th or 8th of November, and only one time that early. Two years ago we had no frost to amount to anything and cotton opened in December and even in January,

and hundreds of bales were gathered in February, the snows preventing the gathering of the entire crop on many farms. However, this has been a year of surprises, and frost a month earlier than usual would occasion no very great surprise.

The Mail has received numerous inquiries in regard to the prohibition contest which is generally supposed to have been tried in District Court nearly two weeks ago. We know nothing at this time. Possibly a statement will be made next week when further facts can be ascertained. It is understood that the case has been set for hearing sometime during December. Charges of bribery and corruption have gone out, but these should not be entertained for a moment. The case is in the hands of the District Judge and he alone has the power to pass upon it.

Tariff revision should be the slogan of the Democratic party during the next two years. There is a popular demand for it throughout the country and among all classes and parties.

West Texas still shows a overproduction of—babies. As this to the influx of product other states and counties you have a remarkable g

The "full dinner pail" been the cause of many riots the anthracite coal fields. the end is not yet by a ju

The Alvord Budget co about twenty advertise eight of which are for sal The editor must love it.

The steel trust, with its ca of one and one-half billion c lars, evidently is not in need tariff protection.

Mayor Tom Johnson is au mobiling into office by the circu route. He has no relatives i Merkel.

At least the Republicans ca not use "a full coat scuttle" as campaign slogan.

Teddy's "strenuousness" is working out at the knee instead of the mouth.

Prospectors are known by the company they keep.

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

America's Famous Beauties

Look with horror on skin eruptions, blotches, sores, pimples. They don't have them, nor will any one, who uses Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It glorifies the face. Eczema or salt rheum vanish before it. It cures sore lips, chapped hands, chilblains. Infallible for piles. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Sam M. Leeman, brother to the editor and formerly connected with The Mail, has launched a new paper, The Commercial, at Collins, Covington Co., Miss. A large circle of friends here will join The Mail in best wishes for his success in the venture.

Rust & Pittard pay cash for their jewelry, thus getting the benefit of the cash discounts. They have a varied assortment, and the prices are right. Every piece guaranteed.

Isaac N. Taylor was up from Abilene, with a load of prospectors in tow, Saturday.

The largest stock of shoes ever shown in Merkel at Hamilton's.

A. H. Herring of Abilene was visiting relatives here Saturday.

A ray of sunshine entered the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tyra Compton in the form of a bouncing boy, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Berry spent Sunday in Abilene.

If you need a hat see those at Hamilton's. They can't be turned down. He sells the celebrated Rothschild Bros. brand. The largest hat dealers in America.

10, 15 and 20 cent silver heart bangles only 5 cents at Ustick's.

T. J. Coggin, C. M. Largent, J. M. Bryson and R. E. Tracy shipped 13 cars of fat cattle to market, Saturday.

Mr. Ferguson of Fort Worth is here prospecting Saturday. is connected with the Burton-go Lumber Co., and was on the lookout for ranch property. It is more than probable that he will locate in this immediate vicinity.

Mrs. Latrobe Vaughan, who has been visiting relatives here the past month, left Saturday for her home in Mexico.

The Mail job office turned out a neat job for Drs. Rust & Adkisson Saturday. They are making a specialty of consumption and chronic diseases, using static electricity and the X-ray with good results, and are working up a good practice.

L. E. Martin and Mr. Hill will, it is reported, soon open up a stock of dry goods in the Thornton building, soon to be vacated by Burroughs & Mann.

A. C. Bennett is visiting at Gorman this week.

The Mail has been complimented very highly, the past few days, by merchants who have experienced good results from advertising. The Mail reaches the people—all of them—and merchants look upon it as a trade finger. If you are not advertising you are losing trade.

Mrs. Butman of the Canyon and niece, Miss Ford of Boston, Mass., visited the family of T. B. Garoutte Thursday.

Mrs. J. C. Perkins (nee Miss Eva Martin) of Roscoe, visited her parents here Saturday. She left that night for Belcherville, Texas, where she will teach school the coming session. Her husband will follow later.

Your Shoe Bill



Where will you make it? We handle Hamilton & Brown shoes, and our stock is complete.

