# THE MERKEL MAIL. 

# New Offerings 

## New Dress Goods, New Embroideries,

## New Laces, New Ginghams.

We are showing an elegant and complete line of new spring goods in all departments. It is our constant aim and effort to show you a better assortment and more desirable stock of goods than we've ever before shown. How well we have succeeded we want you to tudge. Come and see our new goods whether you wish to buy or not.

We have added a complete line of Staple and Fancy Groceries and would like to figure on your next bill.

## The Star Store

## Kill the Boll Weevil.

History of the Pest, Its Habits and the Remedies For Its Extermination.

## ~J Jory of The Weevil.

The cotton boll weevil origina ted in Mexico many years ago It did not cross into Texas until cotton was grown in far South Texas, nearly to the Rio Grande About ten years ago the ranchmen in far South Texas began grow cotton with Mexican labo This gave the weevil a bridge ver which to travel from Mexic o Texas. It was first noticed Bee county, Texas, in 1894 . The United States government began to study it earnestly and the Texas Legislature was asked to wipe out all of the cotton fields just ahead of the weevil for two years and stop its invasion of Texas. This the legislature refused to do because its members did not appreciate how serious the pest would prove.
The weevil has advanced northward steadily and is now traveling eastward also. Unless a better remedy is found than has been discovered, it will soon distribute over the entire southern cotton belt from Texas to Virginia. The government entomologists and Professor Mally for the State of Texas have studied the pest for several years. A number of farmers and inventors have devoted time and mony to the destruction of the pest. Nevertheless, it now covers all of the twenty-two counties which in 1899 produced 46,000 bales of cotton each and represents 24 per cent of the total crop of the United States for the year 1900 , according to Prafessor W. D. Hunter
Business stagnates when the boll weevil comes into a cotton country, merchants fail, tenants move to other sections, land depreciates in value and the tonage $f$ the railro, ads shritiks in. vol-
ume. The farmers are never prepared for the coming of the boll weevil. They do not believe the pest to be as bad as re aw of nature will prevent it coming into their county. In spite of their expectations, the boll weevil is spreading northward at the rate of forty to six y miles each year. It destroye in Texas 400,000 bales of cotton during the past year. This loss amounts to $\$ 20,000,000$.
The Executive Committee en-
dorses the following plan of based upon the successful exberience of many cotton growers
pat in the weevil district. It has protected others, it will protec

How To Fight The Weevil.
Plow cotton and corn land deep as soon as possible during the winter.
2 Plant only early kinds cotton. Buy sound seed grown as far
found.
3 Plant cotton very early pring and at no other time 4 Use wide rows in planting
cotton. Lay them off about five it. wide for bottom lands and four feet wide for uplands. Thin cotton to about three feet apart in rows on bottoms and aph wo feet apart on uplands.
5. Run the rows as near e
and west as the land will allow.
Beat Him to Half Mile Post.
The directions given are simple and effective. They are based
upon the well known habits of he boll weevil and cannot be
disputed. They are so cheap
does much damage until July 15th or August 1st. Here is the cotton growers opportunity. As Judge Aldredge says, him to the half mile post" by making the cotton crop ahead of the numerous swarms of the weevil. Very few weevil suc ceed in living through the win ter. They multiply rapidly dur ing the late spring, and by the first of August can prevent ton from blooming
The early kinds of cotton wil be beyond the reach of the boll weevil by the middle of July, if planted early and given distance in the row. On vally lands not less than a half bale per acrewas actually nade last year where ever the early cottons were used and planted in this way in the boll weevil region.

## Don't Burn the Stalks.

It is now too late to get good results' from burning stalks This will not kill the boll weevil It is a waste of labor, time and money. Burn stalks in the fall and early winter season only during this year. The land is now wet, the stalk is green, and we should plant the land at the earliest opportunity, if safe •fro
frost.
The eggs that are now found in the limbs of the cotton stalks are not boll weevil eggs. These
eggs are from the tree cricket, which does not harm cotton. Farmers find them laid in long rows nearly touching each othe in the limbs of the stalk. The
egg of the boll weevil is laid nowhere but in the form or in the young boll, as long as there is a young boll to be found. Late in the summer the eggs are somewint laid in grown bols. may hatch at that season. Usually they are killed by the first freezes.

## Where is The Weevil Now?

Throughout the weevil district the grown weevil winters at the base of the cotton stalk, about two inches below the surface of he ground, and in the timber field. Cotton land near heavy timber is more subject to weevi ploughed up if in the cotton land and killed if turned up in the winter. It is necessary to plow cotton land as soon as possible This exposes the weevil to freez ing, thawing and to rains while dormant. He cannot live unde this treatment. The winter brood, when it comee from the
brush, and timber land, is few in brush, and timber land, is few in
number and can make little headway in a fast growing erop of cotton.
Plow up your cotton fields now Low deep and kill the weevil

Plant Early Kinds Of Cotton.

## Planting early cotton is ha

 the fight. It makes success sure The first picking with the early cotton ought to yield one half the crop and be at least three weeks ahead of common cotton. Don't mistake "medium early" for "genuine early." Never plant eason. This practice bring hem in conflict with the dry weather. Early cotton is expected to mature ahead of dry


MONEY!
is saved by
BUYING THE BEST

## We sell the Farrand Organs, Mason \& Hamlin, and others. Also a fine line of Pianos, nice line of Violins, Guitars, Mandolins; strings of all kinds. <br> Basham, Shepherd \& Co.

weather so far as "putting on"
Seed Cost 250 Per Acre.
the crop is concerned. Common cotton is late in its habits because the cotton planter usually aves the last picking from which o select the seed cotton of the ext year. The first picking is generally sold in the seed and the oil mills grind the greater part of the seed in the early maturing bolls.
Nearly any cotton seed seeured as far north as Oklohoma North Carolina will prove themselves early when brought to Texas fields. They may be kept early by selecting the first bolls that open in Texas and using the seed from these for planting

## Fight the Boll Worm.

The boll worm is a pest in nearly every cotton county in exas. It causes a vast amount damage every year. It is now ravaging all of North Texas where the boll weevil is expected to reach within the next year. In hese North Texas counties the farmers can fight the boll worm, and at the same time protect themselves against the bollweevil in a large measure. The boll worm, boll weevil and chinch bug must all be fought in the same general way. When the farmers are aroused and learn of fight one of these pests, they can just as easily defeat all three This practically guarantees both he corn and cotton crops for Texas.
If there were no boll weevil or boll worm to be combatted ninetenths of our Texas farmers would profit greatly by the use of tiese
mproved prolific early maturing
kinds of cotton. Planted proper-
y they mature ahead of drouth
Their average Texas season dly dierits are briefly but point diy discussed in the pamphlets now bei
is com-
Merchan
yers, ginners, cottc other business interests will be urnished samples of this litera ture upon application.

Seed can be bought in car load lots and shipped to Texas at a reasonable rate. There are many eliable fa:mers in the Carolinas Virginia and Georgia who ar willing to sell seed at once i notice is given. Many of these people are willing to lay down seed in Texas at less than $\$ 1.00$ per bushel in carload lots. The reight from North Carolina points to Dallas is $\$ 1.04$ per hunred pounds on cotton seed, in ar lots. There is now tin - in which to secure this seed.
The Secretary of this Execul. Committee has written to the heads of Experiment Stations in the Southern States and has se cured from them the names of armers who have early cotton seed for sale.
Prof B. C. Pittuck of the Texas Experiment Station supplies the ollowing facts upun early mauring kinds of cotton
"The main crop ( 75 per cent) of such varieties as King's, Welborn's Pet, etc., if not planted ater than April 10th, can be gathered by the latter part of agust. Earlier planting will hrow maturity correspondingly earlier."
These will bear early planting and mature early
King's Improved, first matured boll, 102 days, Jones' Improved irst matured boll, 105 days, Wel born's Pet, first matured boll, 102 days, Mascot, about the same as King's.

