

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, OCTOBER 30, 1902.

NO. 37.

AN OUNCE OF SATISFACTION

Is Worth a Ton OF TALK.

The reason is plain; we are putting this in your hands that you may again be reminded that we want your business.

Let us save you enough on your fall purchases of Dry Goods to buy a large part of your other actual necessities.

We are Wrapping Satisfaction in Every Bundle that goes out of our Store. To Save Money Buy Right; to Buy Right Buy of Us. Give us a chance to convince you that Our Prices Are Right on RELIABLE MERCHANDISE.

STAR BRAND SHOES ARE BETTER.



best made. We call your special attention to "Our Family" line of Star Brand Shoes. This name was selected because it is made in mens, boys, womens, misses and childrens sizes and can fit any member of the family. "Our Family" shoes are made of pure western chrome tanned box calf skin. The soles and counters are made for service and will wear. The prices of this line of shoes is \$2.50 for mens, 2.00 for boys, youths 1.75, little gents 1.50, womens 1.50, misses, 12 1/2 to 2, 1.35, childrens, 9 to 12, 1.25, childrens, 5 to 8, 1.00. Every pair of these shoes will give you satisfaction.

Regular 2.00 dongola pat. tip ladies shoe. \$1.50
Ladies all solid grain shoe. 1.25
Misses, 13 to 2, " " 1.00
" 9 to 12, " " 90c
Childrens, 5 to 8, solid leather shoe. 50c
Mens full stock front, double back calf boot 2.50

Notions

10 balls Thread. 5c
5 papers Pins. 5c
bottles Ink. 5c
4 rubber tip Lead Pencils. 5c
4 cedar Slate Pencils. 5c
Cork handle Penholder. 5c
extra large Tablet. 5c

Shoes

We have by far the best line of shoes we've ever shown. We have nearly any kind of a shoe you can ask for and the prices are lower than other stores. We're showing a full line of the Star Brand Shoes. We consider these shoes the

25 good Envelopes. 5c
5 spools Embroidery Silk. 5c
Box Bachelor Buttons. 5c
Saxony yarn, all colors, per hank. 5c

Staple Dry Goods

All stores sell cotton checks and domestics cheap, but we sell them a little cheaper:
Good quality yard wide LL Domestic. 3 3/4c
Extra heavy " " " 4 1/2c
Nice soft finish Bleach Domestic. 4 1/2c
Round thread 25 inch Cotton Checks. 3c
Fair quality Cotton Flannel. 4 1/2c
Extra heavy good width Cotton Flannel. 8 1/2c
Fast color yard wide Percale. 6 1/2c
Standard brands, fast color, Calicoes. 4c
Best quality Feather Ticking. 12 1/2c
Mattress Ticking. 4 1/2c
6 spools Clarks O N T Thread. 25c

Clothing

We offer a special discount of

10 Per Cent

on every piece of Clothing in our house, Overalls and Jumpers included. We have:
Mens suits from 2.50 to \$13.50
Youths suits from 2.00 to \$7.50
Boys suits from 75c to \$4.50



We are also giving 10 per cent off on all Tailor-made suits. Now is the time to buy a suit of clothes CHEAP.

We are Leaders of Low Prices.

Hats

We are exclusive agents for the well known

BEAVER HAT, \$3.00.

Also sell the

Eclipse, Black Cat, Cock-of-the-Walk.

No better hats anywhere at the price, \$1.50.



Jackets and Skirts

10 per cent reduction on all ladies, misses, and childrens Jackets, Capes and Skirts.

Ladies Vests 20, 25, 35 and 50c.

Mens and boys heavy fleece underwear 35, 50 and 75c.

Heavy 10-4 cotton blanket only 50c pair.

Extra heavy 11-4 cotton blanket only 90c pair.

Extra heavy fine quality 12-4 blanket 1.65 pair. Wool blankets from 1.50 to 6.00 pair.



In conclusion allow us to say that we guarantee the price of our goods to be as low as same can be bought for anywhere, and after your purchase is made if you find, by comparison with your neighbor or any merchant, that we have overcharged you one cent, we will cheerfully refund the difference in money or goods. Should this not afford you absolute protection against an overcharge?

We have many additional bargains not mentioned here equally as good values. Please give us a call. We will appreciate your cash trade, and when your money is gone we are still your friends. We have no prizes to offer as lottery schemes, but give you your money's worth every times. No game of chance with us, but the "REAL THING."

THE STAR STORE,

Leaders of Low Prices,

MERKEL, TEXAS.

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.

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.

YOUR INVITATION

If you have never had any dealings with us, please consider this an invitation to give us a trial

Warnick's Bank,

Merkel, Texas.

To Whom It May Concern.

Parties who owe interest on notes given for Grimes County School Lands please remit. The interest is now past due and I am compelled to report all delinquents to Commissioners' Court Nov. 1, 1902.

Haynes Shannon,
3t County Atty. Grimes Co.

Deputy Sheriff Lon Cunningham was in the city Tuesday.

That fine folding bed that Watson & Bacon are going to give away to one of their customers is a beauty. Call for your ticket with every \$1 purchase.

Watson & Bacon is a new firm in Merkel, but the bargains they are offering will soon build them an established trade.

...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 final destination of this road is to be Acapulco on the Pacific coast. The road is built to Rio Balsas, 35 miles south of Iguala. Like the Zapotlan branch of the Mexican Central, they are troubled finding a suitable route for the remaining distance. Chilpancingo, the capital of the state of Guerrero, is the next town to be reached, but it is right in the center of the earthquake district. From there to the coast is one of the richest countries in the world, but it is very rough.

About a year ago Chilpancingo was badly damaged by an earthquake, which threw down a part of the large cathedral, killing over a hundred of the worshippers and about 200 were killed in and around the city.

Building railroads through volcanic and earthquake countries is a difficult undertaking, but both this road and the Central will complete their Pacific connections in a few years, and both will open up countries of great richness and wonderful scenic beauty.

IGUALA.

May 25. This is Sunday morning and the bells are ringing and people flocking to the quaint old church. The air is cool and bracing and all nature smiles. Such a queer little town. Narrow streets that are very crooked, adobe houses covered with red tiles, beautiful gardens enclosed by high walls, over which clamber flowering vines in the greatest profusion; trees laden with strange fruits, giant palms towering above the orchards and gardens. Here grows the royal palm, the date and cocoanut. Most of the houses are but one story, as this is the earthquake region. In case of an earthquake a one story house is safer than a tall one, and an Indian "jacal" or reed hut is preferable to either. There are a number of refugees here from Chilpancingo when that city was so badly shaken up.

We find that trains to Rio Balsas only run tri-weekly, and on Mondays they do not run north

from here; so that we decide that even if it is Sunday, we will go back to Cuernavaca. Our train consists of three coaches and six freight cars and has two large engines; we wonder why so much power is needed, but the grade is very heavy—in some places 4½ per cent. We enter the Iguala Canon and from the rear platform have a good view. The sides are perpendicular and rise to over a thousand feet. The walls are rock and in the crevices or seams grow the most beautiful ferns. In one place a good sized tree has grown among the rocks and some of the roots, in their search for a hiding place, have run down the face of the wall for a hundred feet. The canon in some places is not over 75 feet wide and through this narrow space runs the road and a fine stream of water. Near the middle of the canon a bridge crosses the stream and it is built in the shape of the letter S. In another place a tunnel had to be cut for the roadbed, leaving the narrow space for the stream. The grade is steep, both engines labor hard, and our progress is very slow.

