

# THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIV.

MERKEL, TEXAS, APRIL 16, 1903.

NO. 8.

## J. P. Sharp & Co.

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.

### Negro Loving Preacher.

I would not object to my daughter's marriage with a negro, provided the general prejudice against such a union could be removed.—Bishop J. M. Hamilton, of the M. E. Church, (North.)

Editor Memphis Scimitar:

I have just this moment read an article in the Collierville Star, containing the above clause, that has so completely set every nerve in my body to tingling that I must say something to somebody to prevent an explosion. This must be my apology for selecting your paper through which to pour out my vials of wrath.

By this utterance of a depraved sentiment from Bishop Hamilton, one who holds the highest office in the gift of a christian sect, the grand old Methodist church has had her sacred alters so defiled that she must needs bow her proud head in the very dust of humiliation, while her shamed eyes seek the cover of their lids to hide her indignity. By this flagrant departure from the creed of his fathers our reverend gentleman has brought upon himself a shower of scathing criticisms from an insulted brotherhood under which he must be entombed forever.

An advocate of miscegenation and a Virginian! The birthplace of Washington and the home of the immortal Lee! The very theory that he has had the effrontery to present to us is fraught with such immeasurable horror that the startled soul stands aghast at its meaning, and the same mind refuses to harbor it for a moment.

The pure Caucasian blood, the proud partisan race that makes the glory of the world to-day stooping to bequeath to coming generations a lot of hybrids! It is like mating a white winged dove, cooing amidst the dew kissed flowers of the morning, to the putrid carcass of a carrion crow; or a spotless lily, with its

fragrant heart newly washed by the April showers, to some noxious weed that had sprung unbidden from the bosom of a hot miasma. Horrors of horrors—a pure, sweet girl, untutored in the art of vice, with every womanly instinct intuitively alive to every conception of the beautiful and true, and with every delicate organization of her nature keenly sensitive to the touch of sin, living in daily contact with a creature who in the matter of a nameless vice has so successfully imitated his four-footed brother of the jungles that he becomes a finished graduate with a sealed diploma ere his counterpart has attained to the second grade. And yet down from the steps of his pulpit, consecrated to an infinite God, this heinous picture has been flaunted in our faces by priestly hands.

Let us hope that in the far-away home of this benighted divine there lives no fair sweet maiden blushing into beautiful womanhood whose cheeks must glow scarlet at the mention of her father's creed.

There is no one living in this lovely southland of ours who feels more kindly toward the negro in his plac than does the writer. We who lived in ante-rebellum days were taught by our parents to love and respect the dear old black mammies and dadies on the old plantation; and their unstinting loyalty to us all, from the white-capped grandmother plying her knitting needles in the corner, to the lordly little master playing with their pickaninnies around their cabin door, was beyond question. But with the passing away of those old landmarks a new element has arisen, and it is that with which our government has to deal. That it may be judiciously and humanely adjusted is a "consumation devoutly to be wished for" by every generous Southern heart, but from the horrors of this miscegenation, good Lord deliver us. Well, now, Mr. Editor, I have

had my say, and as our grand old unreconstructed Georgia hero, "Bill Arp," would say, "I feel better." And yet I must admit that I shall not become entirely "calm and serene" until our conference has met and passed upon Mr. Hamilton.

A Bishop's Niece.  
Rossville, Tenn., March 17.

### Why He Did Not Drink.

Dr. A. C. Dixon tells this pathetic story which is worth its weight in gold, many, many times over again:

"I read the other day of four young men riding in a Pullman car chatting merrily together. At last one of them said, 'boys, I think it's time for drinks.' Two of them consented, the other shook his head and said, 'No, I thank you.' 'What,' exclaimed his companions, 'have you become pious? Are you going to preach? Do you think you will become a missionary?' 'No,' he replied, 'fellows, I am not specially pious; and I may not become a missionary, but I have determined not to drink another drop, and I will tell you why. I had some business in Chicago with an old pawnbroker, and as I stood before his counter talking about it, there came in a young man about my own age, and threw down upon the counter a little bundle. When the pawnbroker opened it, he found it was a pair of baby shoes, with the buttons a trifle worn. The old pawnbroker seemed to have some heart left in him, and said, 'Look here, you ought not to sell your baby's shoes for drink.' Never mind, Cohen, baby is at home dead, and does not need the shoes. Give me ten cents for a drink.' Now, fellows, I have a wife and a baby at home myself, and when I saw what liquor could do in degrading that husband and father, I made up my mind that, God holding me, not a drop of the infernal stuff would ever pass my lips again."—Selected.

The devil of a Missouri paper has an ambition to become a paragrapher. The other day he produced the following, which he submitted to the editor:

There are no hair on a frog.

Good apples grow high, also cherries.

The bumble bee looks pretty but cut him out.

The farmer what raises wheat kin git full and raise other things.

The Lord made the earth, but Morgan and Carnegie owns it.

A corn is a wart on your toe. Corns and warts are just the same, only different.—Ex.

### Kisses and—Kisses.

Rusk Journal.

An Ohio editor says that hay fever is caused by killing grass widows. A Missouri editor says it is caused by a grass widow kissing a fellow by moonlight. An Iowa editor says it was caused by the fellow kissing his girl while he is feeding hay to a cow, and an eastern Kansas exchange is of the opinion that it is caused by missing the girl and kissing the cow. A political editor says it is caused by too much kissing in the hey-day of youth.

In a North Missouri town not long ago a boy was required by his teacher to write an essay on



## 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.

Basham, Shepherd & Co.

"The Mouth," and this is what he said: "The mouth is the front door to the face. It is the aperture to the cold storage of our anatomy. It is the hotbed of toothache and the bunghole of oratory. The mouth is the crimson aisle to the river; it is the fountain of patriotism and the toolchest for pie. Without it the politician would be a wanderer on the face of the earth, and go down to a dishonored grave. It is the grocer's friend, the dentist's hope. It is the temptation lunch counter when attached to pretty girl, and a tobacco fiend when attached to a man."

In these days of struggle and competition one needs to be all eyes to see chances. You see very little when you are always on the run. Keeping cool, going slow, taking things easy and keep out of flurry and fluster, add to our might, not only to see, but to act, not from lack of doing, but from doing unwisely, and are then sure to find some one ahead who seems to have done very little. But that one used his "might" where it did the most good. A greenhorn may batter a rock all day with a sledge and not break it. An old miner stands it up in a certain position, so that it will vibrate when struck, gives it a few gentle taps, it falls to pieces.—N. Y. Star.

The women of Kansas are called upon by certain leaders of their sex to inaugurate a strike which would be most unique of all since the world began. The woman suffrage leaders are advocating a strike against the churches. Because the legislature refuses to grant them the privilege to vote for presidential electors, the female suffragist of the Sunflower state are calling upon their sisters to withdraw their influence from the churches and leave the active management of these institutions in the hands of the men. A church without the ladies would be a lonesome place and if it were possible to

successfully carry out these threats it would not be long until the women would be granted the right to vote in Kansas.