## Calendars for 1904

Business men who use calendars as one means of advertising and a good one it is, too) shoul hold their orders until our line is in. The Mail makf necizty of calender work : pared to save you $r$
quantities
Don't send away for anytin you may need in this line

Advertising is the se <br> \title{
we <br> \title{
we <br> <br> Are <br> <br> Are Here!
}

## For Our First Spring Opening, and it Promises to be a Busy One.

We are receiving daily the goods, making the prices and showing the values that will surprise the wisest. They are new, clean, fresh and up-todate goods with no soiled stuff to "throw in." We know we can please you in Style, Quality and Price. It's saving time and money to be able to get the goods you want just when you need them, from the cheapest to the best. We are promising you as well as ourselves to eclipse former efforts.

They Have Arrived.
Easter Gloves! White Gloves! Black Gloves!
Look at them and criticise. They will bear it. All French novelties in both long and short gloves and mits in fashions favor. See them.

## Laces and Embroideries.

 Catohing bargains.In the latest weaves.
Laces from 10ca dozen yards

## Embroidery.

c per yard to 81.25 and
All overs too are handsome and up to the dot.

Muslin Underwear. In garments and make up that should appeal to the dainty wo-
men who like pretty things at men who like moderate prices.
Well fitting undergarments are the key note to a tastefully
dressed lady. Much prized ole. dressed lady. Much prized dile.
gance in dress does not necessigance in dress does not necessi-
tate a great expenditure of money tate a great expenditure of money
but it $\begin{aligned} & \text { does } \\ & \text { require pretty fitted }\end{aligned}$ but it does require protty fitted
underwear. You should at least underwear. You should at least
took through our line and note the Parisienne make up of them.

## Gypsy Hosiery

 Cannot have enough praisegiven it and our spring line is unsurpassed.
The popular low cut shoe for men makes fancy lace hose a necessary article for yo.u
We have them in all the new
ideas in both ideas in both embroidery and lace effects, woven stripes and plain laces.
In the line of ladies' fancy hoslery we have the snappiest line
that can be gotten together. In the latest conceits in embroidered and colored lace designs, the white ones are "beauties." We can suit any one from cheap est up.

Ready-to-wear Garments. We have skirts and waists that should capture the town. In designs and finish that cannot be rivaled. A big shipment just in in both wash and woolen skirts, and pique, silk and dimity waists. They are necessary for every lady.
Wash skirts $20 \mathrm{c}, 35,50$ and Woolen ones from 90 c up.
Waists of lawn $50 \mathrm{c}, 75,81$ and up, also many others space will not allow us to mention. See them for yourself.

## Dress Goods.

We have the pick of eastern markets so have all the colorings designs desirable. Rial de Chine, Brodine Tissues, Tissue Maskel, Grolando Silks, Persian Dimities are favorites but many others at reasonable figures. You cannot realize their beauty until seen.
Wash and Taffeta Silk.
Our Banner Leader.
Beautiful patterns in Japanese silks, suitable for wash waists, 35,50 and $\$ 1$
Our 36 inch Taffeta Silks are alone without competition.
Black $90 \mathrm{c}, \$ 1$ to $\$ 1.35$.
Look them up; you will be surprised.
White Goods and Table Damask Dept.
Our dimities and lawns are going at prices.
25 c .
In organdies from 10 c to $\$ 1$.
White table damark from 25 c to $\$ 1.25$.

Red damask from 15 to 35 c .
We have a full line of stamped linens in all desirable patterns. Pillow tops in the latest burnt leather patterns

Corsets and Ladies' Vests.
We handle the W. B. Corset in all its grades. They are well advertised and need no comment on them. You know them. In batiste and summer laces from 50 c to $\$ 2.50$ each.

## set covers.

Ladies' vest, $5 \mathrm{c}, 10 \mathrm{c}, 15 \mathrm{c}, 25 \mathrm{c}$.
Knit corset covers, 25 c to 50 c and up.
Gent's Furnishing Goods Dept.
We have secured a full line of furnishing goods that will please the most fastidious. if:Our full the most fastidious. is assortment of shirts can not
beat from 25 c up to $\$ 1.35$, a regular $\$ 1.50$ shirt, too.
Half hose are something we up on.

Ask to see the ties,
No gent's furnishing house can give you a more up-to-date hat than we can.
They are the newest that could be purchased and will be given to you at exceptionally low figurs. Shoes
Our line of shoes in Ladies, Men's and Children's can't be exceeded by anyone. This is a broad sssertion yet' tis true.
Our different shoes are the "smartest" things in Abilene. They talk for themselves and can They talk for themselves and can
give you more close ear cropped give you more close ear cropped
prices than any other line of foot wear in Abilene. You have exceptional opportunities for low figures in shoes and slippers. The most up to date line of low quarter shoes for men than ever shown before.
We made an especial effort to grasp new styles and "they say" we were crowned with success. In ladies we have a complete assortment in the very newest
tical lines and contains all the elements of style and sturdiness You'll find our price most modest, for example
Ladies' slippers from 80c to $\$ 3$.
Men's dress shoes from $\$ 1$ to 34. The prizes too.

Children's shoes from 25 e and ${ }^{\text {up. }}$
dress shoes from s 1 and
Only a hint at STAPLES.
Yard wide brown domestic, 4c. Yard wide bleach domestic, 5 c . $10-4$ brown sheeting, 15 c Good spring calico, lovely designs only, 3c
Staple check gingham 4 and 5 c Can they be excelled?
First Formal Opening of Spring Millinery Thursday and Friday, April 2nd and 3rd. An unrivaled display of the most clever creations that vie with those that come from over the sea.

Mrs. Wilson has charge of this handsome department, and with her eight years' experience with one of the largest millinery hous es in the east is prepared to show exquisite pattern hats of latest Parisian models. The superb display in our show super display in our show room will with all its dazzling beauty of with all its dazzling beauty of
rare colorings, artistic designs and exquisite details in graceful trimmings.
We have the most slightly blending of colorings ever offered for inspection.
Open all day and until ten at night. Don't forget the date.
Cold, refreshing drinks will be served free to the ladies during our Millinery Opening.

Let us prove to you our prices and qualities are right, so bring your price list and we will spare neither time nor labor in our efforts to please you. We hope that our customers will try to reap some of the benefits of our right prices and good goods. STRICTLY ONE PRICE---SPOT CASH.

## The Big' New Daylight Store.

OUR MOTTO: Better goods for the same money, same goods for less money. Your money's worth or your money back.

## To My Friends and Oll Clistomers:

I am again where I can serve you with anything you need in the Grocery Line. We have a fine line of Staple and Fancy Gro= ceries at Lowest Prices. We will pay you the Highest Market Price for your Produce, in trade. Bring it to us. Will make you Lowest Prices for cash, and when your cash is gone, can take care of you on fall time.