As we leave the canon we see that there is an unbroken range of high mountains, and this rift, made years ago by some convulsion of nature, is the only outlet from a wide valley that at some time may have been a deep lake. I like the appearance of this country very much. It is better watered by running streams than the Zapotlan country and, being further south (near the 18th parallel), the climate is well suited to the cultivation of coffee and tropical fruits.

This being Sunday, many of the people have turned out to see the train. The Indian population resemble the Zapotlan people, and are the cleanest people we have met in our travels. The men are clad in plain white cotton shirts and trousers, and either wear sandals or are barefooted, but their clothes are as white as snow. At one little town near the mouth of the canon, quite a

crowd had gathered to see the train and were all so clean we remarked that they must have come from "spotless town." How cloth can be made so white is a mystery to us, as they seldom have soap but use roots of plants called "amole," and for blueing use the leaves and fruit of a wild gourd, something like the Texas "simlen." The people are Tolttec and Zapotec.

We pass some fine haciendas, with large houses built in old styles, and they look like mediaeval castles, while clustered around them are the reed huts of the Indian laborers. We notice the total absence of labor in the fields on Sunday. The Indian goes to church in the morning, and the balance of the day may be spent in chicken fights and bull fights, but he won't work on Sunday nor on any of their numerous holidays, which average about two every week. If he earns a dollar a week he is content, for with a little corn, chile and frijols and his patch of bananas he lives very well; and what is the use of laying up for tomorrow? For "manana sera otro dia" (tomorrow is another day).

At noon we reach Cuernavaca and find rest and comfort at the Hotel Morelos.

J. L. VAUGHAN.

Horrible Accident at Abilene.

News reached here Tuesday night of a horrible accident occurring at Lytle Lake, in which J. H. O'Connor, supervising architect of the asylum building, lost his life.

It seems that he and three companions were in boats fishing and shooting ducks on the lake, when one of the guns was accidentally discharged and the entire load was sent into his right leg, severing the femoral artery. Almost instant death resulted.

Mr. O'Connor was in the employ of the state, and the occurrence is deeply deplored. He leaves a wife and one child. The remains were shipped to Austin for interment.

To The Public.

Those who have second-hand goods for sale take them to J. C. Watkins.

Aught Bennett fell from a ladder yesterday and sustained a slight fracture of the left ankle.

We are prepared to fill your entire fall bill of groceries and provisions, and at prices excelled by no one.

Chenault & Hand.

Williamsons Restaurant

Is the Place to go for....

HOT LUNCHESES

Meals served at all hours
Everything neat & clean



Don't forget the fish on his back

For nearly thirty years he has been traveling around the world, and is still bringing health and wherever he goes.

To the consumer brings the strength he so much needs.

To all weak and children he gives rich strengthening food.

To thin and pale persons he gives new firm flesh and rich red blood.

Children who first saw the old man with the fish are now grown up and have children of their own.

He stands for Scott's Emulsion of pure cod liver oil—a delightful food and a natural tonic for children, for old folks and for all who need flesh and strength.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists,
09-415 Pearl Street, New York.
50c. and \$1.00; all druggists.

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 20, 1902.

NO. 40.

The Star Store's Startling Values

Suits and Overcoats at Prices Below Competition!

Better Clothing for Less Money than elsewhere or your Money Back. Here are a few of the many garments marked for Quick Selling. Come in and investigate them for yourself.

Pant Bargains

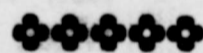


We have reduced the price on every pair of pants in our house from 10 to 20 per cent. No use to wear overalls when you can buy a good jeans pant for 75c. Others ask \$1.00 for the same pant.

We're very strong in QUALITY and Low in price on men's

fleece lined underwear.

10 per cent reduction on all overalls, jumpers, and duck coats. Heavy lined duck coat 75c. Extra quality reversible duck and jeans coat, regular \$2.50 value, now only \$1.50.



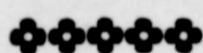
Staple Dry Goods

All stores sell cotton checks and domestics cheap, but we sell them a little cheaper:

Good quality yard wide LL Domestic 3 7/8c
 Extra heavy " " " " 4 1/2c
 Nice soft finish Bleach Domestic 4 1/2c
 Round thread 25 inch Cotton Checks 3c
 Fair quality Cotton Flannel 4 1/2c
 Extra heavy good width Cotton Flannel 8 1/2c
 Fast color yard wide Percale 6 1/2c
 Standard brands, fast color, Calicoes 4c
 Best quality Feather Ticking 12 1/2c
 Mattress Ticking 4 1/2c
 6 spools Clarks O N T Thread 25c

Notions

10 balls Thread 5c
 5 papers Pins 5c
 2 bottles Ink 5c
 4 rubber tip Lead Pencils 5c
 4 cedar Slate Pencils 5c
 Cork handle Penholder 5c
 Extra large Tablet 5c
 25 good Envelopes 5c
 5 spools Embroidery Silk 5c
 Box Bachelor Buttons 5c
 Saxony yarn, all colors, per hank 5c



Clothing Bargains



Lot No. 1778-771-2. All wool check cassimere suits, regular 12.50 values, at . . . \$8.75

No. 4647. Gray mixed cheviott, all wool, regular price 7.50, to close at . . . 4.75

No. 7845-1976. Dark gray satinets, worth 4.50, reduced to . . . 2.50

No. 8546-8517. Dark color, wool mixed, former price 9 and 10.00, now only . . . 5.00

No. 1141. Gray chk cassimere, worth 5.00, now . . . 3.50

All \$14 suits reduced

11.90. All 12.50 suits reduced to 9.85.

In boys suits we have them ranging in price from 1.00 to 3.50.

We are badly overstocked on youths long pant suits, and are making extremely low prices to close them out.

We are the Price Makers on Everything.

Anything you want in our line can always be found for less at our store than anywhere else. Our prices are always the LOWEST at ALL TIMES.

WE ARE THE PRICE MAKERS...

Realizing that the crop is a little short and that the usual amount of goods will be required to clothe the same number of people that would be necessary if short crops and scarcity of money did not prevail; therefore something must be done and right here and now we propose to do it. If you'll read carefully and consider well the above prices and values your good judgment will prompt you to act intelligently and at once. Come to our store and see if we're representing correctly goods and prices advertised. If so, then we're ready to do business with you. The list is only partial; we have hundreds of things not contained herein; all are good substantial fabrics and WORTH THE MONEY.

THE STAR STORE,

All goods advertised in this space and circulars, last week, are still on sale.

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

You can pay \$5.00 for a Hat and be no better satisfied than with a HAWES for \$3.00. 4t
 J. T. MOUNT,
 Abilene, Texas.

Miss Annie King will go before the board of examiners at Abilene Saturday. She will teach the Dora school the coming session. Those good people recognize the efficiency of Merkel young ladies, some of whom have taught the last three or four terms. Miss Annie is a very talented young lady.

\$15 Reward.

I will pay \$2.50 each for the recovery of one high grade Wade & Butcher razor and one Iver Johnson, 32 cal., pistol, with weak trigger spring, which were stolen from my house last Saturday morning. Also \$10 reward for the arrest and conviction of thief.