### Kisses Prohibited.

The medical profession viewing kissing as a means of transmitting disease, a bill recently introduced in the Virginia Legislature provides that "it shall be unlawful for any person to kiss another unless he can prove by his family physician that he has not any contagious or infectious disease." London Punch comments as follows:

HE.

Mamie, look, we're standing now 'Neath the eucalyptus bough!

'Tis a splended disinfectant  
For a swain and maid expectant—

Listed, then, to my ardent vow!  
SHE.

Marmaduke, it may not be  
Till I personally see

That your family physician  
Testifies beyond suspicion  
That you are bacillus-free!

HE.

From the test I do not flinch  
When it comes unto the pinch—

See! I am certified  
By this paper signed and dated!

Isn't that a perfect cinch?  
SHE.

Yes—one little moment stay!  
Let me read it closer, pray!

Ah, 'twas as I feared, invalid,  
For your leave (don't look so palid!)

Ended after yesterday!  
BOTH.

Still, no prying eye attends,  
While the branch above us bends,

There we've taken one illicit  
Kiss—the State will never miss it!

Let them fine—we've made amendments!

We are prepared to do plating, such as knives, forks, spoons, etc. Call at Maxwell's or Browning's store and see samples. Mesdames Browning & Maxwell.



# 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.

## DO WE WANT TO GO BACK?

Merkel has in past years established a reputation for enterprise and pushability that has in many ways redounded to the good of the town, and to turn about face now would result disastrously to every interest of the town and community. It would result in business stagnation and a depreciation in value of every foot of land; it would retard the growth of the towns and ruin the fine market which has been built up here, and it would stop to a very great extent the influx of home hunters.

Now, what is good for one community is good for another. Every school district in Taylor is carrying a special school tax, and no one has been heard to cry that the tax is a burden, although it is 20c in nearly every district—none lower than 15c. Abilene voted a 50c tax and has since voted another tax for building purposes. Hundreds of towns in Texas have during the past few months voted such a tax upon themselves, but in only one instance—that in a "piney woods" town in east Texas, where "ignorance is bliss and 'tis folly to be wise,—have we noticed where in the tax was defeated. Do we want it to go out to the world that we are unpatriotic? Can we afford to accept the edict of a dead town? Are we to be classed with the ignorant communities?

People everywhere and in every walk of life recognize the importance and absolute necessity of good schools, and such an era of school building has never before been known in the State. The Mail recognizes that very little opposition to the tax has developed, but we should very much hate for the report to go out that even a dozen representative citizens had opposed the tax. However, some have taken the trouble to misrepresent the issue and likewise The Mail, and it is then we would caution to beware lest they be classed as Ismaelites. This question is of vital importance, or at least should be, to every citizen of the town and community; for if it should fail to carry it would ruin our school prospects for next year and seriously affect the school for years to come.

Can we afford this? Nay, Pauline. Then let every citizen who believes in the perpetuation of school interests be on hand Saturday and by his vote help to suppress this uprising of the moss back.

The money any school district spends for the education of the children is a wise investment, and no school district will ever regret the expenditure.

Do you know any live business town where business houses and rent houses are in demand and property values are constantly increasing? If you have in mind such a town, please remember that such towns have good public schools for not less than 7 or 8 months each year.

Do the children of Merkel

# A DOZEN PLANTINGS. TWO HARVESTS.

There are a dozen months in which deposits may be planted. There are two seasons of harvest (at your pleasure and when need calls) The latter is often the most highly appreciated. Plant your seed with this bank and be prepared for all emergencies.

## Warnick's Bank.

### What One Farmer Has Done

Mr. F. W. Reidenbach, who lives six miles southeast of town and is one of our best citizens and most prosperous farmers, has kindly furnished The Mail with some interesting figures on cotton, which we give below. Let others of our farmers send in reports, for this is the very best way to aid in developing the country. Keep a record this year and send it to The Mail, or if you have a record of last year's crop hand it in for publication.

Mr. Reidenbach's letter follows:

Editor Mail:—I submit from my ledger some cotton facts for the years 1900, 1901 and 1902, which may be of interest to your readers:

#### REPORT FOR THE THREE YEARS.

	1900	1901	1902
Gross receipts for lint sold and difference received on seed	\$937.20	\$187.25	\$224.42
Pounds of lint sold	9967	2584	2972
Average price per pound	9.60½	7.01½	7.75
Paid out for chopping	\$6.00	\$1.50	3.00
Paid out for blacksmithing about	\$5.00	\$2.50	5.00
Paid out for picking	\$200.00	\$25.00	8.25
Net receipts	\$726.20	158.25	208.17
Number of acres planted	35	25	35
Pounds of seed cotton per acre	850	310	255
Net receipts per acre	20.75	6.33	6.80

This makes the average receipts per acre for the three years \$11.29½, and the average price per pound for the three years very nearly 8.12½c.

There is no expense mentioned for ginning because the seed saved was considered worth the ginning.

Respectfully yours, F. W. REIDENBACH.

district deserve and need as good educational advantages as the children of the county districts near Merkel? If you vote against the school tax on Sat. April 18, the public school term will only be about 4 months—less than any county school in Taylor County has.

A vote against the school tax is a vote against immigration to our community. No man who has children to educate would look for a town which has a four months public school in which to invest his money.

#### SOME FACTS.

The Merkel public school can not run 6 to 7 months next year if the local tax does not carry on next Saturday, and all who are contending that the school can run that length of term without a local tax should bear in mind the experiences of Merkel for a number of years and that of the rural schools for the year 1901-02. For eight years Merkel public school has been running not to exceed 7 months each year, and if the school had not received each year about \$500 local tax and \$150 to \$300 from the "overs" and "unders" the school term during that time could not have been 5 months.

The country schools of Texas for the year 1901-02 had an average term of 4¼ months, and yet thousands of schools levied taxes and all such are included in the above average.

Including the cities and towns, nearly all of which have 9 months term, the average school term for the state was 5 1-10 months.

If the country school districts of Texas can not maintain public

schools longer than 4 to 5 months each year, with a local tax in many districts to lengthen the term, do you think the Merkel school can run longer than about 4 months on the state apportionment alone?

Buy your millinery of S. W. Grimes & Co., Abilene. They have the most up-to-date millinery to be had at popular prices.

#### Eyesight Specialist.

Dr. Arnold Aronson, one of Chicago's leading graduate opticians, arrived here today and will remain only a few days. He makes a specialty in testing and fitting defective eyes. Scientific examination free. At Alsbrook Hotel, room 15.

When in Abilene don't forget S. W. Grimes & Co., south side of railroad, for millinery and dry goods.

W. W. Johnson was down from Trent yesterday and reported everything o. k.

Rust & Pittard's drug store is receiving a coat of paint. Keep something doing is the motto of Merkel people.

Say! Come and go to Abilene. I am going to S. W. Grimes & Co. They are designers and hat makers and have the prettiest and cheapest millinery in Abilene, and I must have a new hat. South side of railroad.

#### Double Daily Train Service.

The Mail is reliably informed that double train service is to be established right away—in fact, the service will be inaugurated Sunday and will reach as far west as Colorado. The old schedule will be in force on the day trains, the east bound arriv-

ing here at 8:15 a. m., and the west bound at 4:32 p. m. This service will not affect the schedule of the Abilene cannon ball, as that train will be merged into the service and will maintain its schedule.