We have this shoe in both Plain Toe Congress and Cap Toe Bal, sizes 5 to 9, \$2.50

We carry the Watch Us in

- Imperial Toe Polish \$1.75
- Royal Toe Vest Top 1.75
- Imperial Toe Im. Welt 1.75



Here is a school shoe that will give you satisfaction. We have them in spring heel, lace and button: 5 to 8, 1. 8 to 12, 1.25. 12 to 2, 1.50.

These are just a few of the many good numbers to be found in our stock of shoes. See us for good shoes

J. T. WARREN...

Goes Like Hot Cakes.

"The fastest selling article I have in my store," writes druggist C. T. Smith, of Davis, Ky., "is Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, coughs and colds, because it always cures. In my six years of sales it has never failed. I have known it to save sufferers from throat and lung diseases, who could get no help from doctors or any other remedy." Mothers rely on it, best physicians prescribe it, and Rust & Pittard guarantee satisfaction or refund price. Trial bottles free. Regular sizes, 50c and \$1.

A second-hand Studebaker wagon for sale, cheap for cash or good note.

J. T. Warren.

Judge Daugherty of Abilene was in the city Tuesday.

A swell line of neckwear at J. O. Hamilton's. 4t

We are looking for a large shipment of Seth Thomas Clocks, and ask you to await their arrival. They will be sold cheaper than you can buy them elsewhere.

Rust & Pittard.

Cut Half in Two.

During the next few days, in order to reduce stock, I will sell all Bracelets at exactly HALF Price. Every one a rare bargain.

Ustick.

We have suits for boys ranging in price from 75c to \$6.00 each. They are beauties. Also full line of youths clothing, boys knee pants, etc.

J. O. Hamilton.

J. T. Warren is receiving his new fall goods. He says he has over-bought and will make some good prices to unload rather than have to move them when his new house is finished.

Remember the City Meat Market. Phone 75.

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

See the new styles in Thoroughbred Hats at Warren's.

For Sale—Eastman Bull's Eye kodak, carrying case and tripod. Good as new. Cheap. See Will Leeman.

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

You won't want to kick yourself when you buy Hamilton-Brown Shoes.

J. T. Warren.

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

W. W. WHEELER,

Real Estate, Life, Fire and Tornado Insurance Agent, Notary Public.

Takes Acknowledgements, Draws up Deeds, etc., Office in First National Bank.

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.

Wanted—Every mother in town to inspect our boy's clothing. We know that you can tell when they are made right. Turn them inside out.

J. T. Warren.

W. P. Browning & Co. will give you a bargain in Sideboards and Folding Beds.

E. D. Coats, the old reliable well driller, will have his machine here in a few days, when he will be prepared to do all work in this line. It don't take money to have a well drilled. See him.

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.

His Life in Peril.

"I just seemed to have gone all to pieces," writes Alfred Bee, of Welfare, Texas, "biliousness and a lame back had made life a burden. I couldn't eat or sleep and felt too worn out to work when I began to use Electric Bitters, but they worked wonders. Now I sleep like a top, can eat anything, have gained in strength and enjoy hard work." They give vigorous health and new life to weak, sickly, run-down people. Try them. Only 50c at Rust & Pittard's

The man who delights in running down his own town is—well, he ought to move to a more congenial clime, that's all. If you can't say something good about your town before strangers, keep mum.

Five pistol shots in quick succession Monday night caused a number of "burnt children" to shiver with apprehension. It was only the death knell of a few worthless curs, without which the town would be better off.

The town and surrounding country has been almost depopulated this week, hundreds of people from this end of the county being witnesses and jurors in the Pettis murder trial. The case went to trial Monday evening, a jury being easily made up out of the special venire of 100 men summoned for that purpose.

Dr. I. E. Smith of Weatherford, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, will return to Merkel on Oct. 8.

Lots of new goods to show you. If you want Watches, Rings, Charms, all kinds of Buttons, Silverware, etc., see Ustick.

Out of Death's Jaws.

"When death seemed very near from a severe stomach and liver trouble that I had suffered with for years," writes P. Muse, Durham, N. C., "Dr. King's New Life Pills saved my life and gave perfect health." Best pills on earth and only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Mrs. McCord visited at Eastland and other places east last and this week.

Photos—All kinds, from stamps up, at Barnhill's Gallery.

Wood and feed taken in exchange for photos at Barnhill's.

Watson & Bacon, an enterprising firm of Troy, Texas, were here prospecting this week. They are looking out a location for a business and also want ranch property. It is possible that they will locate in Merkel. They are good men and The Mail would be glad to have them locate here.