S. M. Sewell.

We are sole agents for the celebrated HAWES Hats. The latest novelties in the Alpine and Derby. 4t

J. T. MOUNT,
 Abilene, Texas.

MANY of the BEST

Citizens of the town and community have become regular patrons of this bank. Are you among the number?

Warnick's Bank,
 Merkel, Texas.

Cotton May Advance!

But we will sell Hardware and Groceries at prices that can not be beaten anywhere.

Our Stock is Complete and Up-to-Date. We handle:

The Best



Flour,
 Meat,
 Lard,
 Sugar,
 Coffee,
 Dried Fruits,
 Candies,
 Nuts,
 Delicacies,
 of Everything in Groceries.

The Best



Stoves,
 Wagons,
 Buggies,
 Plows,
 Silkys,
 Disc Plows,
 Harrows,
 Planters,
 Cultivators,
 of Everything in Hardware

The Best Hames, the best Traces, the best Collars, the best Pads, the best Backbands, the best Lines—in fact the best of everything in Hardware, Groceries, Quessware, Feed, Etc., at BEST PRICES.

GEO. F. WEST.

Ramblings Through Mexico.

By J. L. VAUGHAN.

CUERNAVACA CONT.

The Borda garden is one of the sights of Cuernavaca and one of the finest gardens on the continent. It was built by a wealthy Frenchman called Jose de la Borda. It was commenced in 1762 and additions made every year has brought it to its present grandeur at a cost of about \$1,250,000. To give a description of this vast collection of plant life would require a large volume.

As we pass along the street the sound of singing attracts us, and Mr. Hall said it was the public school. It is a very handsome building, with two divisions, one for the girls and one for the boys, each having a patio and playground. It was the boys that we heard singing, and as we looked in at the door one of the teachers invited us in. The boys were having a half hour exercise and were taking it up in singing. The room was very neat and clean, had patent desks, and the latest charts and maps were on the walls. A very large map of the State of Morelas was painted on the ceiling, and I wondered how they studied it. Unless teachers and scholars lie flat on their backs they run the risk of getting a pain in their necks. The public schools of this city

are first class, and as there is compulsory education they are well patronized. The children were remarkably clean and neat in their appearance. In the girls' division it was recess and they were having a romp on their playground, and I noticed that many of the games were the same as our children played.

We visited a "meson" or inn, where travelers stop. The buildings enclose a large square; part of the buildings were two story, where there were rooms for the lodgers, while below were rooms and stalls for the animals, and piled up in the center of the court were all manner of articles—saddles, harness, pack saddles for burros, bundles of merchandise, crates of fruit, coops of fowls, carts and wagons. Groups of men, women and children, with little fires, were cooking and eating their mid-day meal. We can see the tops of palm trees over the building—altogether it looks very much like a scene from Ben Hur. Should the rooms above be crowded, no doubt but the apartments for the animals would be used by the weary travelers, just as Joseph and Mary did on the night when the Savior of the World was born.

A stroll through the suburbs of

the city brought us into some very picturesque places. On one street along a steep hillside was a high wall supporting a most beautiful orchard and garden, filled with trees laden with many kinds of fruits and flowers. Vines clambered over the walls and in the crevices grew beautiful ferns. One large date palm stood on the edge of the terrace. It must have been 75 feet high, and nestling among the leaves at the top were clusters of the fruit. A large two story house in the center of the garden was almost hidden by the mass of vegetation. Down a lane that crossed a deep valley the trees on each side nearly meet overhead, making an arch of foliage. Great vine, or lianos, with stems nearly an inch thick, large leaves and large cream colored flowers, climb up the trunks of the trees and from one tree to another. At each joint of the stem strong roots are fastened to the tree, so they can only be dislodged by strong force. Under the trees was a perfect jungle of undergrowth of vines, ferns and brambles, so thick that one could not go far without cutting a road. Back from the road in the deep shade we could see the Indian reed huts. The vegetation here is new to us and we gather specimens of rare plants until we can carry no more. In the short distance of about 200 yards we cross three good sized streams and ditches of running water.

After leaving this "deep tangled wildwood" our way leads through more gardens and orchards, with more fruit and flowers. Some of the trees leaned over the street, and boys were clubbing the fruit without any remonstrance from the owners. There seemed to be so much of it that it had no value. The people were courteous and kind, and when we would ask the name of some strange plant or tree would tell us and give us some plants and fruit. Pretty soon we had to hire a boy to carry them for us, and by the time we reached the hotel we had quite a collection. Nowhere have we seen such a variety and profusion of fruits, plants and flowers. Here no frost comes to blight them or

cause the leaves to fall, but it is like one unending summer.

J. L. VAUGHAN.

Fashions come and go. What then? HAWES Hats are worn by a million men. 4t

J. T. MOUNT,
 Abilene, Texas.

Cheap Watches.

Open face Silverine case, jewel, lever movement only \$4.00. A variety of sizes 0, 6, 12 and 18 gold filled watches from \$8.00 to \$30.

R. B. Ustie

Loss of Flec

When you can't eat breakfast, take Scott's Emulsion. When you can't eat bread and butter, take Scott's Emulsion. When you have been living on a milk diet and want something a little more nourishing, take Scott's Emulsion.

To get fat you must eat fat. Scott's Emulsion is a great fattener, a strength giver.

Those who have lost flesh want to increase all body tissues, not only fat. Scott's Emulsion increases them bone, flesh, blood and nerve.

For invalids, for convalescents, for consumptives, for weak children, for those who need flesh, Scott's Emulsion is a rich and comfortable food, and a natural tonic.

Scott's Emulsion for bone, flesh, blood and nerve.



We will send you a free sample.

Be sure that this picture in the form of a label is on the wrapper of every bottle of Emulsion you buy.

SCOTT & BOWNE
 CHEMISTS,
 409 Pearl St.

...MONEY ON LAND...

Our inspector will be in this territory again about the 5th of December, which will be his last trip here until after the holidays, so if any one wanting to borrow money on their land between now and the first of February will have to see us and make application between now and the first of December. We can give you from five to ten year annual payment loan, 8 per cent interest. Can take up and extend the time of payment of the notes now against your land, if any, relieving you of any payment at all this fall, or make you a straight loan if your title and security is satisfactory to us. Cost you nothing to write us for terms and particulars. Do it at once if you are going to want a loan within next three months

COMPERE BROS.:

Land Dealers and Money Lenders, ABILENE, TEXAS.



WATCH THIS SPACE..

A. C. BENNETT,
THE SADDLE & HARNESS MAN.

PRESCRIPTION 3363.

Cures Headache, Neuralgia and Colds...

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

ABILENE...

BASS BROS. DRUG CO..

ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

Wind Mills, Pumps and Water Supply Goods...

We keep in stock the Star steel mill, direct stroke and back gear; lipse wood mill, Dandy and Aermotor steel mills; a full assortment of pumps, piping from 1/4 to 2 in., plain and galvanized; brass liners and working barrels from 2 to 4 in. We buy in car lots d can make Fort Worth prices on anything in our line.