This information is reliable and it is good news.

The most up-to-date line of dress goods in Taylor county—S. W. Grimes & Co., south of railroad, Abilene.

The people of this community are intelligent and farsighted, and we cannot begin to think that they will kill their most fruitful enterprise at one fell stroke, and that, too, after it has so long been nurtured by them.

#### Mass Meeting.

A mass meeting of the citizens of Merkel and vicinity will be held at Ferrier Hall tonight. The object of the meeting is to put the school tax proposition clearly before the people and in an intelligent manner, and to correct the erroneous reports now in circulation. Every voter in this district should be on hand whether for or against the tax.

The especial attraction of our business is our millinery parlor. You can't afford to overlook this line, and when in Abilene call and see us. Every one given a cordial welcome. South of railroad. S. W. Grimes & Co.

#### Hurt by a Train.

Engine No. 229 pulling passenger train No. 5 struck a man one and one-half miles this side of Tebo yesterday morning at 4:05 o'clock, cutting a deep gash on the back of his head. The man was lying, either asleep or drunk, by the side of the track, with his head resting on a crosstie. He was picked up and brought here and gave his name as G. N. Harkcorn, claiming to belong to the extra gang now at Tebo. His injuries proved to be slight, and the next train east took him to the camp. Such a narrow escape from death should prove a valuable lesson to him, which is that it is dangerous to go to sleep on a railroad track.

Go out to the mass meeting at Ferrier Hall tonight.

#### Runaway Accident.

Otis Clay and one of J. T. Warren's cow ponies were the participants in an equestrian performance yesterday morning and as a result Otis is laid up for repairs, in the meantime nursing a badly swollen head. The two were jogging along contentedly when "Brownie" started out to head an imaginary bovine, and Otis not wishing to continue the chase, they parted company, terra firma collecting toll in the form of a few square inches of cuticle. We hope the accident won't prove serious. Anyway Otis says he'll not do it any more.

Agent McCord has The Mail's sincere thanks for valuable aid this week. He has all along proved himself a valuable friend to, and a worthy patron of the paper.

C. M. Largent has just received two O. I. C. pigs which were purchased in the north and, including express, cost him fifty odd dollars. He has also a very fine registered Hereford heifer calf that he is dotting on. Mr. Largent is a wide-awake stock-farmer, has a nice farm and ranch, the latter well stocked with graded stuff, and we venture the opinion that inside of a very few years he will reap the fruits of his labors.

Our goods are positively all NEW goods, and after studying 2 weeks in the best western market can assure our customers they are strictly up-to-date. Being an exclusive millinery house, we appreciate the patronage of the people of the town and country.

Mrs. HOOPLE,

M. J. PATE,  
Tonsorial Artist and  
Cranium Manipulator

First class barber work guaranteed. Give me a trial.

Nothing has ever equalled it.  
Nothing can ever surpass it.

**Dr. King's  
New Discovery**

For CONSUMPTION  
Coughs and  
Sore Throat  
Price  
50c & \$1.00

A Perfect Cure: For All Throat and Lung Troubles.  
Money back if it fails. Trial Bottles free.

Five head of broke horses for sale.

2t F. B. Hoople.

Try some of Weston's famous coffees at Maxwell & Sons.

There is a vast amount of genuine comfort in the vicinity of Burroughs & Mann's soda fount.

#### Photos.

We are still making photos at old stand for 1c each and up, and open every day (except Sunday). We work as cheap as anyone regardless of prices.

Barnhill & wife.

For Sale—Full blooded Silver Lace Wyandott eggs, \$1.15 per 13 delivered at Merkel.

4t E. C. Powell,  
Noodle Texas.

Say, have you seen those Easter eggs at Maxwell & Sons?

Saturday is the day for voting on the special school tax proposition. Every man who pays taxes and has a poll tax receipt will be allowed to vote, and it behooves all of us to vote for the tax. It means the success of our school.

#### Jacks—Stallion.

I have two good Jacks, both proven breeders, that will make the season at my ranch; \$7.50 to insure with foal. Also good draft-horse, \$5.00 to insure with foal.

2t R. E. Tracy.

Easter services at all three of the churches Sunday were beautiful and impressive and fittingly commemorated the resurrection of Christ. It is a beautiful custom. Nothing could be more impressively religious than this annual observance, and it is of all the "church days" more generally observed throughout the civilized world by all sects and religious orders.

Why has Maxwell & Sons sold so many groceries? Because they sell the best goods for the least money.



# CLOTHING

Clothing! Clothing!



The Star Store is the place to buy your Spring Suit. Come and look through our stock and sample book.

A fine line of Ladies' Skirts, the very latest styles, just received. The line is sure to interest and please you.

See our Summer Shoe, "the Star Brand."

A fresh car of Decatur Flour and Meal. See us for Staple and Fancy Groceries. Our prices are always right.

**THE STAR STORE,** Merkel Merc. Co., Props.

## OUR TEXAS HISTORY.

Is not as Familiar to the Old and Young of the State As it Should Be.

For the benefit of the school children, as well as the older readers who sometimes forget, we give the names of the Presidents and Governors and dates of service:

### PRESIDENTS OF TEXAS.

Henry Smith, provisional governor, 1835-6.  
David G. Burnett, president, ad interim, 1836.  
Sam Houston, 1836-8.  
Mirabeau B. Lamar, 1838-41.  
Sam Houston, 1841-4.  
Anson Jones, 1844-6.

### GOVERNORS OF TEXAS.

J. Pickney Henderson	1844
George T. Wood	1847
P. H. Bell	1849-53
E. M. Pease	1853-57
H. R. Runnels	1857-59
Sam Houston	1859-61
Edward Clark	1861
F. R. Lubbock	1861-63
Pendleton Murray	1863-65
A. J. Hamilton	1865-66
J. W. Throckmorton	1866-67
E. M. Pease	1867-70
E. J. Davis	1870-74
Richard Coke	1874-76
R. B. Hubbard	1876-79
O. M. Roberts	1879-83
John Ireland	1883-87
L. S. Ross	1887-91
J. S. Hogg	1891-95
C. A. Culberson	1895-99
Jos. D. Sayers	1899-03
S. W. T. Lanham	1903.

According to the official census of the United States, Texas, in 1870, had 818,579 inhabitants; in 1880, 1,579,749; in 1890, 1,235,523; in 1900, 3,048,710.

### Plea For The Alamo.

San Antonio, Tex., April 6,—The Daughters of the Republic of Texas have undertaken to raise a sum sufficient to purchase the property adjoining the Alamo in order to improve the surrounding, so that they may be in keeping with the dignity and glory of the old ruin.

It is their desire to make of

this building, sacred to the hearts of all Americans, a worthy and artistic monument to the memory of those valiant hero martyrs who fell inside its walls.