# With Merkelo Mercantile Co. <br> S. W. SHEPPARD. 

MARKET LETTER.
Kansas City, Mo., March 23th, 1903
Special to The Merkel Mail.
Receipts of Quarantines last week were light, although show ing a small increase over the previous week. Unfavorable weather conditions in Texas kept the run from there down. A large proportion of Stockers and feeders in the Native division kept prices for fat steers steady all week, with very little fluctuation from day to day. Most of the arrivals on Texas side were fed steers, which sold readily at steady prices. The day famine continues on the Southern side, but should any arrive, prices are 10 to 20 cents lower
than a week ago. Bulls also show a little weakness. Canners sell than a week ago. Bulls also show a little weakness. Canners sel slow.

The total run to-day is light at 5,000 head, a decrease of 3,000 from last Monday. Supply of Quarantines is about the same as last Monday, around 40 cars. Lower reports from the East failed to cause a decline here, owing to moderate run. Fed steers ar no cows on Texas side. Among the sales to-day were the following:
P. D. Kirk, Lenepah, I. T.
W. R. Hik, Lenepah, I. T. 22 'Steers

G T. Connor, Campbell, O. T. 28 First National Bank, Vinita, I. T. 19 F. B. Johnson, Noble, Okla. B. H. Calvert, Ravia, I. T. 169
B. H. Calvert,

Heavy sheep receipts last week did not prevent another notable advance in prices. Receipts amounted to 22,990 head against 11, 998 head the same week last year. Muttons gained 25 to 40 cents with ewes leading. Best grades of lambs also sold better, and medium kinds, which have recently been dull, elosed the week strong. The market to-day is a good 10 cents higher, indicating another good week. The Parrott ewes, from St. Mary's, sold at 85. day. day, weigning 88 pounds, 0 cents hors day, 82 pounds, at $\$ 7.15$, a very satisfactory price. W. B Booth day, 82 pounds, at $\$ 7.15$, a very satisfactory price. W. L. Booth, pounds, at $\$ 6.00$. Yearlings brought $\$ 6.25$ to-day. Shippers may expect these high prices for the immediate future, as the wonderful demand for mutton seems unabated.

JNO. M. HAZELTON,

##  <br> ABILENIE, TEXAS

Distributors for WEST TEXAS.

Yours truly,
Y. H. Berry tried his strength will be more successful next time against that of an unruly cow, and that he will suffer no inTuesday, by attempting to hold vonvenience from the hurt. her while she was milked. After
a few rounds had been fought We handle a full supply of Mr. Berry was found to be hors machine needles and attach de combat, and is nursing a ments, belts, oil cans, etc. Best broken hand as a sonvenir of the oil made.
$\qquad$
ELLIOTT \& MILLER
Wind Mills, Pumps and Water Supply Goods.
We keep in stock the Star steel mill, direct stroke ant back gear Eclipse wood mill, Dandy and Aermotor steel mills; a fkll assort. ylind pumps, piping from 4 to 2 in ., plain and galvanized; brass nd and can make Fort Worth prices on anything in our line.
W. W. WHEELER,

Real Estate, Life, Fire and nado Insurance Agent

PATE \& ROLLINS, BARBERS

DR. J. W. LITTLE, Resident Dentist.
examinations free - office in Ferrier building.

LEEMAN \& KING, Physicians \& Surgeons
R.B.USTICK

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Etc.
Repairing a Specialty
J. J. MILLER, Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public, Land and Collecting Agent.


SHEPPARD \& McDONALD

Beef, Pork, Mutton, Sausage.

Everything Nice and clean; an up-to-date market. We would appreciate your patronage.

## Burton-Linǵo Co.,

Lumber Dealers,
Merkel, Texas.

For 20 Yaars Has Led all Worm Remedies. \}
Propared by BID BY AxI, DRYGGXBTE For Sale by Burroughs \& Mans, : :

> Shoes and Hats, Staple and Fancy Groceries, Produce, Etc., Etc.

> We have just received an elegent line of shoes in all the latest toes and the prices are RIGHT.

> In order to make room, we have put very close prices on all men's and boys' clothing and furnishing goods. Now is the time to buy good goods cheap.

Best Passenger Service
TEXAS


DINING CARS
FORT WORTH and SA.


The Mail reaches a class
folks that read advertisements

THE MERKEL MAII trict and will do the right thing by the school and by their children.

## DEMISE OF THE BRYAN BILL

Entered in the post-office at Merkel, Texas, as second class mail matter

## PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

We've had two successive bad crop years and some of our subscribers have not been able to pay up. We
want to assure these that they are welcome to read the paper and pay for it when they are able. The only request we have to make is that if you DO NOT WANT the paper, say so now, pay up your arrears, and let u stop it. We are perfectly willing to send the paper on it, either for the cash or on time, if it is not wanted.

## the special school tax.

The Mail has enough faith in the wisdom, intelligence and patriotism of the voters of this school district to justify the belief that they are unalterably in favor of them several years ago, but which was done away with when this district was incorporated. Educational inter ests are carefully looked after and protected by our
people. They look to the public schools for the primary development, morally and mentally, of their children, and realizing that a common school education is the best that many of them can do for their children, they have made ample provisions in that direction.
chool reflects the intelligence of a community
is before stated, the creating of this district into an incoporated district took the power of levying this tax for the present year out of the hands of the commis sioners 'court, and the tax must be voted in again if the rresent length of the school term is to be maintained If the tax is not voted back, it will mean that thr school term must be cut down to a length of less than six months. Of course home pride, if there was nothing of more importance at stake, will not allow us to permit excellent school, an efficient corps of teachers, and comfortable and convenient school building. Ail of these have contributed to the moral, social and physic al development of the town, and it would be poor policy on our part to "kill the goose that laid the golden egg. But The Mail deems this explanation unnecessary

The Bryan quarantine bill has turned its little pink toes to the daisies. Its life was a short, but eventful one, and its career was checkered indeed. Hissed at by corporate power, jeered at by wealth, storm-tossed and buffeted by the cruel waves of adversity; talked to death, argued away, cussed and discussed, petted and cajoled, and finally dismembered, few tears were hed over its demise. It was a pet scheme of the many, all. Requiescat en pace

In many respects the Bryan bill was a just one, fo it sought to equalize the benefits of the quarantine law. A little rabid, perhaps, but notwithstanding it expresse the sentiments of three-fourths of the people of Texas
From the start it was unpopular with the Legislature From the start it was unpopular with the Legislature because concentrated wealth was against it, while it wa championed by the common people. A powerful lobby backed with millions of dollars, was early formed to defeat all legislation aimed at the protected interests nd the appearance of the Bryan bill was the signal for affray, with the result that peanut politicians yanke the measure from the grasp of its few champions, lashed the frazzles into gold dollars, and left the masses with an empty void as a souvenir. These are facts that can not be contradicted, but what consolation can be gotten out of the situation? A legislative lobby is impregna be, and can defeat almost any measure which is not the cheme of protected interests. Money makes the mare go in the legislature as elsewhere.

The quarantine law has long been a bone of con ention in the west. It has created more strife and en endered more hard feelings and produced more refrac ions of the peace and dignity of the State than any ther one thing, with the possible exception of the abolute lease law, with which the people have had to contend. There are remedies, but it is impossible to aply them; hence it is best to endure for awhile and wait an opportune time for dealing a death blow to the niquitous law

## SAN JACINTO DAY

To the loyal Texan the name carries with it a syno ym of patriotism. It is hallowed with the blood of ou the ages it will shine as the bright particular star in the

San Jacinto day should live in the heart of ever Texan, and we should take a pride in observing it, if in no other way than by ceasing all business on that day The spark of patriotism should be kept burning in every The spark of patriotism should be kept burning in every
breast. Can we rake up enough patriotism to hold serbreast. Can we rake up enough patriotism to hold ser-
vices in Merkel commemorative of that event in the history of our beloved State-Grand Old Texas?