If you would increase your happiness and prolong your life, forget your neighbor's faults, forget the slander you have heard. Forget its temptations, forget the fault-finding, and give your thought to the cause that provoked it. Forget the peccadilloes of your friends, and only remember the good points that makes you fond of them. Forget all the personal quarrels or quarrels you may have heard by accident, and which if repeated would seem a thousand times worse than they are. Blot out, as far as possible, all the disabilities of life; they will come, they will grow larger when you remember them, and the instant thoughts or acts of the mess, or worse still, malice, only tend to make you more familiar with them. Obliterate everything disagreeable from today, start out with a clean sheet the morning and write upon it the sweet memory's sake, only use those things which are lovely and lovable.—Ex.

Worm Destroyer.

White's Cream Vermifuge, not only kills worms, but removes the mucus and slime, in which they build their nests; it brings, and maintains, a healthy condition of the system. Pittard's.

Reduction Sale....

Realizing the necessity of reducing my stock of Millinery goods, I have inaugurated a reduction sale, and for a short time you can buy anything in the stock a discount of 20 per cent. Everything new. Come quick. . . .

Mrs. F. B. Hoople.

The charter of the Roscoe Lumber company has been filed at Austin; capital stock \$25,000. Incorporated by J. C. Hamm of this place and J. S. Cordill and A. G. Wills of Roscoe.

Dr. J. H. Grace, who was charged with the murder of Miss Mollie Lane at Stamford, a few months ago, was acquitted in the District Court at Baird Friday.

Now's the time to advertise.

List of Subscribers of Merkel Telephone Exchange.

Adkisson, Dr J A res.....	24
" " office.....	62
Allen, I S res.....	48
Bank, First National.....	33
Bank, Warnick's.....	18
Berry, Geo S res.....	84
Browning, W P res.....	16
" " & Co furniture.....	68
Burroughs & Mann drugs.....	53
Bennett, B A res.....	9
Burton-Lingo Co lumber.....	81
Clay, W L res.....	35
Coats, E D res.....	6
Counts, J H res.....	1
Chenault & Hand grocers.....	67
Compton, Will res.....	22
Coggin, T J res.....	54
Counts, Emmet res.....	7
Davis, C E res.....	89
Dickson, W H hardware.....	51
" " residence.....	49
Dennis Bros grocery.....	66
Davis & Cox pool hall.....	32
Eason, Sam res.....	36
Elliott, John res.....	28
Elliott & Miller shop.....	11
Freemon, S A res.....	19
Freemon & Hughes livery.....	13
Globe, store.....	69
Grimmett, W N M res.....	50
Hamm, J C res.....	23
" " lumber.....	40
" Frank res.....	17
Hoople, Frank res.....	49
Hamilton, J O store.....	59
Hughes, J H res.....	14
Hunt, Sam res.....	42
Hotel, Alsobrook.....	64
" South Side.....	55
Harris, Alex res.....	21
Johnson, T A res.....	8
King, Dr J M C res.....	77
" Dr J H C res.....	41
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Cut this out and hang it up for use. Call by number.

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. C. Hutcheson, Merkel	\$1.00
Mrs. Pepe, " "	1.00
C. E. Evans, " "	1.00
S. D. Marlow, " "	1.00
W. E. Adams, " "	.25
E. N. Brown, Cleburne,	1.00
Mrs. M. A. Burroughs, Merkel,	1.00

Get your name on this list.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.



WHEN YOU WANT

A Wagon that will not "fall down" when you need it the most, get an "OLD RELIABLE MITCHELL." It is the Strongest, Most Durable, Best Finished, Best Proportioned and Lightest Running Wagon on the Market.

ONE QUALITY ONLY—THAT THE BEST.

ED S. HUGHES & CO.,
ABILENE, TEXAS

S. W. SHEPPARD

Groceries,
Vegetables
Fruits
Country
Produce
and Fresh
Meats, etc.

We sell almost everything afforded by the market, and sell at reasonable prices. Come to us for your groceries....

Groceries, Furnishings, Notions

WE have moved into the building next door to Warnick's Bank. Our stock embraces Groceries, Furnishing Goods and Notions, and we flatter ourselves that you will not find a better, nicer or neater stock in the town. We are making very low prices, quality of goods considered. A trial order is all we ask and we are sure you will always be our customer.

Remember, our stock is fresh and new; we have no shop-worn stuff to work off.

HILL & MARTIN.

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.

A Dangerous Month.

This is the month of coughs, colds and acute catarrh. Do you catch cold easily? Find yourself hoarse, with a tickling in your throat and an annoying cough at night? Then, you should always have handy, a bottle of Ballard's Horehound Syrup. J. A. Anderson, 354 W. 5th St., Salt Lake City, writes: "We use Ballard's Horehound Syrup for coughs and colds. It gives immediate relief. We know it's the best remedy for these troubles. I write this to induce other people to try this pleasant and efficient remedy." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

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.

Advertising is the secret of success in every business.

THE

BIG COST SALE

STILL CONTINUES.

We are selling **MORE GOODS** and **BETTER GOODS** than you ever saw for the Sum of Money we are **SELLING THEM For**. Come to US for

Dry Goods, Clothing, Hats, Shoes, Etc.

WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY. WE MUST REDUCE OUR STOCK BEFORE WE LEAVE MERKEL. And this is a Good Chance to get your **FALL SUPPLIER** at a great saving.

WE DON'T ASK YOU TO PAY US A PROFIT, EITHER. All we want is your help in reducing our stock of goods.

COME IN AND LOOK THROUGH
WITH US..

THE - GLOBE.

MERKEL, - - - TEXAS

Startling, but True.

"If every one knew what a wonderful medicine Dr. King's New Life Pills is," writes D. H. Turner, Dempseytown, Pa., "you'd sell all you had in a day. Two weeks' use has made a new man of me." Infallible for constipation, stomach and liver troubles. 25 cents at Rust & Pittard's.

During our removal sale you can buy Hamilton-Brown \$2.50 shoes for \$2.25 and our \$3.00 Thoroughbred hats for \$2.70.

J. T. Warren.

TEXAS AND PACIFIC WRECK.

Four Cars Ditched, But Only One Person Seriously Injured as a Result.

Friday morning at 3:30 west bound passenger train No. 5 was wrecked three miles this side of Abilene, causing considerable damage to engine, baggage, and mail cars. Fireman Wheeling was injured internally and it was thought at first, fatally, but is improving so far. Baggage Man Nash and Mail Clerk Roberts were both considerably shaken up and bruised, but not seriously. T. G. Moore, the cotton buyer, was also injured, sustaining a slight sprain of the back, but with the exception of a few scratches, other passengers and members of the train crew came out whole.

No cause is assigned for the wreck. The tender jumped the track and was followed by the baggage, mail, smoker and chair car, the engine, sleeper and a tourist car remaining on the track. The wreck was cleared about 5 o'clock, p. m., with everything running on time.

A New Depot.

The Texas and Pacific building now arrived here Saturday and once began work on the new depot. We are unable at this time to give an outline of the plans, but understand that it will be commensurate with the town's needs and demands for several years to come. Work will be rushed and the building pushed to rapid completion.

Mesdames I. S. Allen and W. Calvert returned Sunday from visit to relatives at Stephenville.

There is some talk of an extension of the Texas Central from Stamford to Snyder by the way of Roby.

Mrs. Beaver and daughters arrived from San Antonio Friday and are domiciled at the new residence. Mr. Beaver will arrive later. They are old friends of the Clay family, and are glad to welcome them to our midst.