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas is a chartered association for the following objects:

1. To perpetuate the spirit of men and women who have achieved and maintained the independence of Texas.
2. To encourage historical research into the earliest records of Texas, especially those relating to the revolution of 1835, and events which followed; to foster the preservation of documents and relics, and to encourage the publication of records of individual service of soldiers and patriots of the republic.
3. To promote the celebration of March 2nd (Independence Day,) and April 21 (San Jacinto Day,) and to secure and hallow historic spots by erecting monuments thereon, and to cherish and preserve the unity of Texas as achieved and established by the fathers and mothers of the Texas revolution.

### League Program.

Leader—Mr. Stallings.  
Subject—The sacred Sabbath.  
Lesson—Matt. 12:1-13.  
References—Gen. 2:2-3; Ex. 16:4-5, 31:14, 20:8-11; Isa. 56:2; Mark 2:27, Ezek. 23:38; Lev. 19:30; Ex. 31:13-14; Deut. 5:12.  
Why we should keep the sabbath—Miss Nannie O'Zee.  
What the law of the sabbath forbids—Miss Duncan Browning.  
What the law of the sabbath allows—Comer Clay.  
Songs and prayer at discretion of leader.

### Special Train and Music for the U. C. V.

The Texas & Pacific Railway Company will run a special train which will be accompanied by the Harris Juvenile Band (25 in number) who will furnish music en route. This special train will leave Fort Worth Sunday, May 17th at 11:15 a. m. and Dallas at 12:30 p. m., arriving at New

Orleans next morning for breakfast.

Reduced round trip rates will be in effect to New Orleans. For particulars address any agent or E. P. Turner, general passenger agent, Dallas, H. P. Hughes, traveling passenger agent, Fort Worth.

### The Pride of Merkel.

The writer had the pleasure of visiting, yesterday evening, the public school building while school was in session. Together with Dr. Warnick and J. P. Sharp, members of the school board, we visited and spent a few moments in each room, starting in at the primary department and winding up in the principal's room where the advanced pupils receive their instruction. We have heard so much lately about the school—how nearly perfect it was conducted, how well trained the pupils were, how perfect decorum was maintained, and how rapidly and systematically the "young ideas were taught how to shoot"—that we felt a great curiosity to see the school, and were a little bit afraid that these reports had been enlarged upon. We went unannounced and slipped in and out of the room without the inmates of another room even suspecting our presence. Right here we want to say that the scholars manifested no interest at all in our presence. They kept on with their work as if there had been no interruption. However, the teachers were very courteous which partly made up for the seeming neglect of the scholars.

All that we have heard about the school is true—every word of it. And we want to say that too much praise cannot be heaped upon the teachers, for it is doubtful if there is a better corps of teachers in all this country. All take a great interest in school work, the scholars are enthusiastic, and this bids fair to be the best and most profitable term in the history of our school. It will not be the last visit of the writer.

Sometimes a baby comes to bless a home, and I write an item about it, and I know that item is going to be cut out of the paper and tucked away between the leaves of the old family bible, and, sometimes, when black robed death comes into the homes of my readers, their grief is my grief, and I feel it a sweet privilege to be allowed to write words of sympathy and consolation. Nearly all the readers of this paper know me—at least they know of my faults. A man is known more by his faults than his virtues. But there are some who will say that with all my faults as a man, that as an editor my work has ever been clean—as it will ever be. I expect my paper to be read around the firesides of Shelby county, and I will not write or print a line unfit for a child to read.—Shelby Democrat.

Prof. S. M. Sewell will soon begin work on a residence on his lots just north of the tabernacle. He already has the plans drawn and the house will be an attractive addition to that part of town.

J. D. Waldroup, who lives 20 miles north of town on the Boaz ranch, was in town Tuesday and shoved forward the date on his paper. He reports grass good and cattle in fine shape.

### In Good Faith.

The young man kissed her and she screamed.  
"What's the trouble, Nellie," demanded a stern voice from up stairs.  
"I—I just saw a mouse," she fibbed.

Presently the young man claimed another kiss and the scream was repeated. Again came the stern voice:

"What is it this time?"  
"I saw another mouse."  
Then the old man came down with a house cat, a mouse trap and a cane, and sat in a corner to watch developments.—Chicago News.

Advertising is the secret of success in every business.

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

**PATE & ROLLINS,**  
**BARBERS**  
NORTH FRONT STREET.

**DR. J. W. LITTLE,**  
Resident Dentist.  
EXAMINATIONS FREE — OFFICE IN FERRIER BUILDING.

**LEEMAN & KING,**  
Physicians & Surgeons  
Diseases of Women and Children a Specialty.  
Office, Burroughs & Mann's Drug Store.

**R. B. USTICK**  
DEALER IN  
Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Etc.  
Repairing a Specialty

**J. J. MILLER,**  
Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public,  
Land and Collecting Agent.

Will practice in all the courts of Texas. All business entrusted to my care will receive prompt attention. Will pay taxes for non-residents, also pay interest on lands for all who may trust their business with me; will make proof of final settlement on homestead and school land property. I solicit your patronage. 6-1pd

**HELPFUL READING** Some newspapers print matter to fill up space. Much of this is harmful reading. It is the aim of the **SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS** to give helpful reading. Thousands will testify to its helpfulness to them. Ask your neighbor.

has helped many. It is not the theory of **THE FARMERS' DEPARTMENT**, farming written by college professors and others up North on conditions that don't fit Texas. It is the actual experience of farmers here at home who have turned over the soil.

If you are not taking **THE SPECIAL MERKEL MAIL** you should be. It is helpful to the best interests of your town and county. For \$1.75, cash in advance we will mail you **The Merkel Mail** and the **Galveston or the Dallas Semi-Weekly News** for 12 months. The News stops when your time is out.

## SHEPPARD & McDONALD

Beef,  
Pork,  
Mutton,  
Sausage.

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

Best Passenger Service

**TEXAS**



"No Trouble to Answer Questions."

**DINING CARS**

BETWEEN  
**FORT WORTH and SAINT LOUIS**

**E. P. TURNER, GEN. PASS. AGT.**  
DALLAS, TEXAS.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.



# The Merkel Mail

ED J. LEEMAN, Editor and Prop'r.

Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as second-class mail matter.

## Subscription Rates

One year ..... \$1.00  
Six months ..... .50  
Three months ..... .25  
Invariably in advance.

## ADVERTISING RATES

per month

One inch space ..... \$ .50  
Two inch space ..... 1.00  
Quarter column (4 1-2 inches) ..... 2.50  
Half column (9 inches) ..... 4.00  
One column (18 inches) ..... 7.50

Four issues constitute a month. All advertisements run and charged for until ordered out, unless limit is specified when insertion is made. Special prices on time contracts.  
Local notices, 5 cents per line, each insertion.

## SPECIAL NOTICES.

Communications to insure publication must bear the signature of the writer, as well as the name of the person under which they are written. 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.

## CAN WE AFFORD IT?

If the special school tax proposition is voted down our public school term will be cut down to four months. Can we afford it?

If the proposition is voted down it will necessitate a pay term which, even for two months would amount to three or four times as much as the tax, and those who have more than one child would pay more for tuition in one month than the tax would amount to in five years. Can we afford it?

Again: The new school law which places the ages of scholars between 7 and 17 years, and the natural increase in population will run the enrollment for next term to over 300, and this will necessitate the employment of an additional teacher. When our school pro rata is drawn upon for another salary it will mean that another month must be taken from the term, and this means a three months term. Can we afford it?