W. R. Bigham and son, Fred, came in from Louisiana Sunday.

Olin O'Zee came in last week from Ft. Worth.

John Elliott returned last week from St. Louis.

Ben Hill returned from the Plains last week.

Those Who Love Us.

Under this head will be given, each week, a list of subscribers who have paid their subscriptions to The Mail. It will answer as a receipt. D. A. Walden, Merkel, \$1.00, E. M. Sherman, Merkel, \$1.00, Mrs. J. C. Perkins, Roscoe, 50c.

Get your name on this list.

Ben Trimble spent part of last week with home folks at Anson.

J. H. Warnick made a business trip to Dallas last week.

Cheer, Cheer, Cheer.

"There are many things for some of us to do, and there are some things for many of us to do. And there is one thing for everyone of us to do, and that is to cheer! cheer! cheer!" So writes the young president of Adrain college. And he voices a great truth. All of us cannot do great or brave things. But we can all cheer. When a strong man with a sincere purpose stands up in the political arena and fights for the people's rights we can all cheer. When any man, in whatsoever station, does his duty we can cheer. When any woman holds a loyal purpose and is true to it, we can cheer. And do you know that in battle a hearty cheer is half the victory? The line wavers. The shot and shell decimates the ranks. It is the critical moment. Then the leaders shout, cheer! cheer! cheer! Moral courage and the wild thrill of enthusiasm takes the place of the stubborn but failing physical bravery and the redoubt is won. Many a brave soul falls in the battle of life for the want of cheer. Some men feel instinctively the need of cheering and deliberately seek to extort it from their fellow-men. They compel the world to cheer. Others, fully as brave, wait for it, long for it, and die without it. Cheer! cheer! cheer! It costs little effort. It is the natural impulse of the heart when the heart is rid of selfishness and envyings. You may not be able to win a single victory in life for yourself, but you can win a hundred victories by proxy if you will cheer, when you have an opportunity, a hundred stirring souls. Blessings on him who heartily cheers another on his way. When he gets to the portals of heaven and St. Peter asks what he has done he need not hang his head when he says "I cheered."—Ex.

We Can't Tell A Lie

When we say there is no shaking of bottles, no licking of spoons, no wry faces when Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tablets are used. 25c. No cure—no pay.

The country is in readiness now for a couple of months of warm, dry weather. The cool weather is not proving beneficial to cotton.

W. L. Clay is attending court at Abilene.

Cow and yearling, both in very good condition, for sale. Call at this office.

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.

- Adkisson, G. B.
- Adkisson, Gid
- Barrett, Oris Glenn
- Besales, A. W.
- Cordill, W. T.
- Ennis, M.
- Kuyrkendall, R. W.
- Jaco, Lige
- Lucas, John
- Moback, Charley
- Mayo, Mrs. May
- Nowell, L. S.
- Paris Julian
- Rollings, Ben
- Rutherford, W. F.
- Strange, Mrs. A. G.

Oats should be planted this month, and the farmer who has not prepared his land, or who does not prepare it, will make perhaps an average crop and an average crop ought to be unsatisfactory. It is as necessary for oats as for wheat that the ground be well prepared and that the seed be put in deep. It is the shallow planted oats that are killed by the severe winter weather because the plants have not sufficient depth of root. Shallow planting seldom results in a good stand unless the weather happens to be favorable, and very often it don't happen that way. If all the seeds are put down to a point where moisture will persist for a week, there will be a good stand, even if some are an inch deeper than others; but seeds so near the surface as to be deprived of moisture enough for germination will be delayed, and perhaps destroyed.—Farm & Ranch.

Heaven Help Us

In our troubles, but use Hunt's cure for itch, tetter, ringworm, itching piles and eczema. Guaranteed.

The rain seems to be general over the entire Merkel trade territory.

The Texas & Pacific section-house and toolshop, one mile this side of Strawn, was burned Friday night. It was set by a lamp explosion.

PRESCRIPTION 3363.

Cures Headache, Neuralgia and Colds...

Your druggist authorized to refund money if it does not benefit.

ABILENE...

BASS BROS. DRUG CO..

A Division of the Profits

The people of the Merkel Country stayed with me during seasons of prosperity, and now that the country is not in the best of shape, I am going to divide the profits with my customers. My stock is new and complete. It embraces everything in the saddle and harness line, and the best that money can buy. Drop in and see me when in Merkel. I have employed an experienced workman and can turn out firstclass work on short notice. General repair work done.