Geo. S. Berry of this place, car Wilson of Caps and Gilmore Sharp of Abilene went up Bip Springs Saturday.

A fine girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Jim Swan, at their ranch northwest of town, Friday.

The County Treasurers' report shows the cash balance of Taylor county to be \$9,037.63.

W. R. Bigham and Clarence Berry each shipped a car of cattle to St. Louis Monday.

Mrs. W. B. Alsobrook and two children and J. W. Daniel were on the passenger wreck Friday, but all escaped injury.

Plans are maturing for the erection of two more brick business houses.

Warren's building is nearing completion.

Luck in Thirteen.

By sending 13 miles Wm. Spirey, of Walton Furnace, Vt., got a box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve, that wholly cured a horrible fever sore on his leg. Nothing else could. Positively cures bruises, felons, ulcers, eruptions, boils, burns, corns and piles. Only 25c. Guaranteed by Rust & Pittard.

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

Get your tickets for the lyceum entertainments now. They are going fast. The first attraction, The Chicago Glee Club, is the best thing of its kind on the road.

A BUSINESS MEETING.

The Citizens Meet Supt. J. W. Ward in a Discussion of Business Interests.

Supt. J. W. Ward of Big Springs was in consultation with the business men of Merkel Saturday in reference to enterprises which the Texas and Pacific Company will establish here. The main discussion was over the location of the new depot, there being some dissatisfaction over its present location, and by agreement it will be built fronting West's Store, in the center of the two business blocks. The plans of the building have not been made public, but it will be modern in every respect, with a platform 180 feet in length. The erection of the depot as contemplated will necessitate the removal of the cotton platform, the stock pens and the addition of several hundred yards of switch track; besides, new crossings will have to be made and a rearrangement generally of things.

Mr. Ward, who is a very pleasant and affable gentleman, expressed satisfaction at the town's progress. He said that the company would meet the citizens half way in any plan looking to the betterment of conditions here, and that they contemplated many other improvements. He further stated that they would join with the people in draining the town, which is the greatest need at this time. This is a proposition which the people should eagerly grasp. Now is the time for action. Let our people get together and raise money for street improvement. Every man should lend his assistance, and the sooner the better. Will you help?

A Correction.

The Mail was guilty of a "bull" last week in stating that "Mr. Parton's cotton crop, with favorable weather two weeks longer, would make three-fourths of a bale per acre." We should have said "part of his crop," etc., with a general average of one-third of a bale. Some of the farmers jumped onto Mr. Parton with both feet, and we hasten to make a correction. He thinks one-third of a bale to the acre a fair estimate.

Just keep your eyes on Colorado, the rejuvenated young giant of the West—the town whose people are united, whose business men are enterprising, and where Progress is the watchword that will lead to continued commercial supremacy.—Colorado Clipper.

And yet, only a few weeks ago, the Clipper was complaining of Colorado's demise, which fact was charged up to prohibition. Perhaps the town has caught on to the Peruna craze.

J. W. Daniel returned from St. Louis Saturday.

A Great Removal Sale!

In Order to Reduce Stock before moving into our new Building we offer...

10 PER CENT DISCOUNT
on ALL DRY GOODS, SHOES, HATS, CLOTHING and FURNISHING GOODS.

This sale will be on for 20 or 30 days and it will give everybody a chance to buy their winter bills of new and seasonable merchandise at 10 per cent less than actual value. No shoddy, shelf-worn goods, but everything new and bright. To get the benefit of this sale

Cash Must Accompany the Order!

Positively no goods charged at these prices. The goods are here for everybody. Come and get your choice.

This sale begins Friday, Oct. 24, 1902.

J. T. WARREN.

MERKEL, TEXAS....

Beautiful Clear Skies.

Herbine exerts a direct influence on the bowels, liver and kidneys, purifying and strengthening these organs, and maintaining them in a normal condition of health; thus removing a common cause of yellow, mothy, greasy skin, and more or less of pimples, blotches and blackheads. 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

We have the nobbiest suits in town at 10 per cent discount during removal sale.

J. T. Warren.

To The Public.

Those who have second-hand goods for sale take them to J. C. Watkins.

Burroughs & Mann now have a large and complete stock of drugs and sundries. They want your trade. Next door to First National Bank,

McDonald \$1.00 overalls for 90c till we get moved.

J. T. Warren.

Buy school shoes for your children while you can get them for 10 per cent less than real value.

J. T. Warren.

Bring us your prescriptions. Our drugs are pure and fresh. Burroughs & Mann.

Ever ready, always reliable, are Cheatham's Laxative Tablets. They cure a cold quicker than any known remedy. Easy to carry, pleasant to take. Guaranteed. Price 22c.

Choice of our \$10 overcoats for \$9 at the removal sale.

J. T. Warren.

All the best brands of cigars at Burroughs & Mann's.

MONEY SAVED

By Buying Your.....

FURNITURE

- Rockers
- Bedsteads
- Chiffoniers
- Fold. Beds
- Writ. Desks
- Iron Beds
- Dressers
- Tables
- Chairs
- ETC.

Full and Complete Line of....

Undertakers' Goods, Funeral Robes, Gloves and Shoes.

We are showing a nice assortment of Carpets and Rugs—all grades, and the prices are in reach of every purse, large or small.

We are not subject to spasmodic spells of selling goods cheap for a day, but our motto is: **Best Goods at Lowest Living Prices, 365 Days in the Year.** Come and be convinced.

Yours truly,

W.P. Browning and Company.

The Mail gives all the news.

At best life is but short. Do not make it shorter yet by rank neglect of that cough of yours, when one bottle of Simmons' Cough Syrup would cure you. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50 cents.

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.

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

Remember to bring the cash to get advantage of the 10 per cent discount offered at Warren's. This is done to reduce stock prior to moving into his new building.

Those beautiful \$1.50 waist patterns can be bought at removal sale for \$1.35.

J. T. Warren.

Don't buy your holiday goods until you inspect our stock; it will interest you. Will be opened up soon.

Burroughs & Mann.

Ustick has moved his jewelry store into the Thornton old building; call and see him.

Stock Ranches and Farms For Sale.

If you want to purchase a stock ranch, any size, from 640 to 8,000 acres, with or without stock, situated in Taylor, Jones, Fisher, Nolan or Mitchell counties; or if you want an improved farm, 80 to 320 acres, near good schools, cheap, see or address

W. W. Wheeler, Merkel, Texas.

First National Bank Building.

Glee Club Tuesday night.

Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast, but Simmons' Cough Syrup soothes any breast; if same be afflicted with coughs, colds and like troubles. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50 cents.

Holiday Goods.

Don't buy holiday goods until you have examined our stock. It is the largest and best we have ever carried.

Rust & Pittard.

All itching diseases are embarrassing as well as annoying. Hunt's Cure will instantly relieve and permanently cure all forms of such diseases. Guaranteed. Price 50c.

A Christmas Present.

Give your boy or girl a 1, 2, 5 or \$9 kodak for a Christmas present. Nothing would suit them better. Either film or plate, or both combined. See Will Leeman.

For catarrh and colds in the head, Hunt's Lightning Oil inhaled is a safe cure. A few drops taken internally relieves and cures cramp colic, cholera morbus and such troubles. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50 cents.