If the school term is cut down to three or even four months no up-to-date teacher would take the school and we would have to fall back on a second or third grade teacher. This would kill the school and ruin its future prospects. Can we afford it?

Some seem to think that the tax is an imposition, while others argue that the special tax which we have all along been paying is still in force and that if we vote in this tax it will mean a special tax of 45c on the \$100. Both arguments are disgruntled clatter and have no foundation for truth. It is a waste of time to answer them. Common sense should teach a man that reputable citizens would not put their necks in the halter by the practice of such fraud, and then if people would take the time to investigate and read up on the school laws they would be far from making such argument before intelligent people. To those who oppose the tax on "general principles" we would say that "next to a man's family and business nothing should stand dearer to his heart than the community in which he lives. It is his home. His interests are there and he looks to it for his associations and pleasant and happy recollections surround it in after years. If he wants to make it as popular, as thrifty and as widely known as possible he cannot afford to be indifferent to anything that will further these ends." Everyone knows that all live communities have live schools, and that live, intelligent citizens won't settle in a community where the opposite is true. Where there is nothing to attract people we cannot hope to grow and prosper and expand in proportion to other communities which are more enterprising.

A good school is the index to the intelligence of the town and community. A sorry school denotes a lack of interest in education and a tendency to barbarism. We must not kill our school, for it has done more for the town and community at large than any other enterprise. The progress of the school has marked the development of the town.

If we kill the tax we will kill the school. Can we afford it?

## IS THERE MALICE?

The Mail has been criticized for its seeming antipathy for the liquor business; more, it has been called a rabid prohibitionist because of its efforts to uphold its end of the pole in the controversy. This week we received a letter from an anti friend in which we are mildly accused of being vituperative in our criticisms and are charged with malice toward all who have differed with us. Now let's see if that is true. Not in a single instance have we expressed but the kindest feelings for those who have differed with us and have all along contended that a man has the God-given right to think and act for himself. We have criticized the officers who have been derelict in their duties and openly and above board upbraided all who tried to defeat the law. Further, we propose to oppose the aspiration of any man for any office who thus sought to trample upon the rights of the people and defeat the ends of justice. Officers of the law should be the last to conspire to defeat even the local option law.

We here wish to again refute the charge that we are a rabid prohibitionist. We have often said that statutory prohibition is a farce, but that local option is a good thing, and we hope this explanation will suffice. As to being in antipathy to the saloon interests, we plead guilty to the charge. You will always find The Mail on the moral side of every question, and we hunt the thickest part of the fight. Put us down on the side of home and mother. They are two of the greatest institutions in the land.

As yet no further steps have been taken by the antis in the prohibition case. They still say that they will test the matter of completing the publication of the results of the election, and claim that an injunction restraining this action being in force that the law has been illegally put into effect. The saloons closed Friday night, but it is said one of them will be opened up for business again in a few days, and when the keeper is arrested the correct interpretation of the law will be asked.

The Mail has no nest to feather in working for the special tax. We have no children in the school age, but we are willing to pay \$5.00 per year to help in the education of the other fellow's children, and in this we are actuated by purely selfish motives. An intelligent community will support a newspaper; an ignorant community will not.

Haskell citizens have gone down in their pockets and subscribed money with which to continue their school a month longer. School affairs are at a high ebb in that town. Such enterprise is commendable.

We cannot afford to be niggardly in town improvements, but if we wish to grow and prosper we must not let other towns outstrip us in this respect.

## WITH THE PRESS GANG.

If the News is anyway "short" this week, just charge it to that nine-pound baby girl that arrived at the editor's home Monday, March 30. This makes five girls in our family—just think of the millinery bills in prospect, to say nothing of music, elocution, and other educational "et ceteras." "Now is the time to subscribe." —Garland News.

Bro. Collum also says that they have run out of names and urges subscribers to send in suggestions that they may select a name worthy of the little miss. In conjunction with this auspicious event the News celebrated its sixteenth birthday. That is a long time for a paper to run without change in management.

If we do not make a big crop 1903 there is nothing in signs in Texas. I have been a resident of this state for a number of years and have never known it to fail that a wet winter brought a fine grain crop.—Bartlett News.

Here's success to the fellow who wrote that.—Cisco Round-up.

And what if the fellow is a girl?

The man who went out to milk and sat down on a boulder in the middle of a pasture and waited for the cow to back up to him, was the eldest brother of the man who kept store and did not advertise, because he reasoned that the purchasing public would back up to his place when it wanted something.—Exchange.

The father of this breed is the fellow who don't believe advertising pays, but kicks like fury if the local paper carries an advertisement for some mail order concern. Every town has some of 'em.

A live newspaper is worth five times as much to a town as the same amount of money invested in any other enterprise.—Italy News-Herald.

We can name several dead towns without newspapers, but not a live one. Where you see a live newspaper you also see a live town.

Vol. 1, No. 1 of the El Campo Daily News has been received. It is a sprightly youngster.

The Haskell Headlight and Free Press have formed a combine. One good paper is better for a town than two that are not so good.

The Merkel Mail has grown better every issue since the fire which destroyed the plant some months ago. A little misfortune is sometimes a good thing.—Cisco Round-up.

Increased patronage will conduce more to the growth of a newspaper than either a little or big misfortune. A misfortune that maims a fellow's pocketbook may be a good thing, but we're full up. However, the compliment is appreciated.

When it comes to kissing a pretty girl, the rule that should work both ways ought to be appropriate enough—the Golden Rule.—Clifton Record.

Dimes to doughnuts the Record man is either a crusty old bachelor or a foxy married man.

There is by far more business transacted in Snyder than in any other town of its size in West Texas.—Snyder Light.

We don't know how large Snyder is, but if it is in Merkel's class we'll call that bet. Merkel holds the palm.

Are we going to organize that business men's league.

Give us a good school. Don't be stingy in school matters.

The man who invests his money and energy in Taylor county dirt is assured of big returns on the investment.

The young man who is out for money and intends to get as much of it as possible is very much in evidence these days.

President Roosevelt's trip west and his speeches from topics to fill space in most of the big dailies. Most of the slush is pure rot.

Gov. Lanham is using his veto power with a vengeance. It is well and good to have a chief executive who has backbone enough to oppose unnecessary and unjust legislation.

Taylor county should not be behind in the matter of organizing a farmers' institute. But let it be one without any political trimmings—a farmers' institute in every sense of the term.

The fiendish deed of the negro brute at Shreveport, La., is enough to bring on a race war that would eventually wipe the blacks from the face of the earth. Where is it going to end?

Whatever benefits the town benefits the country, hence the country people should co-operate with the people in town in every way possible. A good school is the very first consideration; then do your duty.

The majority of young men of this day and time are living so extravagantly that they dare not contemplate matrimony. And even if they did, it is a very foolish young lady who would tie herself to one of them.

The prairie dog law may be a good thing for some counties, but it will never be popular in this section. The pesky critter is going from this country and that, too, without the enforcement of such stringent laws, which are bound to work a hardship on some people.