Z. F. GREEN...

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.

TOP PRICE FOR COTTON.

Three Bales of the Fisher County Product Brought 8.55 Cash Tuesday Evening.

Cotton reached the top notch Tuesday evening when three bales were sold on the market at 8.55, spot cash. Mr. J. H. Chesney, who lives on the Clear Fork in Fisher county, was the lucky man. The cotton graded strict middling, was bought by J. O. Hamilton, and brought in the neighborhood of \$135.

Many more bales were sold the same day, but none reached the above figures. Jones, Fisher and Nolan counties were largely represented, and many satisfied customers left the crowded stores.

The farmers of this country are beginning to realize that Merkel is THE cotton market, and they are headed this way.

J. L. Berry and Will Mayfield of Hodges also marketed cotton here Tuesday. Their cotton was ginned at Midway.

Tom Clark, a negro brute, was burned at the stake near Corinth, Miss., Eriday. He confessed to the atrocious crime of rape and said that he deserved his awful fate.

8 Cents

Eight cents a pound is what a young woman paid for twelve pounds of flesh.

She was thin and weak and paid one dollar for a bottle of Scott's Emulsion, and by taking regular doses had gained twelve pounds in weight before the bottle was finished.

Eight cents a pound is cheap for such valuable material. Some pay more, some less, some get nothing for their money. You get your money's worth when you buy Scott's Emulsion.

We will send you a little free.

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

Mesdames Warnick and Clay and Miss George visited in Abilene Tuesday.

Cattle sales have added considerably to the prosperity of the country during the past month. There is a bright outlook for the cattle business, and prices are picking up.

T. J. Coggin, the well known Merkel cowman, was in the city yesterday with an eye open to the opportunity to buy some fat cows to ship to market. He says he has been buying and shipping in the Merkel Country, and conditions down there are very favorable at this time.—Colorado Stockman.

Those Who Love Us.

Under this head will be given, each week, a list of subscribers who have paid their subscriptions to The Mail. It will accompany a receipt:

- J. P. Copeland, Hodges, 50c.
 - J. B. Bowdon, Zourette, \$1.00.
- Get your name on this list.

Swapping Lids

Is practiced, but don't swap on Hunt's Lightning Oil for a worthless article. Ask your druggist or merchant for a free sample bottle.

Now's the time to advertise.

"It Goes Right to the Spot"

When pain or irritation exists on any part of the body, the application of Ballard's Snow Liniment will give prompt relief. "It goes right to the spot," said an old man who was rubbing it on, to cure rheumatism. C. R. Smith, Propr. Smith House, Tenaha, Texas, writes: "I have used Ballard's Snow Liniment in my family for several years, and have found it to be a fine remedy, for all aches and pains, and I recommend it for pains in the throat and chest." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

DORA.

J. M. Bryson went to Wingate Wednesday.

Miss Ina Linn came in Wednesday from Star, where she has been visiting the past month.

T. C. Jenkins and J. M. Bryson went to Valley Creek Thursday after cattle.

G. B. Sligers was up from Valley Creek Thursday.

J. M. Bryson, B. Jenkins, J. Holder and T. C. Jenkins left Friday with cattle for St. Louis.

No preaching at Dora Sunday. Singing at Mr. Elliott's Sunday night.

R. A. Linn and wife went to Sweetwater Monday.

Linn left for the Plains

Kate Elliott is on the sick week.

Lowe and Albert Elliott to Merkel Tuesday.

Kat Klaw.

A Good Rain.

It began falling here yesterday morning and continued but few cessations throughout the day. At night it increased in force and is still falling as we go to press this morning. The fall is ample for all present needs, and will be worth much to the country. Late feed crops and grass will be revived, and fall garden sass promises to be immense.

Just what effect the rain will have on cotton is a matter of conjecture, but if it is protracted damage will result to cotton that is already open. However, the fall has been slow and steady and no great uneasiness is felt.

Dr. and Mrs. Leeman spent Wednesday in Abilene.

BEST PASSENGER SERVICE IN TEXAS.

4-IMPORTANT GATEWAYS-4



DOUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

Handwritten signatures and notes:
 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.

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

... 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.