Methodist Appointments.

The following appointments were made for the Abilene district by the annual conference held at Temple last week:

Abilene District—E. A. Smith, presiding elder; Abilene, J. R. Henson; Buffalo Gap, E. L. Sisk; Merkel, R. B. Young; Eskota, A. C. Bell; Sweetwater and Roscoe, C. A. Evans; Colorado, C. S. Field; Colorado mission, J. C. Moore, supply; Big Springs, C. W. Irvin; Midland, L. A. Webb; Lynn and Perry mission, A. B. Roberts; Gail mission, J. T. Trice, supply; Snyder mission, C. A. Ledger; Snyder, C. D. West; Aspermont, J. E. Blaylock; Roby, M. H. Hudson; Haskell, R. S. Heizer; Haskell mission, G. A. Nance; Stamford and Spring Creek, I. E. Hightower; Anson, T. B. Pertle; Truby mission, T. N. Lowry, supply; Albany and Moran, W. A. Manly; Putnam, S. L. Mills; Baird, J. A. Biggs; Eula mission, C. W. Young, supply.

E. Hightower goes to Gatesville, R. H. Heizer to Wortham, T. S. Armstrong to Mexia, M. K. Little to Itasca, W. H. Harris to Ovilla, J. H. Trimble to Iredell and C. E. Brown to Cleburne. J. S. Chapman is presiding elder of the Georgetown district.

League Program.

Topic—Thanksgiving and Thanks-living, Ps. 116, 2-17, James 1-27.

Leader—Miss Clara Browning.

Song.

Prayer.

Scripture lesson by Leader.

Song.

For what and why should we give thanks?—Comer Clay.

For what should we be most thankful?—J. S. French.

How are others convinced of our thankfulness?—Miss Laura Herring.

Song.

Sentence prayer.

Read your favorite Psalm of Thanksgiving.—Miss Grace Sheppard.

Thanksgiving from Advocate.—W. L. Harkrider.

Thanksgiving from Advocate.—Miss Nannie O'Zee.

Song.

Epworth League benediction by leader.

November 23rd, 1902.

Dr. I. E. Smith, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist of Weatherford, will be in Merkel Nov. 29th.

(Continued from last page.) was killed by Bro. Millican and Mr. Adkisson. Up to this time there was nothing to mar the pleasure of the party, but today while in pursuit of the bear Mr. W. T. Jones dismounted to get off of a bluff and as he jumped he fell, his horse stepping on his knee and inflicting a very painful wound. He had to return to his ranch.

Now I have to chronicle something that is painful to me, in which a preacher is connected. The Rev. L. R. Millican, who is a State missionary and has been for years the outside sentinel of the Baptist denomination, while on the chase was the first to get to the bear, which was up a tree surrounded by dogs. It was positively against the orders, on approaching the bear, to "holler or make any noise," as the bear will come down, whip the dogs and make his escape but when the brother saw the bear he shouted at the top of his voice: "There he is; whoopee! sick 'em, Towser!" By this time some of the old hunters had arrived and told him to "cheese his racket." So he and Mr. Adkinson shot the bear. Bro. Millican returned to camp feeling good over his success, not knowing that charges would be preferred against him for violation of laws governing the association; but when Mr. Evans came in he promptly brought charges against the reverend gentleman, who came to me to get me to defend him. I told him pointedly that I could not defend a preacher who can so forget himself and his high calling as to violate the rules and regulations of a people that had been so good to him, and that I supposed that he must have the leggins put to him. Arrangements were made for a trial, but fortunately for Bro. Millican rain began to fall and we had to retire to our tents for the night. Bro. Little was to have preached to-night, but the rain interfered.

To give you an idea of the magnitude of this hunt, I might say that there was brought to camp 280 horses, every one shod all around; four regular chuck wagons loaded to the bows with supplies of fruit by the box and barrels of vegetables. In addition to this there were four bears, six deer, one antelope, two beeves and quail in abundance.

Now it is said that if a man will prevaricate about anything it is fishing and hunting, and having this in mind I have been careful not to overdraw the picture. But the sad time has come and we must take leave of these people, who, at great cost and much labor, have entertained friends in manner so peculiarly their own. We were with them only three days, but learned to love them. May peace, happiness, and prosperity attend them all the days of their lives. J. T. TUCKER.

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 Dec. 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

Burk, John
Cordill, W. T.
Daniels, Miss Ellie
Henderson, Elias.
Henderson, Mrs. S. J.
Prater, H. H.
Strawn, Miss Frona

Get your tickets for the Lyceum course. See announcement elsewhere.

..ALWAYS BUY THE BEST..

THE BEST GOES FARTHEREST

And when combined with Low Prices you have a combination that will win out.

In making our selections for this season we were careful in getting dependable goods only. It is best to buy the best, worthy goods at worthy prices. Two things that have made this store the most popular in this country: First, all that is latest, all that is good you find here. Second, our prices are absolutely the most reasonable. ∴ Come to us and let us verify these statements to your own satisfaction. We can do it easily.

Our Goods Are Right! Our Prices Are Right!

Handsome Premiums Free.

We have filled a pint jar with beans and the first person guessing the number of beans the jar contains will get the premium, a ladies' watch, 25 year case, 15 jewel Waltham movement. Every purchase amounting to \$1 entitles you to a guess. In addition to this, with every 25c purchase of Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, etc., we give a coupon which is redeemable in Holiday Queensware. Look at them.

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.

CAPITAL, \$30,000
SURPLUS, \$ 9,000



Agreeable Business Relations may be Permanently Sustained only by the exercise of a spirit of Mutual Consideration, Fairness and Courtesy. We try to give our friends "value received for the business done with us. At the same time we want them to know that we appreciate their patronage, as well as the active interest they have shown in our general welfare.

To the Farmer and Cattle Feeder:

Increase your butter and milk and fatten your cattle by using cotton seed meal and hulls for feed.

We will give you FIFTEEN HUNDRED POUNDS of better feed stuff for every thousand pounds of cotton seed delivered (or for the seed out of an average bale of cotton,) in the proportion of four to one; that is, WE WILL GIVE YOU 300 LBS. of COTTON SEED MEAL and 1200 LBS. of HULLS, which makes an ideal feed. This will be given for the seed out of an average bale of cotton delivered at our mill or to any one of our gins, they giving you a receipt which will be accepted by us here the same as if seed had been delivered at the mill.

Give it a trial and note the increase in butter, milk and fat. ABILENE COTTON OIL CO. 4t

Best Liniment on Earth.

I. M. McHany, Greenville, Tex., writes, Nov. 2, 1900: "I had rheumatism last winter, was down in bed six weeks; tried everything but got no relief, till a friend gave me a part of a bottle of Ballard's Snow Liniment. I used it, and got two more bottles. It cured me and I haven't felt any rheumatism since. I can recommend Snow Liniment to be the best liniment on earth for rheumatism." For rheumatic, sciatic or neuralgic pains, rub in Ballard's Snow Liniment, you will not suffer long, but will be gratified with a speedy and effective cure. 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard.

Wanted—One hundred horses to pasture. Grass good. Address

J. D. Magee, Abilene, Texas.

For a Bad Cold.

If you have a bad cold need some good reliable medicine like Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to loosen and relieve it, and allay the irritation and inflammation of the throat and lungs. Sale by Rust & Pittard.