And now it is said our strenuous president has become appre-

## NO. 5661 REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF The First National Bank of Merkel

At Merkel, in the State of Texas, at the Close of Business, April 9, 1903

### RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts	\$111,693.53
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	3,574.27
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	15,000.00
Premium on U. S. Bonds	956.25
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	6,000.00
Due from Natl Banks (not reserve agts)	650.07
Due from State Banks and Bankers	4,545.40
Due from approved reserve agents	10,525.49
Checks and other cash items	457.73
Notes of other National Banks	680.00
Frac. paper currency, nickles & cents	29.75
LAWFUL MONEY RESERVE IN BANK, VIZ	
Specie	2,187.00
Legal-tender notes	3,000.00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer	5,187.00
(5 per cent of circulation)	750.00
TOTAL	\$160,049.49

### LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus fund	10,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	3,449.89
National Bank notes outstanding	15,000.00
Due to other National Banks	5,899.95
Due to Trust Companies and Sav. B'ks	167.41
Individual deposits subject to check	56,332.24
Time certificates of deposit	2,200.00
Notes and bills rediscounted	11,200.00
Bills payable, including certificates of deposit for money borrowed	6,000.00
TOTAL	\$160,049.49

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, ss:  
I, Geo. S. Berry, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.  
GEO. S. BERRY, Cashier.  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11 day of April, 1903.  
W. W. WHEELER, Notary Public.  
[SEAL]  
CORRECT—Attest: Taylor Co., Texas.  
J. T. WARREN,  
J. O. HAMILTON, } Directors  
G. F. WEST.

hensive that bad men are after his scalp and is carrying a gun for self protection. A round dozen secret service men are small potatoes compared to Teddy the Terror with a gun in his hand.

S. J. Patterson dropped in on The Mail force Saturday. Cotton planters have been running all the week on his farms, although Mr. Patterson fears that the surface of the ground is just a little too dry for successful planting. However, farmers have plenty of cotton seed this year and it will work no great hardship if two or three plantings is required. He expects a bountiful harvest this year, but, like The Mail, sees that farmers have made a mistake in not planting more small grain.

The piscatorial artist is in his glory these days. To hie oneself to a shady nook and indulge this fancy is certainly a rare pleasure—with editors.

See The Mail for all kinds of job work at living prices.

No line of Vehicles for West Texas like the

# RACINE

DURABLE  
COMFORTABLE  
MEDIUM PRICED

Made and guaranteed by the largest vehicle factory in the world. Have been sold in this section for 9 years. Get a RACINE vehicle and feel satisfied that you have something good. Thousands of them in use in West Texas.

## ED S. HUGHES & CO.

ABILENE, TEXAS

Distributors for WEST TEXAS.



#### Robbed The Grave.

A startling incident is narrated by John Oliver of Philadelphia, as follows: "I was in an awful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyes sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in back and sides, no appetite, growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Then I was advised to use Electric Bitters; to my great joy, the first bottle made a decided improvement. I continued their use for three weeks, and am now a well man. I know they robbed the grave of another victim." No one should fail to try them. Only 50c, guaranteed, at Rust & Pittard's drug store.

#### 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 renewed. A general admission of \$1.00 will be charged.

Tickets on sale at Burroughs & Mann's drug store.

Sterling Miller left Sunday night for Dallas.

#### FOR SALE.

8 yearling males, good Hereford grades. Joe Higgins will sell them cheap.

at C. P. Warren.

#### Eggs For Sale.

Full blood brown Leghorn eggs, 15 for \$1.00; good, fresh eggs delivered at Merkel Texas.

Mrs. A. Criswell,  
at Noodle, Texas.

There is nothing that fits a man like his skin, next to that Warren's underwear. Best lot of 50c garments ever shown.

Come and see our spring matting.—W. P. Browning and Co.

Mrs. Millard Coggin visited in the city Moneay.

We handle a full supply of machine needles and attachments, belts, oil cans, etc. Best oil made.

W. P. Browning & Co.  
To The Public.

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

If you pay less elsewhere you get less. Trade with Warren.

#### Calf for Sale.

The editor of The Mail has a male calf for sale, or will trade for feed or forage. Come quick if you want him.

Our collection of \$5.00 trousers may interest you. It costs nothing to see them.

J. T. Warren.

#### Notice!

The City Meat Market keeps nice, fresh beef, pork and sausage on hand all the time.

Beginning Monday, April 13, we will make ice deliveries between the hours of 9 and 12 a. m. and after 4 p. m. each day, except Sunday, when ice and meat will be delivered from 7 to 9 a. m. Please make your order accordingly, as we will not vary from this rule.

at J. W. & L. M. Watkins.

John Phaelon, convicted of theft of mules, was Wednesday of last week delivered to penitentiary authorities and taken to Huntsville to serve out his term.

# SPRINGTIME'S HERE!

## OR IT'S TIME IT SHOULD BE.

Our New Spring Clothing is here for sure, and our invitation to come in and look it over is a most cordial one.



It is time you were looking out for that new Easter Suit. We have them in all the shades, styles and fabrics. Careful selection and close buying enables us to show a stock for the spring season combining all of the qualities that the most fastidious buyer may look for. We have varieties enough to please everybody, and grades to suit all purses. Would be pleased to have prospective buyers come in and look around. They will find our best argument right before them, piled up in heaps on our clothing counters.

We don't think our clothing is any better than lots of others, but we are certain it is just as good as any made. Our men's suits at \$5 are as good as suits that are sold in other places at \$6.50 or \$7. Our \$8.50 are regular \$10 suits in some stores. Our \$10 suits in all the new cuts and shades are the kind others ask \$12.50 and even more for. Our \$13.50, \$15 and \$16.50 suits sell in larger towns for \$18 and \$20.

Mothers, where is that boy of yours going for his new outfit? We have remembered him and his needs. He wants a spring suit and he must have a good, reliable one. We have that kind; it is the Mrs. Jane Hopkins make. The garments are stylish and so strongly sewed they'll not rip. When you've looked them over you will acknowledge that the prices are lower than you expected. We have them ranging in price from



75c to \$5.00.

# J. T. Warren.

#### A Thoughtful Man.

M. M. Austin of Winchester, Ind. knew what to do in the hour of need. His wife had such an unusual case of stomach and liver trouble, physicians could not help her. He thought of and tried Dr. King's New Life Pills and she got relief at once and was finally cured. Only 25c, at Rust & Pittard's Drug Store.

Warren sells everything you wear from the ground up.

#### A Conductor Hurt.

Freight conductor F. O. Allen, whose train arrived here from the east late Monday evening, was severely hurt by a fall from a car while the train was switching. His right ankle was crushed almost to a jelly and he was slightly injured otherwise. The accident occurred in a peculiar manner. A coupling had been made and he was on the car. When the engine started he braced himself to overcome the jar, but the coupling did not hold and he pitched forward to the ground, doubling his ankle under him with the above results. Physicians dressed the wound and he was taken to his home at Big Springs. It is feared the member will have to be amputated.

Conductor Allen is one of the most popular men on the road, and his friends deeply regret his misfortune. Several years ago he had all the toes on the same foot mashed off under the wheels of a car.