## A CORRECTION.

It was stated last week that the special school tax which we have beên paying in this district all along was 15 c on the $\$ 100$, when it should have been 20 c on the s100. We had in mind the tax levied for the support o his independent school district, which is 15 c , but the ecial school tax was 20 c

Another error occurred in giving the date of the election at which time the proposition will be voted on The election will be held Saturday, April 18

## THE WHISKEY INTERESTS ALARMED.

The rapid gains of the prohibition sentiment in this sate during the past year and the rapidity with which Texas is going dry, has greatly alarmed the whiskey interests, with the result that they made bold to enter he Grayson County contest and were ingloriously whipped. The Anheuser-Busch people headed the oppo sition. They now ask the National Government to issue a decree and set aside the decision of the sovereign people of this great commonwealth, and have secured an injunction against the result of the eclection They base their plea on ten counts, and among them hold (1) that the local option law is unconstitutional (2) that the poll tax amendment recently adopted by the people is also unconstitutional; (3) that the influence of he good women serving lunch on the grounds while the ection was in progress was prejudicial to their cause
This is the last straw. Oh, what a howl! Like mangy cur, they whine and spew, but there is nothing in it. Walk up to the rack, you moral lepers, and tak郎icine like men. This outlawry is doing your cause more harm than good

## THE BOLL WEEVIL QUESTION.

Ont of the most exhaustive treatises on the bol weevil pest to be found is the one issued by the execu tive committee of the Texas Boll Weevil convention, and is published in full in this issue. It will also be run sking next week. Sample copies may be had for the wide publicity as possible

## WITH THE PRESS GANG.

Ten young men in Conders-
port, Pa., have taken an oath to marry before January 1, 1904.Excbange.
If taking oaths would do any good the editor of this sheet would have had a wife some
years ago.-Pecan Valley News.
It's not taking oaths, it's "popping the question' that se
the matter.-Bartlett News.
The Bartlett News is edited by a young lady. Can the editor of the P. V. N. take a hint, or will
it have to be pounded into his it have to be pou
head with a maul?

It might be again appropriately suggested that there is much
remedial virtue in the lid of a remedial virtue in the lid of
cracker box when vigorously applied to the southern hemisphere of a bac
There are a great man
"southern hemispheres" in this man's town that need attention There are also a few cracker box lids, but they are

Lost: Somewhere between
Dallas and El Paso-the T. \& P. Dallas and El Paso-the T. \&P. P.
passenger schedule. - Coloradd Spokesman.
The Spokesman is informed that the west bound passenger was on time one night last week -at least when it passed this station.
means, and, by gatlins, he is pretty sure to get what he asks The crying demands of the for more justice.-Cumby Ruter.
That's it. Justice is ever tempered with mercy, but all
judges do not deal out justice nor are they always mercifut. Mor justice and fewer judges woul be a very desirable change.

Some people are
tamford Courier.
orn blue.-
Not, them. Some are and some-red.

Neat, clean, outspoken and brimful of thoughts and local the best papers on our exchange table. It is one of our favorite Exs.-Ballinger Ledger.
Oh, thank you, thank you. Name the charges, please, and we'll remit.

## Old Soldiers' Column

SAN JACINTO BATTLEFIELD.
Should Be Made To Typity the Vic
torious Republio's Birth.
Members of the legislatur grow indignant at the idea of selling the Alamo for commercial purposes, and the mere rumor of a move to that end aroused so much opposition that it is safe say that if there really has been such a purpose it will be aband ned.
In this connection it is pertinent to remind the legislature
that the battlefield of San Jacinto that the battlefield of San Jacinto
is no less a part of the glory of

Texas, but to judge by the neg ine that all of public regard wer centered upon the sacred house of slaughter with no concern fo the consecrated battlefield of victory. The Alamo was the beginning and San Jacinto was the end. Both are imperishable monuments-one to the martyr dom of a few heroes who chose death in order to stay the inva der's progress and the other to the military genius of a small army who defeated twice their number. Without the delay of the sacrifice at the Alamo Hous-
ton might have been overtaken ton might have been overtaken
before he was ready, but without before he was ready, but without
the victory at San Jacinto there the victory at San Jacinto
would have been no Texas.
The Alamo is preserved in its primitive roughness, as befits the grim sorrow it commemorates an Jacinto should be preserved in adornment to typify the vic
tory it marks and the liberty and prosperity it insured. Its line of battle should be traced; its graves identified, and its slopes beautiful. It should be a comely and well-kept reservation, an nviting gathering place dotte with marble and bronze, carpeted
with green and rich in perfume with green and rich in perfume
and foliage bodying forth heroism and peace and plenty It is now a forest wild, over
grown, unattended, like a for gotten grave. Those who know its detours and tactical points are passing away and soon there will be none to tell just where and
how the battle was fought, and how the battle was fought, an history will
The same patriotism which moves the legislature to hold on to the Alamo and to provide sta the Alamo and to provide sta ues of Houston and Austi ropriation for enclosing, mark
ing, beautifying and maintaining San Jacinto which is the monument to those 743 who deserve recognition equally with th great pathfinder who spied out this land of promise and the great general who wrought it into republic.-Houston Post.

## The Law is Satisfled

Thursday was terminated ong and hotly cont
in the District Court.
Gip Wisdom's trial
Gip Wisdom's trial was concluded. He was charged with seduction and he will pay the ex reme penalty-five years at hard abor in the pen-for robbing Lovenia Smith of her good name. Thus another case is concluded Fannin's bis court, such things being to the minds of the thoughtful, serious problems. There sat that poor girl, robbed of her life's happiness-her vir ue-by the man whom she loved well enough to marry, to die for ven worse-to give up all her good name for him. He had promised to marry her and take care of her, but he came not. He went to another and there he has made another life miserable We who love life, liberty and purity hate to see these cases We look upon the children of il licit love with a pang of sorrow for the path of life to the chil dren of the virtuous is hard at best, and what must it be to best,
these.
Gip
Gip Wisdom by his own evi dence is a destroyer of virgins. He swore on the stand that he had ruined several girls. He swore this awful truth to ruin poor Lovenia, who, with her twelve-months old baby boy in her lap told a story that all the evils in hell would not deny, but Gip Wisdom did. She tol but life's pleasure had flown and
how she had trusted, aye, too well. She told how, at the last noment, the man of hor love had failed her; how her aged and widowed mother had been bowed by the blow, and this old voman with the orphan girls are good people. They have enjoy ed the love and confidence of all heir neighbors. They have worked hard and built a good home and lands, and now this spectre-this taint-this wrecke f happiness, like a thief in the ark, comes upon the scene
We all cry "temper justice with mercy." It is even so welve good and lawful Fannin ounty citizens have heard the vidence, weighed the facts, the vidence is in and the law is sat sfied.
We hate such tasks as these
The duties of a day are irksome ometimes at best, but in cases like this the pencil almost ceases o move for modesty's sake. But his crime is too common. It is endish and must stop.
Perhaps there may come a day when all such cases as these wil be a thing of the past. People may never get to the point where hey will not bicker over proper ies. They may never get so civilized that they cannot keep rom going to law. But purity of women should be held so sa cred by our chivalrous youth that there should be no more such crimes as this.-Fannin County Favorite.
The Mail gives all the news.
The past week has been a ery pleasant one for F. B Hoople, due to the presence of Hoople, due to the presence of
his sister, Mrs. Mead, from her orthern home. She is acco panied by her little daughter
Read the advertisements first W. Watkins of Pleasant City,
W. Ohio. "Pneumonia had played sad havoc with him and a terrible cough set in besides. Doctors treated him, but he grew worse Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, and our darling our darling was saved. He's our darling was saved. He's
now sound, and well." Everybudy ought to know, it's the only sure cure for Coughs, Colds
and all Lung diseases. Guaranteed by Rust and Pittard Druggist. Price 50 c and $\$ 1.00$. Trial bottles free.