A second-hand coal heater sale, cheap.

Burroughs & Mann

For Sale—Cash or easy payments, bicycle, good as new with New Century Coaster Bra and gas lamp. Cheap. See Will Leeman.

Don't Become Discouraged,

But use Simmons' Liver Purifier (tin box). Many imitations the original, so be careful and see THAT IT'S "Purifier" and manufactured by A. C. Simmons' Jr. Med. Co.

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.

Asleep Amid Flames.

Breaking into a blazing home some firemen lately dragged the sleeping inmates from death. Fancied security, and death near. It's that way when you neglect coughs and colds. Don't do it. Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption gives perfect protection against all throat, chest and lung troubles. Keep it near, and avoid suffering, death, and doctor's bills. A teaspoonful stops a late cough, persistent use the most stubborn. Harmless and nice tasting, it's guaranteed to satisfy by Rust & Pittard. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

The Best Remedy for Croup.

From the Atchison, Kan., Daily Globe.

This is the season when the woman who knows the best remedies for croup is in demand in every community. One of the most terrible things in the world to be awakened in the middle of the night by a whoop from one of the children. The croup remedies are almost sure to be lost, as a revolver is sure to be lost in case of burglars. The best remedy used to be an old-fashioned remedy for croup, known as Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is bet- and does not cost so much. It causes the patient to "throw up phlegm" quicker, and gives relief in a short time. Give this remedy as soon as the croupy child appears and it will prevent attack. It never fails and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Thanksgiving Services.

The Independent order of Odd Fellows will observe Thanksgiving at the Cumberland Presbyterian church on the 27th day of November.

The brothers and Rebekahs will meet at Odd Fellows at 10 o'clock, form procession and march to the church.

PROGRAM.

- Opening ceremony Song by choir.
- Prayer—Chaplain.
- Song—Choir.
- Short sermon—Bro. Baker.
- Address—Other Odd Fellows.
- Other Christians.
- Address—C. E. Evans, S. M. Sewell, H. C. Williams, Dr. J. A. Adams, Dr. J. H. C. King, Will Campbell, R. W. Witt, W. W. Wheeler and others that may be led upon.
- J. Miller, master of ceremonies.
- H. Warnick, marshal of the day.

A. A. Baker,
J. J. Miller, } Com.
G. H. Richardson.

...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.

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

For nice, fresh groceries cheap see

Chenault & Hand,

To Whom It May Concern.

Parties who owe interest on notes given for Grimes County School Lands please remit. The interest is now past due and I am compelled to report all delinquents to Commissioners' Court Nov. 1, 1902.

Haynes Shannon,
3rd County Atty. Grimes Co.

See Browning & Co. for lunch and dinner baskets, nice and cheap. Just the thing for school children.

We are prepared to fill your entire fall bill of groceries and provisions, and at prices excelled by no one.

Chenault & Hand.

NOTICE.

I have all kinds of school books, some as good as new, which I will sell at half value or less. Call at Burroughs & Mann's drug store.

J. A. Leeman.

Try reading The Mail.

A Startling Surprise.

Very few could believe in looking at A. T. Hoadley, a healthy, robust blacksmith of Tilden, Ind., that for ten years he suffered such tortures from rheumatism as few could endure and live. But a wonderful change followed his taking Electric Bitters. "Two bottles wholly cured me," he writes, "and I have not felt a twinge in over a year." They regulate the kidneys, purify the blood and cure rheumatism, neuralgia, nervousness, improve digestion and give perfect health. Try them. Only 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harrison Sunday night, a bouncing boy.

To Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wills Sunday night, a fine girl.

Sam Sheppard left Sunday night for Arizona on a prospecting trip. He left with the intention of locating, but we hope Merkel is still good enough for him.

Brick work will be completed on the new school building this week.

A gentleman from Rosenberg by the name of Fowler is here prospecting and will likely go into business.

For Sale—A lot fenced, good well, northeast corner of block, close to business part of town, not crowded, in good neighborhood, high and dry. Apply to S. M. Sewell, Merkel, Texas.

A Heavy Frost.

The first frost of the season visited this section Sunday night, the 16th inst. It was very heavy and left its imprint upon vegetation generally. A frost is the very thing that's needed at this time, and a couple of weeks of pretty weather will result in much good to the entire country. Cotton will now open in a hurry, with prospects for a fair yield.

Christmas Candies.

Candies for Christmas, a large and varied stock. Come to me for your Christmas delicacies.

S. W. SHEPPARD.

Nursery Stock.

I have 10,000 trees en route and much new stock on hand. If you want fruit trees, shade trees, vines, shrubbery, etc., I should be glad to figure with you. No better nursery stock to be found, and the prices are right.

J. D. BORING.

Stepped Against a Hot Stove.

A child of Mrs. Geo. T. Benson, when getting his usual Saturday night bath, stepped back against a hot stove which burned him severely. The child was in great agony, and his mother could do nothing to pacify him. Remembering that she had a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm in the house, she thought she would try it. In less than half an hour after applying it the child was quiet and asleep, and in less than two weeks was well. Mrs. Benson is a well known resident of Kellar, Va. Pain Balm is an antiseptic liniment and especially valuable for burns, cuts, bruises and sprains. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

We make a specialty of handling only the best groceries, fresh from the markets, and they are not old or musty when you get them. Give us a trial.

Chenault & Hand.

Don't forget the Glee Club at the Opera House.

The Mail appreciates the following compliment from the Joshua News:

One of the very best country papers that come to our exchange table is the Merkel Mail. Editor Leeman is a forcible writer, never hesitates to give his endorsement to whatever cause he thinks is just, and always stands for the upbuilding of the town. Judging by the patronage he receives, his people seem to appreciate his efforts.

A Burglary.

Prof. S. M. Sewell's residence was burglarized Saturday morning between 9 o'clock and noon. The family was away from home only a few hours, and upon their return found the house ransacked, every thing being turned topsy turvy. Entrance was boldly gained at the front door, and 75c in money and a few trinkets are missing. No clue to the robbery. A camper at Story's wagon yard is also said to have lost some clothing the night before, which were taken from his wagon.

A great many tough looking characters have infested the town lately, but it does not seem reasonable to suppose that they were guilty of burglary. Suspicion rather points to some one who is acquainted with the habits of the people. The officers should keep a diligent lookout and make every effort to apprehend the guilty parties.

Mother

Lost Reason After LaGrippe.

Daughter Had Frequent Spasms.

Dr. Miles' Nervine Cured Them Both.

Dr. Miles' Nervine is a specific for nervous disorders. It removes the cause and effects a speedy and permanent cure.

"I feel it is my duty to let you know that your medicines have cured my little girl of nine, of spasms. She commenced having them at the age of three. Our family doctor said she would outgrow them but she did not. We took her to another physician who said her trouble was epileptic fits in a mild form. He did her no good either. She was so nervous she could hardly walk. As I had already used Dr. Miles' Nervine and found it a good remedy for myself I commenced giving it to my child. I gave her in all ten bottles of the Nervine and one of the Blood Purifier. That was over two years ago and she has not had an attack since we commenced the treatment. She is no longer troubled with nervousness and we consider her permanently cured. I enclose her picture. My mother-in-law lost her reason and was insane for three months from the effects of LaGrippe. Six bottles of Dr. Miles' Nervine cured her. My sister has also taken it for sick headache with good results. We all thank you very much for your good medicines and kind advice. I don't think there is any other medicine half so good. I send my daughter's photograph so that you may see what a sweet little girl lives out in Arkansas."—Mrs. HANNAH BARRETT, Springdale, Ark.