You can't blame a pretty girl for putting on frills when she has Warren's stock of laces and embroideries to select from.

W. P. Browning & Co. have the best line of window shades in town. All the new patterns.

The flour is the basis of the good things you bake, have that right and you're almost sure of results.

Peace-Maker at Warren's is all right.

#### Makes A Clean Sweep.

There's nothing like doing a thing thoroughly. Of all the Salves you ever heard of, Bucklen's Arnica Salve is the best. It sweeps away and cures Burns, Sores, Bruises, Cuts, Boils, Ulcers, Skin Eruptions and Piles. It's only 25c, and guaranteed to give satisfaction by Rust & Pittard, Druggist.

WANTED—A girl or middle aged lady to assist in house work. Good pay to right party. Call on Mrs. J. T. Warren.

#### The Arthur Murder Trial.

W. P. Thurmond returned from Abilene Saturday, he having spent the week there as a juror in the Arthur murder case. The jury failed to reach a decision, five being for conviction and seven for acquittal.

This case has attracted considerable interest. Arthur murdered a section foreman out near Midland. It appears from the evidence that he was making a raid after dark on a cross tie pile when discovered and in the fight which followed the foreman was killed. A Mexican and the stepson of Arthur were the only eye witnesses and from their evidence the murder seems to have been committed in self defense. But the jury, it is said, in the absence of character witnesses, had to rely on conjectures, and from the fact that Arthur seemingly anticipated trouble when he took a winchester with him, the jury perhaps were divided and could not reach a verdict after reviewing such slim testimony.

Arthur has the reputation of being a bad man and this is not his first case in the courts. Hundreds of reputable citizens in the Midland country believe him guilty of wilful murder, but much more evidence must be gotten together before he can be convicted.

We make our business pay us by making it pay you.

J. T. Warren.

#### Herbine Cures.

Fever and Ague. A dose will usually stop a chill, a continuance always cures. Mrs. Wm. M. Stroud, Midlothian, Texas, May 31, 1899, writes: We have used Herbine in our family for eight years, and found it the best medicine we have ever used for la grippe, bilious fever, and malaria." 50c at Burroughs & Mann.

The remains of Mrs. Bird was embalmed and shipped to Falls county for interment, Thursday night. She leaves a husband and three children, two bright little girls and one manly boy, to mourn her loss. Neighbors of deceased speak of her as a devoted wife, a kind and indulgent mother and a consistent christian, having borne her long suffering with great fortitude. For ten months she was unable to even sit up in bed, but during the time not a murmur of regret or impatience passed her lips, and she was perfectly resigned to her fate. Truly a good woman gone.

In the case of W. J. Raspberry vs. S. W. Sheppard, tried in District Court last week, judgment in favor of plaintiff was rendered for \$1,100, with interest and foreclosure of mortgage on 80 acres of land.

April is making up for the deficiency of March in the matter of windy weather. This may be an "April Fool," but it is not a very popular one.

F. W. Reidenback, one of Mulberry's prosperous farmers, reports farm work rapidly advancing. Oats look well and considerable cotton has been planted in his section.

As usual on Easter, there is some disagreeable weather, and this year was no exception to the rule. The day was lovely, but night was ushered in with a sand-storm and a slight norther, both of which were very disagreeable.

#### Beauty And Strength.

Are desirable. You are strong and vigorous, when your blood is pure. Many—nay, most—women, fail to properly digest their food, and so become pale, sallow, thin and weak, while the brightness, freshness and beauty of the skin and complexion, depart. Remedy this unpleasant evil, by eating nourishing food, and taking a small dose of Herbine after each meal, to digest what you have eaten. 50c at Burroughs & Mann.

#### Daily Hack Line

From Merkel to Abilene. Leaves Merkel at 6 a. m., arrives at Abilene 9 a. m., in time for morning train; leave Abilene at 4 p. m. after arrival of evening train and arrive at Merkel 7 p. m. Round trip \$1.00, one way 75c. First class accommodations for 10 to 12 passengers.

Hack starts Monday, April 13. at J. H. Hughes & Co.

R. H. Collins left Saturday night for the east after another car of hogs. He will sell them at either Cisco or Sweetwater, this market, having consumed two car loads, being temporarily full up.

Rev. and Mrs. R. S. Heizer came over from Haskell Thursday. Mrs. Heizer was put under the treatment of physicians here for some serious malady, while Bro. Heizer went to Cisco to have an operation performed on one of his eyes, it having given him considerable trouble. Their friends here hope for their rapid improvement.

Easter Sunday was an ideal day—just such a day as has long been hoped for by the feminine population. The new hats and dresses have formed a theme for general discussion among the sex all the week, and now that the trying, though pleasant ordeal is over we can hope for a revival of the house cleaning subject.



# SOFT CORE

Like the running brook, the red blood that flows through the veins has to come from somewhere.

The springs of red blood are found in the soft core of the bones called the marrow and some say red blood also comes from the spleen. Healthy bone marrow and healthy spleen are full of fat.

Scott's Emulsion makes new blood by feeding the bone marrow and the spleen with the richest of all fats, the pure cod liver oil.

For pale school girls and invalids and for all whose blood is thin and pale, Scott's Emulsion is a pleasant and rich blood food. It not only feeds the blood-making organs but gives them strength to do their proper work.

Send for free sample.  
SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists,  
108 N. 3rd St., New York.  
Sole agents for all drug stores.

## Save The Loved Ones.

Mrs. Mary A. Vliet, Newcastle, Colo., writes: "I believe Ballard's Horehound Syrup is superior to any other cough medicine, and will do all that is claimed for it, and is so pleasant to take. My little girl wants to take it when she has no need for it." Ballard's Horehound Syrup is the great cure for all pulmonary ailments. 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Burroughs & Mann's.

Cool off if you can; if you can't, try a whiff of Burroughs & Mann's fount. All late drinks.

Enclosures of less than 2,100 acres do not now need to be posted as the new law prevents trespassing in any manner. The sign "posted" does not have to be displayed as heretofore.

Judge Hill and the commissioners will meet at Mulberry bridge today to inspect the repairs made on the structure. Judge Wheeler worked valiantly for a new bridge, but was turned down. The bridge has been there about twelve years and most of the timbers are rotten. It is a wonder that serious accidents have not occurred.

## A WORD TO FARM TOILERS.

### PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND

The Home Friend of the Farmer and His Family.

After the labors and toils of the summer time, and harvesting of crops in the early autumn, many of our farmers, their wives, daughters, and sons, find themselves in a condition of health demanding careful attention if suffering is to be avoided later on. Many experience kidney trouble in some form; with some the liver is torpid; there is biliousness, nausea, and vomiting, with loss of appetite and depression of spirits. Thousands who have been exposed to cold, damp winds and rains while toiling in the harvest fields, now feel the twinges of terrible rheumatism; others run down by worry, overwork, and irregular dieting, are tormented with the pangs of dyspepsia.