## Bulls For Sale.

I have four or five Hereford and Durham, mixed blood, yearling bulls at my place in Merkel, which I will sell at reasonable prices

## Sam Jones Coming.

Sam P. Jones, the eminent lecturer and divine, will be in Merkel on the night of April 20. This is the last attraction of the Lyceum course, and while it should have appeared last December, we hope it will be none the less welcome, and that a crowded house will greet him upon his appearance here.
Those who bought season tickets are requested to call and have them renowed. A general admisson of $\$ 1.00$ will be charged.
Tickets on sale at Burroughs \& Mann's drug stoae.

## District Court Proceedings.

The following cases were disposed of in District Court last week:
R. E. Tracy vs T \& P Ry Co
et al, damages, continued by et al, damages, continued by Luther Ross vs T \& P Ry Co damages, continued by agreement.
Ex Parte W. W. Kirk, application for license to practive law; refered to committee composed of W. J. Cunningham, B. A. Cox and Harry TomKing for examination.
State of Texas vs A. M. Barron, plea of guilty to charge of aggravated assault, and fined $\$ 50$.
T. J. Coggin vs T \& P Ry Co et al, damages, verdict $\$ 1,000 \mathrm{a}-$ Ft Worth \& Denver Ry Co.
Ft Worth \& Denver Ry Co.
State vs Joe Coleman, assa
to murder, motion for new trial
overruled and rotice of appeal given.
A. E. Miller of Coalgate, I. T., and Miss Mattie Clapp were married last Sunday. The groom is a splendid young man and formerly lived here, and the bride, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Clapp now of Rofi, I. T., is a most excellent young woman. years and just recently closed her school at New Hope. After a visit to the bride's sister, Mrs. Wolverton, at Wise they go to Coalgate, their home for the present.-Wills Point Chronicle.
The bride is a sister of Miss Lou Clapp, who taught the Rock Crossing school two terms and is quite well known. Both were schoolmates of the writer. Miss Mattie was the third of a family of seven sisters-all bright, lovely, intelligent girls-and is the second to break the family circle, The Mail tenders its very best wishes to the worthy young couple.

Mrs, Lillard, who had been visiting Mrs. Thurmond, left Tuesday for Sweetwater.

## ORESS GOOOS

OUR NEW STORE Is Full or Nice,
Up-to-Date
Merchandise.

We are showing the newest things to be found in this season's creations. We can furnish you with suitable trimmings to match.

Our clothing is perfect in fit and finish and the styles are a CLOTHING season ahead of the ordinary ready-to-wear clothing. We have the exclusive sale in Merkel of the Mrs. Jane Hopkins line of boys' clothing. It will pay mothers to see this line.

We carry the Hamilton-Brown line in styles that fashion

SHOES AND SLIPPERS HAMILTON-BROWNE says you must wear---High and Low and for Dress, Business,

and outdoor wear. and outdoor wear.

The spring sunshine will show up the shortness of that winter hat. Come to us for that spring hat. We have the style you want in Thoroughbred, Statesman and Globe.

Spring cleaning will soor take place. Matting is much nicer and cooler, besicioss you can buy a good quality of matting for the price of a cheap carpet. We have the new patterns in
25,30 and 35 c grades.

## - W P D D $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dealerin Re= } \\ & \text { liable Merchandise }\end{aligned}$ MERKEL, TEXAS.

Cures Soiatic Rheumatism.
Mrs. A. E. Simpson, 509 Craig st., Knoxville, Tenn., writes, June 10th, 1899: "I have been
trying the baths of Hot Springs, trying the baths of Hot Springs,
Ark., for sciatic rheumatism but I get more releif from Ballard's Snow Liniment than any medicine or anything I have tried. Enclosed find postoffice order for $\$ 1.00$. Send me a large bottle by Southern Express." Sold by Burroughs and Mann.
Judging from the number of agricultural implements being carried out of town, farmers are making big preparations to stir the soil this year.
James, the 16-year-old son of Senator Sebastian, while handling a pistol in his room at Austin Friday, accidentally shot himself, the ball entering the left leg. Young Sebastian is a page in the Legislature. His wound
G. B. Brown of Abilene, ac
G. B. Brown Cenilene, ac cording to the Reporter, has gone for the gin which he is to build at this place. Mr. Brown informed The Mail that the gin plant will be modern in every respect, and the best in the counHis. He is a practical gin man. His su
start.

## FOR SALE.

8 yearling males, good Hereford grades. Joe Higgins will sell them cheap.
t C. P. Warren.
Mrs. Hoople visited in Abilene Saturdey.
Miss Fannie Berry has reurned to Abilone.
T. M. Clinton was in from the Canyon Saturday and squared p with The Mail. They had a very hard rain and considerable hail in his neighborhood on Wednesday night previous which did some damage in the way of washing land, but Mr. Clinton says he will not kiek if it rains every
week. week.

## To The Public.

Those who have second-hand goods for sale take them to J. C. Watkins.
"Take Your Clothes and Go" To Will Leeman, and have him get the Weatherford
Come and see our spring mat-ting.-W. P. Browning and Co. Miss Maud Counts returned Saturday from a visit to her sister near Roby.
Messrs. H. H. Copeland and J. H. Bennett of Truby-Hodges were pleasant callers at the home of two certain young ladies of Merkel Sunday. The aforesaid young ladies furnished this item.

## A Heavy Frost.

A heavy frost formed Friday night, and a thin coat of ice was also noticeable on open vessels However, very little, if any damage was done to the fruit, the trees being backward in budding. Garden truck also came through without injury.
The weather is very unsettled and will be until after Easter and we may look for other visits from Jack Frost.
The murder taial of Sam Patterson will be heard next Monday.
County Attorney T. A. Bledsoe was in the city on private (?) business Saturday.

## Eggs For Sale.

Full blood brown Leghorn eggs, 15 for $\$ 1.00$; good, fresh eggs delivered at Merkel Texas Mrs. A. Criswell, Noodle, Texas.
D. B. Stcekton, one of the new settlers who struck a hard deal in the way of partial crop failures, last year, adds his name to our large list of subscribers. Mr.
Stockton has h nice farm free from debt, is living at home and on an economic plan, and The Mail hopes he will strike it rich this year, for he
very best citizens.