All druggists sell and guarantee first bottle Dr. Miles' Remedies. Send for free book on Nervous and Heart Diseases. Address Dr. Miles' Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

BEST PASSENGER SERVICE IN TEXAS.

4-IMPORTANT GATEWAYS-4



NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

He states that we can point to our best line

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

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

Your Winter Bills...

TIME TO LOOSEN PURSE STRINGS

and get ready for fall buying. It is our ambition to serve the people well and satisfy them in every way.

We are not selling out at cost, but are here to stay and will meet any and all prices made; so when you get ready to make your fall bills come in and see us, for we are making greatly reduced prices on everything in Dry Goods Clothing Shoes, etc.

J. O. HAMILTON

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.

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

I. O. O. F. LODGE

No. 355 meets every Tuesday night. Visiting brethren cordially invited to attend.

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Dr. King's New Discovery

...FOR...

Consumption, Coughs and Colds

Than by All Other Throat and Lung Remedies Combined.

This wonderful medicine positively cures Consumption, Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, Pneumonia, Hay Fever, Pleurisy, LaGrippe, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, Croup and Whooping Cough. **NO CURE, NO PAY.**

Price 50c & \$1. Trial Bottles Free.

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

Takes Acknowledgments, 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.

A Big Bear Hunt in the Davis Mountains.

By invitation of G. W. Evans, a prosperous stockman, I was permitted to take part in this hunt, which is taken annually, the directors being stockmen who ranch in and near these mountains. I give from memory their names: G. W. Evans, Reynolds Bros., Finley Bros., John Means, Medley, Mayfield and W.T. Jones. The visitors whom I can call to mind follow: Rev. Little of Itasca, who was once presiding elder of this district, Rev. Barcus, pastor of the Methodist church of Cleburne, J. W. Butler, cashier of the F. & M. Bank and J. N. Fallis of Clifton, Ben O. Smith, cashier of the F. & M. Bank of Ft. Worth, John M. Cowden and Hon. Ed Crowley (who served a sentence in the 25th Legislature, but was pardoned for good behavior and is completely reformed and making a good citizen) of Midland. At Pecos we were joined by Mr. Adkinson of Roswell, Ed Collings and Mr. Poore of Pecos.

At Kent, a station on the T&P, we were met with conveyances to the hunting ground, which is some 30 miles to the south. Stopping at the ranch of Reynolds Bros., where we spent the night, I saw one of the prettiest ranches I ever visited. Everything showed taste and pride. Apple orchards and vineyards, with glistening fruit, and an invitation to help yourself. These gentlemen have a complete system of water works, fed by a large spring. The yard is beautiful, embracing rare plants and vines and stately trees, and a nice fish pond alive with fish. Next morning before the break of day breakfast was called and everyone was on the move to get ready to join the hunting party, the camp of which was to be pitched at Mount Rock, which is a small mountain of rock with no soil in it. The visitors brought their bridles and saddles. Reynolds Bros. rounded up about 100 head of horses and told all who wanted to go horseback to catch their mounts. Most of the party accepted this offer and were soon in the mountains and were fortunate in killing two deer. Your scribe did not go horseback, but preferred to go in a hack with the two preachers, as it had been so long since I was in the woods I felt that I might go wild and do or say something unbecoming my modest calling, and then a good preacher always reflects a good influence. So I stayed with the preachers and enjoyed seeing Bro. Barcus kill quail. On arriving in camp we

found women and children, young men and young ladies, tents and chuck wagons until it had the appearance of an army. Four chuck wagons were in line, with eight or ten cooks preparing supper. Soon supper was called, and such a supper it was! I have not the gift of language to do it justice. Just think of all the good things you ever saw, add to it all you ever heard of, and you have the bill of fare. After supper a big fire was started, all gathered around it, and the young gentlemen and ladies entertained with music on the guitar, mandolin and violin and with songs. While we were thus entertained a count was made of all present and it totaled 76, from babes to eighty years. Grandpa Jones, who was one of the first settlers of Taylor County and was a hotelman at Abilene, was there and looked as hale and hearty as a boy of sixteen. I was glad to meet him.

Next morning the hunt was to be pulled off. Long before day every horse was saddled and at the peep of dawn we started for the mountains. The party consisted of forty men and boys and thirty-four dogs. Of this number there was but one dog that was so well trained that he would run nothing but a bear. This was Old Brownny, who is trustworthy, and when he gives a yelp there has been bear passing that way. So thirty-three of these dogs had to be kept in the rear surrounded by men with whips to hold them down while crossing the trails of panther, fox, and deer, which were numerous. We had not gone far until Old Brownny struck the trail of a bear and gave a bawl that vibrated and echoed against the mountains as though they were full of dogs. We were trailing a rough path, single file, covering a distance more than 100 yards long, and word was passed up the line "Is that Brownny baying? Yes, yes, yes!" Mr. Evans, who was conducting the hunt, said "turn them loose, boys," and Bedlam tore loose. I am at a loss to describe the scene. It was a rattling of spurs and rocks, a breaking of limbs, every one determined to keep pace with the dogs, and the party was soon divided into little squads. After a chase of an hour or more we heard the keen crack of a Winchester and the blast of a horn, and on arriving we found a dead bear, which was killed by young Mr. Evans. One little dog that had outstripped the others had bayed the bear in a little cave and on the arrival of Mr. Evans it was about to come out and he,

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STUDEBAKER WAGON . . .

It's built of high material by master workmen...

JOHN DEERE BUGGIES,
HANCOCK DISC PLOWS,
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Hardware, Farm Machinery.

If you buy it here, it's RIGHT!

GEO. L. PAXTON, ABILENE, TEXAS.

fearing it would kill his dog and escape shot it before the party came up. So there were 39 disappointed men and 33 disappointed dogs. Part of the hunters lashed the bear on a horse and went to camp, while the remainder went on hunting and soon killed a bear, arriving at camp before noon, tired and hungry, but with an experience to relate of the chase. After all had eaten dinner, the horses were rounded up and orders given to all who wanted to go deer hunting to catch their mount. Several accepted the invitation and were soon off on the hunt, while others remained in camp and assisted the young ladies and others who had kodaks in placing the bears in different positions, first in trees, then on rocks against the mountains, sometimes surrounded by dogs and men with guns, in which positions quite a number of pictures were taken. Thus the evening was spent until

late, when a bronco riding was pulled off, some of the most precious to be found on the range being ridden. Then came supper and after that the usual fire kindled and Bro. Barcus preached a good sermon to the hunters who were seated on the grass want to say now that I never saw a more attentive, refined, intelligent audience than surrounded this camp fire, and according to a very conservative estimate these people represent wealth more than two millions; yet they are plain and practicable. They are men who blazed the way and broke the briars that the timid might follow.

The second day's hunt was a failure, as the bears had changed their range. Bro. Milican preached at night. The third day two bears were killed. One was killed by John M. Cowden of Midland and a gentleman whose name I have forgotten; the other

(Continued on page 6.)