A Generation Ago
 coffee could only be bought in bulk. The 20th century way is the way—sealed packages, always clean, fresh and retaining its rich flavor.

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.
 W. P. Browning & Co. sell the best Sewing Machine on the market at \$18 and \$20.
 The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

Aunt Lucindy
 Always carries Hunt's Lightning Oil around with her, says its fine for swellings, toothache, colic, weak back and backache, cuts, burns, neuralgia, catarrh. Aunt Lucindy has sixty-nine grandchildren and ought to know what she is talking about.

B. A. Gordon of Beachville, Tenn., is visiting Dr. Adkisson this week.

NUBIA.
 Cotton picking is all the go. T. J. and J. R. Toombs have gone to Abilene.

Misses Annie and Francis Bloxom of the Divide visited Miss Lizzie Blackburn Saturday and Sunday.

The Holiness people are holding a meeting at Bethel this week.

There was a dance and ice cream supper at B. J. Riney's Saturday night. A large crowd attended.

Mrs. Dr. Martin is improving. The Odd Fellows and Rebekah's gave a supper last Saturday night.

Rosebud.
 Ben Trimble had a tussle with a bovine at the stockpens Saturday night, with honors slightly in favor of the said bovine.

Caesar Conquered Britain
 Malaria was conquered by Simmon's Liver Purifier (tin box.) Protected from moisture, dust and insects. Clears the complexion, cures constipation, aids and corrects action of the liver.

A Tripple Hanging
 Smith, Brown and Jones hang their hopes of recovery upon Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tablets. They will be around soon shaking hands with friends. 25c. No cure—no pay.

L. A. Matthews Dead.
 The entire town was shocked when the announcement was made, yesterday, that L. A. (Fate) Matthews was dead. He had been sick only a few days with typhoid fever and his friends were not aware that any alarming symptoms had developed.

Mr. Matthews was a good man, with a large circle of friends, and had lived here a number of years, enjoying the confidence and esteem of all. He was energetic and industrious and in a fair way to become one of our soundest and most influential citizens. His wife died only a few years ago, leaving him with five little children. Two of the girls have since married and three little ones, the oldest about thirteen years of age, are at home.

The Mail joins the many friends of the family in heartfelt sympathy. The interment will take place this evening.

ABILENE.
 Judge Lindsey rendered a decision in the prohibition case Saturday afternoon holding the election on prohibition in this county valid. An appeal will be taken and when the case is finally settled no one knows.

Fayette Seely was acquitted of the charge of murder and also of assault with intent to murder in the district court last week.

G. R. Pettis is now on trial for killing Frank Baccus south of Merkel last spring. When the case will be decided is not yet known. Immediately after the Pettis case that of T. E. Lloyd on the same charge will be called and the case of Sam Patterson for killing Arthur Martin is set for Monday. This has been the busiest term of court held here in a number of years. About half of Merkel is here, either as witnesses or jurors.

Cotton is coming in pretty lively now and before long Abilene will begin to number her receipts by the thousands.

A small fire at the north ward school house this morning made things pretty lively for a short time but no material damage was done.

THE FACTS IN THE CASE
 When you read a thing you like to feel that it's the truth. The DALLAS SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS gives the facts in the case
SPECIALY EDITED
 If you'll read The News awhile you'll like it. It holds the attention. It is specially edited, that's why. Brains and not hap-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

kills, not necessarily suddenly, but SURELY. It preys upon the intellectual powers more than we realize. It consumes the vitality faster than nature can replenish it, and we cannot tell just what moment a temporary or complete aberration of the mind will result. Headache and pain should be promptly removed—but properly. Many pain cures are more harmful than the pain. Beware. If you would be safe, take

Dr. Myles' Pain Pills.

"As a result of neuralgia I lost the sight of my right eye, and the pain I have suffered is incomprehensible, being obliged to take opiates almost continually. A friend gave me one of Dr. Myles' Pain Pills and it promptly relieved me. I then purchased a box and now my trouble is gone. They have also cured my daughter of nervous headache, and I heartily recommend them to others."—W. J. CORLEY, Bremond, Texas.

Sold by Druggists. 25 Doses, 25c.
 Dr. Myles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

S. W. Grimes & Co., of Abilene, a new firm, have a page advertisement in this issue which you are invited to read. Give them a call when in Abilene.