## Children's Coughs and Colds.

Mrs. Joe McGrath, 327 E. 1st St., Hutchinson, Kan., writes : "I have given Ballard's Horehound Syrup to my children for eoughs and colds for the past four years, and find it the best medicine I ever used." Unlike many cough syrups, it contains no opium, but will soothe and heal any disease of the throat or lungs quicker than any other remedy. 25 c .50 c and 81.00 at Burroughs and Mann's.
To Our Customers and Friends: We will be found in the rock building, one door west of our old stand, with a complete line of Groceries, Implements, Confectioneries, Harvesting Machinery, etc. We have also purchased the Gle have also purchased figures so that we Dry Goods at igures so that we can sell them for Cash. Accept our under, for CASH. Accept our thanks for past favors, and price with us before buying. Respt.,

## Smallpox at Abilene.

Four or five cases of smallpox have developed at Abilene. The cases are very mild and all who had been exposed to the disease, as well as those who have it, are under strict quarantine. It is thought there is no danger of a general epidemic at this time. There are lots of worse disease
than the smallpox,
J. W. Foster, one of Salt Branch's progressive farmers, takes The Mail in connection with the Republic. He has started the plows on his farm and is making things hum.
T. A. Johnson boosted the edtor to the tune of a silver cart wheel, Monday, and the music was an appetite producer. May his shadow grow in proportion o his enterprise and good fellow ship.
The Weatherford Laundry guarantees all wor

## A Physician Writes.

"I am desirous of knowing if the profession can obtain Herbine in bulk for prescribing purposes? It has been of great use to me in reating cases of dyspepsia rought on by excesses or overwork. I have never known it to ail in restoring the organs affected, to their healthful activity." 50 c bottle at Burroughs and Mann's.

Your Suits! I represent Leachman's Cleaning and Dye works of Dallas. Bring me your winter or spring
suits and have Leachman to clean and press them. $\$ 2$ per suit. Guaranteed.
Will Leeman, Aǵt.

To My Friends and Customers. I have associated myself with the Star Store, and will be glad to wait on you for any goods you may need in our line

Yours truly, Joe L. Harris.

## Notice, U. C. V.'s:

All members of Merkel Camp No. 79, are requested to meet at the I. O. O. F. hall Saturday vening, the 28 inst, at 3 o'clock. Important business to transact
A. A. Baker, Com.
A. Leeman, Adjt.

KEYS ARE OUT.
You will have eight days in which to fit your keys to the Red Box-beginning March 23, and ending with and including March 31st
No keys can
Mar
2t abs. Morton, one of our Trent解 onough, Monday, to renew for the paper. The Mail congratulates itself upon having such men on its books, for they are jusi talk to.

## Wteds

Consumption is a human weed flourishing best in weak lungs. Like other weeds it's casily destroyed while young; when old, sometimes impossible.
Strengthen the lungs as you vould weak land and the eeds will disappear.
The best lung fertilizer is
cott's Emulsion. Salt pork
good too, but it is very hard digest.
The time to treat consumption is when you begin trying to hide it from yourself. Others see it, you won't.
Don't wait until you can't deceive yourself any longer. Begin with the first thought to take Scott's Emulsion. If it isn't really consumption so much the better; you will soon forget it and be better for the forget it and be better for the
treatment. If it is consumptreatment. If it is consump-
tion you can't expect to be tion you can't expect to be
cured at once, but if you will begin in time and will be rigidly regular in your treatment you will win.

Scott's Emulsion, fresh air, rest all you can, eat all you can, that's the treatment and that's the best treatment.


We will send you
a little of the Emul a little of
sion free.

wrapper of every bottle
Emalion you buy.
SCOTT \& BOWNE Chemists, 409 Pearl St., N. Y

So Sweet and Pleasing in Taste!
Mrs. C. Peterson, 625Lake St., Kan., speaking of Ballard's Horehound Syrup, says: 'It has never failed to give entire satisfaction, and of all cough remedies, it is my favorite, and I must confes to my many friends that it will do, and has done,
what is claimed for it-to speedily cure a cough or a cold; and it is so sweet and so pleasing in taste." $25 \mathrm{e}, 50 \mathrm{c}$ and $\$ 1.00$ at Burroughs and Mann.
See The Mail for all kinds of jab work at living prices

## Paine's Celery

Compound CURES RHEUMATISM.

Rheumatism, which does its terrible worl
in the muscles, joints, and tissues in the muscles, joints, and tissues, is caused by
urie acid which gathers in the bood. To get
rid of this poisonous acid which produce irritations, pains, agonies, inflamimations, and
swellings peculiar to heumatism, Faine's
Celery Connpound should be used without Celery Compound should be used withou
delay. No other medicine gives sunch prompt
cheering, and happy results. It is the only medicine that prevents a return of the dreaded
disease. Faine's Celery Compound braces
the nerves, the blood is quickly cleared of all irritating poisons, tissue and muscle are built
up, and the digestivc organs perfectly toned. up, and the digestive organs perfectly toned.
Do not treat with indifference the slightest
theumatic symptoms; the early use of Paine's. theumatic symptons; the early use of Paine's.
Celery Compounds will save you weeks and
months of suffering. Mr. S. D. Conway, months of suffering. Mr. S. D. Conway,
St. Loois, Mo., was permanently cured by
Paine's Celery Compound after repeated fail. ures wi-
says:-
I. St. Louis 27 years, and all this time with the
exception of hrre years. I have served in the Engineers' Department as Inspector. I Iast winter I contracted rheumatism and was laid
up. I ried all remedies and doctors, but all which has made a permanent cure in my case. I have recommended it to many, and they
have used it with the same result."
FOR HOME USE AND EOONOMY
Diamond
Make Old Clothes Look Iem
Dyes $=$

Following letters remain un called for in the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, and if not called for will be sent to the Dead Let ter office Apr. 1. When calling for them please state adver tised

Mattie R. Witt, P. M. Case, Miss Effie (2) Emerson, Chas (3)
Harris, N A
Martin, Miss M
Martin, Mrs Lenie
Martin, Mrs Lula
Milam, Mrs Francis
Moore, Mrs Ana
Johns, Mrs J C
Self, J H
Wallace, S A
League Program.
Leader-Edgar Maxwell. Subject-Missions: Robert Moffat.
Lesson-Heb. 2:12-14.
ra comments:

1. Miss Nannie O'Zee.
2. Miss Allie Jennings.
3. Miss Edith Freemon
4. Elmer Maxwell.
5. Miss Alice George.

Prayer and songs at pleasure leader.
The League will meet at the esidence of W. P. Browning on the evening of April 1st, $8 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$., at which time the followiug program will be carried out. Al members of the League are in vited and urged to be prosent.
History of the League-Miss Clara Browning.
Selections from LongfellowMiss Nannie O'Zee
Music, piano-Miss Eva Wil liams.
Rise of the MohammedamesComer Clay
What the world expects of the Christian-Miss Edith Freemon Quartette-Misses Williams and Barnes, Messrs. Sewell and Maxwell.
American poets and poemsrof. Sewell.
American missionaries-M $\mathbf{r}$ Stallings.

## Arrested for Forgery.

Sheriff Cunningham returned from Fort Worth Sunday, having in custody Roy G. Anderson, who is under indictment here charging forgery and passing forged instruments. He is charged with forging the name of Arthur Connally, of Big Springs, to a check for $\$ 50$, while attending the Fair here last Oct. He
was captured at New Orleans and brought to Ft. Worth, where he was wanted on same charge, or
similar charge. He is a man of fine family, some of his close kin being men of state reputation He was lodged in jail here, where he will await the reaping of what he has sown.-Abilene News.
Four weeks ago The Mail had occasion to mention the visit here of Ben F. Rupp and wife, Mr Rupp being on his annual trip in this territory for the Ballard Snow Liniment Co., of St. Louis. Shortly after leaving here and upon their arrival at Weatherford Mrs. Rupp took sick. Today we are in receipt of a marked copy of the Mt. Pulaski (III.) News in which we find the announcement of her death and the subsequent funeral services. Nothing has pained us more than this sad death. Mr. Rupp is counted among one of our dearest friends. His wife was a
favorite in their home town favorite in their home town and
the home paper paid a touching the home paper paid a touching
tribute to her memory. They had been married less than two years, and a happier and more devotrid couple we had never
heart-broken young husband its deepest sympathy.

## It Saved His Leg.

P. A. Danforth of LaGrange, Ga., suffered for six months with a frightful running sore on his leg; but writes that Bucklen's Arnica Salve wholly cured it in five days. For Ulcers, Wounds, Piles, it's the best salve in the Piles, it's the best salve in the
world. Cure guaranteed. Only world. Cure guaranteed. Only
25cts. Sold by Rust and Pittard, druggist.
W. P. Browning \& Co. have the best line of window shades in town. All the new patterns.
Fresh light bread and assorted cakes at

## cak 2 t

2t The Star Store. See J. H. Hughes \& Co. before you buy your corn or oats.
We will sell our camp house in wagon yard cheap. This building would make a good barn. J. H. Hughes \& Co.

Prohibitionists Organized.
At their meeting last Thursday night the Prohibitionists organized "The Abilene Prohibition Club," with T. H. Alexander, Pres., E. A. Pearce, Vice Pres., Arthur Herring, Sec. and Treas. This is the first step towards or ganizing the Prohibition forces of the fentire county into like clubs for the following purposes cause of prohibition; to help make prohibition effective in Taylor county; to support, uphold, assist the officers in the enforcement of the officers in to report infactions of the law to the president of the clubs should any member have any knowledge of such. It was made the duty of members of this parent club to assist in the organization of other clubs in the county, and pay $\$ 1$ per year each as membership fee, that is, the male members.
Nearly three hnndred from among our best people joined this club and it is expected that the club will grow rapidly now that the ball is set in motion.
Communities in the country which desire such clubs organized will so inform the executive committee or the president of the Abilene club, and organizers will be sent out to institute same.Abilene News.

## Compere Chtps.

We are having some fine weather and corn planting is the or der of the day. Farmers were never busier preparing land for cotton, and prospects were never brighter for a crop.
M. L. Estes has returned from McLennan county to see his father who is very sick and not expected to live.
Rev. Bishop filled his regular appointment the third Sunday. Rev. Kerr filled his regular appointment last Sunday.
Bro. R. Spargin was ordained as elder of the C. P. Church at his place.
A young man working for Mr Lee accidentally shot himself last week.
The citizens of this community net Saturday night for the purpose of taking steps to get rural ree delivery.
Compere Sunday school is prearing for Easter services. Ad W. Hampton, B. H. Moore and Misses Amy Estes and Jessie Moore committee on programme
The Weatherford Laundry guarantees all work. Give it a trial, 'Phone 31.

Will Leeman.
Advertising is the sec

## J. P. Sharp \& Cor

We Have a Large Stock of
Dry Goods, Clothing, Hats, Boots, Shoes, Furnishings, Staple and Fancy Groceries, etc., etc.

We are off for the Eastern Markets to purchase Spring Goods, and upon our return we'll have something to talk to you about. It will pay to keep your eye on this space.

## WHAT'S IN A

 NAME?Shakespeare said, A rose by any other name would smell as sweet; but when it comes to PLOWS

## John Deere and Standard Plows

stand for all that is good in the plow line. Better get the best Plows and Farm Implements if you want the best results. Their

## Riding Planter

is a winner for 1903. Prices Right, Goods right.

## GEOL. LP Patoon. <br> ABILENE, TEXAS.

## ITCHERINE, 50c., Cures lith <br> OR YOUR MONEY BACK. SOLD BY ALL DRUGEISTS.

Bass Bros. Druǵ Co, Abilene, Texas.

Always Take Your Home Paper.

Notice. sorder of the system. Calls answered day ang store,號 collapse, unless a reliable remedy Hemorrhoids (pile a specialty is immediately employed. out the ordinary danger of the There's nothing so efficient to knife, no loss of time, no blood. cure disorders of the Liver or The Alcohol or Whisley Kidneys as Electric Bitters. It's Habits, Opium, Morphine, a wonderful tonic, and effective Cocane, Chloral; in fact, ull drug nervine and the greatest all habits cured, and you at your around It and at your usual Rheumatism and Neuralgia and railroad fare; no hotel expenses. expels Malaria germs. Only 50c, Call and see us; it will cost

M. J. PATE,

Tonsorial Artist and Cranium Manipulator First class barber work guaranteed. Give me a trial.
 yournoney where you can get quickly, and without danger of

## Danger of Colds and Grip.

The greatest danger from colds and grip is their resulting in pneumonia. If reasonable care is used, however, and Chamberlain's Cough Remedy taken, all danger will be avoided. Among the tens of thousands who have
used this remedy for these diseases we have yet to learn of single case having resulted in pneumonia, which shows conclusively that it is a certain preventive of that dangerous disease It will cure a cold or an attack of the grip in less time than any other treatment. It is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by Burroughs and Mann.

Daylight Train Servioe.
The Abilene Daily Reporter of Monday says:

The Reporter has positive and reliable information from sources not to be doubted, that the present Abilene Mail and Express will, in perhaps thirty
days, be run on to Colorado, on its old schedule, thus supplying a want "long and urgently felt." This service will begin as soon as proper facilities can be provided at Colorado, including a turn table, etc. Now we may rejoice, as this is no mere rumor

General Manager Thorne was in Abilene on Monday, and it is assumed that this is the source of the Reporter's information. It is good news indeed. ousness, Constipation, Sick Headache and all Stomach, Liver and Bowel troubles. Easy pleasant, safe, sure. Only 25 c at Rust and Pittard's drug store Like the woman chopping wood I am not doing this for fun. can give you better goods in jewelry (quality considered) than any man in Merkel. I do not handle drugs, dry goods or groceries, but an up-to-date line of jewelery. Call and be convine

YOUR MONEY IS SAFE ONLY
when it is safely invested Burglars can annoy you; bad loans may oripple you; specula

## Warnick's Bank,

## Merkel Texas,

## "

We will furnish you a trial treatment absolute free at your ise to follow direction Leem an \& King.

## Working Overtime

Eight hour laws are ignored by those tireless, little workers-Dr King's New Life Pills. Millions
are always at work, night and day, curing Indigestion, Bili-

Cotle Remedy When I had an attack of the rip last winter(the second one) I actually cured my-self with one bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy," says Frank W. Perry, Editor of the Enterprise, Shortsville N. Y. "This is the honest truth. I at times kept from coughing myself to pieces by taking a teaspoonful of this remedy, and when the coughing spell would come on at night I would take a dose and it seemed that in the briefest interval the cough would pass off and I would go to sleep perfectly free from cough and its accompanying pains. To say that the remedy acted as a most agreeable surprise is putting it very mildly. I had no no idea that it would or could knock out the grip, it for such a purpose, but tried and it seemed with the second attack of coughing the remedy caused it to not only be of less duration, but the pains were far less severe, and I had not used the contents of one bottle before Mr. Grip had bid me adieu. For sale by Burroughs and Mann.

W6 have bought the old school building and will sell the lumber cheap in any amount wanted.
J. H. Hughes \& Co.
Dr. Adkisson is entertaining his father and mother, who arrived from Decaterville, Tenn., this week and will spend the ummer with bim.
We have a car load of corn to

## arrive in a few days

Who w. H. Hughes a Co.
Who wants to rent a good five
oom house in Merkel-conveniroom house in Merkel-convenient to school, good barn, lots and and wind mill. For particclarg see Basham, Shepherd \& Co.

# THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK. 

MERKEL, :-: TEXAS.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID IN
SHAREHOLDERS' LIABILITIES
SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS
$\$ 50,000.00$

## WE SOLICIT YOUR PATRONAGE.

## Implements... <br> W. H. Dickson

Beyond All Comparisons.
One of the many factors contributing to the remarkably rapid and solid growth of St. Louis is the marvelous development of the Southwest and other territory tributary to that city in all lines of trade. In 1904 there will be held the greatest World's Fair in the world. The presidential campaign will also take place. To keep informed with the whole world you should subscribe at once for that peer of newspapers, The Twice-a-week St. Louis Republic. It is indispensable to the farmer, merchant or professional man. Its telegraphic and cable service excels that of any other paper. It prints the news fully; not imaginative occurrences, but domestic and worl wide facts. It is Democratic in politics, but distinctly a national newspaper and family journal. The sub-
scription price of $\$ 1.00$ gives you scription price of $\$ 1.00$ gives you two papers each week, 104 papers a year.

## Mandamers Refused.

A motion for a mandamers to

Burroughs \& Mann,
Patent Medicines and Druggists Sundries Fancy \& Toilet Articles.

Prescriptions filled by us contain only the purest ingredients and are compounded by skilled pharmacists.
results of the local option election in this county was heard at Ft. Worth Tuesday, and an adverse decision rendered. This brings the sase back to the District Court, where it is likely to "hang' for sometime to come.
This condition of aftairs can be charged to the retiring District udge, by his reckless disregard of the wishes of the people, case saddled upon them unnecessary litigation which it will take yeare to undo. In the present judge, however, we have a man upon whom the people can $r$ with all donfidence. He w complete the publication of the lis duty

# 8 <br> The loudest voices can be heard at the greatest distance, but it is the soundest argument that creates the BEST IM= PRESSION. <br> We do our talking by our merit. We want you to listen and profit thereby. There's as much in it for you as there is for us. Our audience of customers is growing each day. Come join the ranks. We now have our full spring stock open for your inspection and can say it is the LARGEST and BEST we have ever shown, and it will pay you to take a look through the store. <br> Anything in DRY GOODS and GROCERIES. 

# Imperial Taylor County! 

## The Banner County of Texas' Great Northwest.

TAYLOR COUNTY, of which $T$ Abilene is the county site, is situated in the exact geographical center of that vast territory ying between the staked plains and the rocky, broken and mountainous region just above the upper cross-timbers of Texas, and is the most thickly populated and wealthiest county in that, the most fertile and best watered portion of Northwest Texas, It is peopled by the best class of liberal, energetic and prosperous farmers and stockraisers, who are ready, with open hearts, to welcome to their number all other law-abiding and industrious people who may be drawn by reason of the unequaled advantages ofered to cast their lots in and with this prosperous and growing community

## NATURAL ADVANTAGES.

Some of the natural advantages which Taylor County has to offer to the homeseeker or investor consists of mild and equable climate, fertile soil, abundant water, wood in plenty for all domestic purposes, and the easy access of building stone of the very best quality
The climate, owing to the geographical location, is less subject to the sudden changes noticeable elsewhere throughout the southwest; it is less severe in winter and more pleasant in summer, the thermometer seldom registering lower than 20 degrees fahrenheit, and never more than one or two days in succession so low; while in the hottest of the summer season 100 in the shade is hardly ever reached, and when it is, the continuous motion of the air and the free evaporation consequent make our temperature less oppressive in this climate than 80 degrees would be in other altitudes.
The air is pure and free from malaria and other disease germs, which are ordinarily the bane of
a really fertile and productive soil. That this is true is attested by the fact that chills and fever yellow fever, jaundice and kindred diseases are absolutely unknown, while parties coming here with asthma, eatarrh and pulmonary troubles are in almost every instance relieved and a permanent residence is considered equivalent to an infallible cure.

THE SOIL.
Added to the healthy climate is the finest agricultural soil on earth, which will produce any crop known to farming, except only those perennials requiring a tropical climate and a marshy or miasmatic country-a soil which is susceptible of cultivation 12 months in the year and in which grows luxuriantly Indian corn, Kaffir corn, oats, barley, wheat, rye, millet, sorghum, broom corn, milo maize, etc., and more cotton than can be grown in any other section of the southwest outside of the malaria-infested river bottoms. And from the perfect ease with which farm implements can be handled, a man can cultivate three times as much land as in the eastern states. Vegetables of every class grow in lavish abundances, and horticulture has reached a place in the industries of the country, which places the fruit crop among the staples of production; peaches, plums, nectarines, pears, apricots, grapes, and all berries and melons being cultivated and reaching a high state of perfection
The native grasses are abundant and nutritious, and while farmers in other sections are feeding their crops away to their work stock, the Taylor County farmer turns his crop into money and keeps his farm animals and some breeding stock in good condition through the entire year, not feeding except during the most severe norther of midwinter

THE WATER.
Taylor County is watered by more running streams than any other territory of its size north of the cross-timbers and west of the Trinity river. In the uplands living, pure well water is found at depths ranging from fifteen to fifty feet.

## bUilding stone.

In all the hills and along the streams of Taylor County is found building stone of the very best quality, which, from its layer foundation, is easily quarried, its texture making it the most desirable and at the same time, most conveniently worked, and the best stone structures may be erected here at a cost proportionately far lower than in less favored localities.

## timber.

Although classed as a prairie country, Taylor County may be said to be well timbered, from the fact that along the streams is found an abundant growth of elm, pecan, walnut, hackberry, burr oak, Epanish oak, mulberry, china, willow and cottonwood timbers, while groves of post oak and live oak alternate with the mesquite on some parts of the uplands, and cedars grow luxuriently on the hills, thus furnishing an inexhaustible supply of fuel, posts for fencing, etc.
Taylor County covers an area of 900 square miles, about fourfifths of which is under fence, and of the 576,000 acres in the county about 75,000 acres are in cultivation and raises annually from 10,000 to 25,000 bales of cotton, 40,000 to 50,000 bushels of corn, about 20,000 bushels each of wheat and oats, and thousands of tons of hay and forage crops, besides good crops of rye, barley, millet, milo maize, peas, sweet potatoes, etc., and ships hundreds of carloads of fat cattle, horses, etc.

Here lands are cheap, taxes low and property may be acquired on easy terms.
Here there are no chills and fever, no other malarial diseases, fever, no other malarial diseases,
but the health of the people is as good as in any part of the world. Here as great a diversity of profitable crops may be raised as in any section of America.
Here as good horses, mules, and cattle of any kind can be raised as anywhere on earth.
Here is the natural home of all kinds of fruits and vegetablesthey grow the year round.
Here there are public free schools, and refined society and the citizens are law-abiding and industrious.
Here the finest crops of cotton, grain and forage crops are raised and the hay crop is found very profitable.
Here the farmer can cultivate more land to the hand than in any other part of the globe.
Here you may find a salubrious climate, not very cold in winter nor hot in summer.
Here there are no noxious grasses to worry and harass the farmers, as in other sections
Here is where stock-farming pays better than anywhere else.
Here are profitable investments waiting far-seeing and intelligent investers; here are broad acres of fertile soil, inviting the industrious farmer to till it; here are homes for ten thousand good people, and here is a cordial invitation to every homeseeker to come and make his home where he will find good lands, good roads, good bridges, good society, good schools, and a splendid and most healtful climate; good market for his orops and stock, good fellowship, friends, and a generous, hearty welcome from the prosperous and progressive citizens of the finest country in the finest section of the biggest and best State in America-Taylor County, Texas