Our Creed is God.
 Rev. F. E. Mason, Independant.
 The brotherhood of man is as yet problematical, because our creed is greed and our ritual is selfishness. Man must discover that he is heir to all the principles and powers of the universe; that his very existence here makes him eligible to operate all the laws and to give expression to them.

'Phone the news to No. 31.

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.

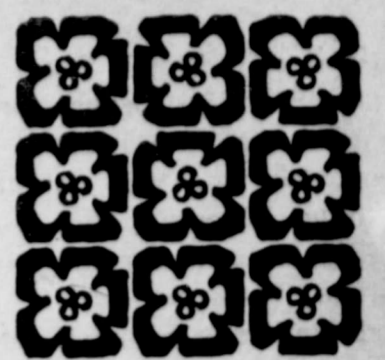
We Are Now Ready

To meet your wants for anything in Dry Goods or Groceries. Just received the largest and most complete stock of Dry Goods, Hats, Gloves, Shoes, &c, that we have ever shown.

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The Higher Life

Little Faithfulnesses.

Little faithfulnesses; it is all the more necessary for us to contemplate them, because it is not these in general which men venerate or admire. We praise the high—the splendid—the heroic; we dwell on the great deeds—on the glorious sacrifices. When you read how the lady of the house of Douglass thrust her own arm through the bolt grooves of the door and let the murderers break it while her king had time to hide; or how the pilot of Lake Erie stood undaunted upon the burning deck, and reckless of the intense agony, steered the crew safe to the jetty, and then fell dead among the crackling flames; or how the Russian serf, to save his master's children, sprang out from the sledge among the wolves that howled after them through the winter snow; or, once more, how amid the raging storm, the girl sat with her father at the oar to save the ship-wrecked sailors from the shrouds of the shattered wreck—whose soul is so laden that it does not thrill with admiration at deeds like these? But think you that these brave men and women sprang, as it were, full-sized into their heroic stature? Nay; but, like the gorgeous blossom of the aloe, elaborated through long years of silent and unnoticed growth, so these deeds were but the bright consummate flower borne by lives of quiet, faithful unrecorded service; and no one, be sure, has ever greatly done or gloriously dared who has not been familiar with the grand unselfishness of little duties; who has offered to God—more precious than the temple altars smoking with hecatombs of spotless lambs, the daily sacrifice of a contrite heart—the daily discipline of a chastened life. You would be like these? Well, it is a great ambition. But if you would not be false to it, show now, in little things, of what stuff your hearts are made, and you will not then be unprepared if God should ever require of you the hero's courage or the martyr's faith.—F. W. Farrar, D. D.

Rev. Dr. Meeser, Baptist.

There are two forces in the world—one is the power of life, manifested in progress, the other, the negation of death, manifested in retrogression. The power of life acts through men of faith and imagination, the negation of death through the

scribes and pharisees.

A Golden Jubilee.

Swedish Baptists, of whom there are about 25,000 in this country, are preparing for the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the first Swedish Baptist church in the United States at Rock Island, Ill. The celebration will be held in Chicago Sept 25 to 28, several churches being used for the anniversary meetings. Prominent men of the denomination from all over the United States will be present and speak. With the Swedes, some 6,000 Danish and Norwegian baptists will celebrate the anniversary. The greatest strength of Swedish Baptists is in northern Illinois and Minnesota, although there are churches in the East, even in New England. In Sweden there are some 45,000 Baptists, and both there and in this country they are growing rapidly, and the gathering in Chicago will doubtless give further impetus to the movement.

Soul Cleansing.

Rev. W. B. Leach, Methodist.

The capitalist needs it that he may apply the golden rule so that he may allow to live as well as live. The employe needs it that he may no longer need an eve servant, but that body and soul will do their work. Preachers need it more than all others, that they may have charity and common sense and be willing to follow the Master doing all things with an eye single to His glory.

Injunction Dissolved.

It is stated elsewhere, and was so currently reported, that the prohibition case had been postponed, and really that was the intention of the court, owing to the vast amount of business to be transacted at this term. However, time was found for a hearing Saturday and the injunction gotten out by the antis was dissolved, according to the following from the Daily Reporter:

"Saturday afternoon Judge Lindsey rendered his decision in the injunction case, wherein the county commissioners were restrained from making final publication of the local option law of Taylor county.

"He dissolved the temporary injunction and the attorneys representing the opponents of the law filed a motion for a new hearing. Its grounds are not known to us, as it was not read."

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