To the thousands of run down, sickly, and half dead men and women in farm homes we recommend with all honesty and confidence the worker's friend, Paine's Celery Compound, the only medicine that can quickly and fully restore strength to the weak body and vigor to the muscles. Paine's Celery Compound tones the stomach; it removes poisonous acids from the blood which cause rheumatism; it feeds the weak and diseased nerves and banishes neuralgic tortures; it purifies the blood and gives true vitality and life. The use of Paine's Celery Compound in autumn means the establishing of a perfect physical vigor to withstand the rigors of a severe winter.

**DIAMOND DYES**  
for children's clothes are most serviceable. They color jackets, coats, capes, ribbons, stockings, as well as dresses. No other dyes equal Diamond Dyes in variety of uses; they never disappoint.  
We have a special department of advice, and will answer free any questions about dyeing. Send sample of goods when possible.  
Direction book and 45 dyed samples free.  
DIAMOND DYES, Burlington, Vt.

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

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

Brown, E J  
Haflick, S A  
Knott, H W (2)  
James, D  
James, Henry  
Norwood, Miss Mattie  
Lane, D  
Owen, Mrs Ibbie  
Pippin, A B  
Slayton, C M  
Sheppard, Harrison  
Sharp, A C  
Tunnell, J B  
Young, S D  
Sanches, Tsidro (2)

## The Gen. Lee Statute.

The proposition to erect a statue of the great Confederate leader on the field of Gettysburg has started a warm controversy. In a letter to the Chicago Chronicle a correspondent signing himself "Union Veteran" says: "The haste and apparent unanimity with which many of our G. A. R. posts are opposing the placing of a statute of Lee on the field of Gettysburg is not joined in by all old soldiers. The majority of those who served throughout the war are more liberal and will indorse the project. But with some the war is not and never will be over. They did not get enough of it when the real fighting was going on.

"The battlefield of Gettysburg as it now stands is a beautiful one-sided picture. There is not a monument or inscription to show that an army, equal in numbers and valor to our own, struggled fiercely for three days to destroy it. As well write of Waterloo without mention of Napoleon as Gettysburg without Lee. By all that is Christian, charitable and patriotic let us dismiss the fiction that Lee and his men were traitors in the ordinary definition of the term. Men took sides in that conflict according to their education and environments. The South believed in state sovereignty, the North in the federation of the states into one compact, supreme union, and in the gigantic conflict which took place state sovereignty was buried so deep that nothing can ever waken it. Lee and the Confederates fought the bravest fight ever known in history. The boys of the Spanish-American war have told me that their chief regret was that they had only Spaniards to fight, while the veterans of the Union fought men who were Americans through and through and as brave as themselves. Is that not a pretty tribute to those who wore the blue in the '60's?"

"Lee was the first by precept and example to accept the decision of the war. He led all others—by appeal and exhortation to the South to lay down its arms and return to the fold. If for nothing else his statue should appear at Gettysburg."

There are men who will ride a horse to town, tie him to a post in a wet muddy alley and leave the poor animal there the live long day without food or water. During all this time the owner of the horse is playing dominoes in some warm room for the beer. He ought to be in the calaboose playing checkers with his nose.—Austin Stateman.

## A Great Sensation.

There was a big sensation in Leesville, Ind. when W. H. Brown of that place, who was expected to die, had his life saved by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. He writes: "I endured insufferable agonies from Asthma but your New Discovery gave me immediate relief and soon thereafter effected a complete cure. Similar cures of Consumption, Pneumonia, Bronchitis and Grip are numerous. It's the peerless remedy for all throat and lung troubles. Price 50c, and \$1.00. Guaranteed by Rust & Pittard, Druggist. Trial bottles free.

## The Expulsion of the Negro From Comanche County.

Many may have forgotten the facts leading up to the expulsion of the negro population from this county. That it is not a healthy place for the negro is well known by them from the Sabine to the Rio Grande. It may be supposed that this has grown out of unreasonable prejudice, and without just cause, but it finds its origin in two terrible tragedies, so atrocious and coming so near together, that the forbearance of the people was manifested by a sentence so mild as banishment. "Uncle Jack" and "Aunt Lucy" Nabers were among the earliest settlers of the town and none were held in more general esteem. For years they had kept the principal hotel and they had employed a negro girl and a negro man by the name of Mose. "Old Mose" was considered a harmless, inoffensive negro, but one night without any known cause he killed the girl and Uncle Jack's twin boys, and set fire to the building. Then to make his work sure, cut the well rope and fled to the woods. The entire population joined in pursuit and in attempting to arrest him he was shot and killed. Shortly afterwards in the northern part of the county, Dick Stephens had a negro boy employed, and on returning home one day he found his wife killed by a gun shot and the negro boy gone. Again the country was aroused and after a day or two's search the boy was found and paid the penalty of his crime. This is the origin of the historic sign which stood above the well at DeLeon. "Negro, don't let the sun go down on you in this country." We are not much ashamed of it yet.—Chief.

## Wedding Bells.

On last Sunday evening at 8 o'clock at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Brown, who live in the Oak Grove community, Mr. W. N. Brown and Miss Mollie Brown were united in holy bonds of wedlock in the presence of a large number of friends, Rev. A. J. Leach of Merkel officiating.

The attendants were Miss Annie Brown, a sister of the bride, and Mr. David Scott.

The bride is one of Jones county's charming young ladies and much loved and respected by a host of friends. The groom is one of Merkel's promising young men and is to be congratulated upon winning the heart and hand of such a prize.

They were the recipients of many nice and useful presents.

The happy young couple went to Merkel Monday, where they will make their future home.

We wish them every blessing that this old world can afford.—Anson Western-News.

W. W. Wheeler courted in Abilene Monday.

## ITCHERINE, 50c., Cures Itch

OR YOUR MONEY BACK.

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

Bass Bros. Drug Co.,  
Abilene, Texas.

## ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

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

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

## Burton-Lingo Co.,

Lumber Dealers,

Merkel, Texas.

**WORMS! WHITE'S CREAM VERMIFUGE!**  
Most in Quantity. Best in Quality.  
For 20 Years Has Led all Worm Remedies. EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED.  
Prepared by JAMES F. BALLARD, St. Louis.  
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

For Sale by BURROUGHS & MANN, Merkel, Tex.

## \$10,000 TO BE DISTRIBUTED.

### St. Louis Republic Offers Fourteen Splendid Rewards to Subscribers.

An interesting announcement appears in that great metropolitan newspaper, The St. Louis Republic, in the form of a profit-sharing offer to any one now a subscriber or willing to become a subscriber of the Republic. A big sum of \$10,000 is to be paid in rewards for good judgement and skill. It is possible to earn all the way from \$10 up to \$5,000.

The Republic's subscribers are invited to estimate upon the number of admissions to the World's Fair grounds upon the occasion of the grand dedicatory ceremonies, April 30, 1903, of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. The subscriber whose estimate comes nearest the official record will receive \$5,000; the next one will get \$2,500, and an additional sum of \$2,500 will be divided in rewards ranging from \$1,000 down to \$10 among those whose estimates most nearly approximate the official record of admissions. A payment of \$7.80 will provide for the delivery of the Daily and Sunday Republic for not less than one year, or \$5 will pay for six annual subscriptions to the Twice-a-week Republic, and if the remittance is received on or before 4 p. m. of April 29, 1903, the person sending it can make six estimates. More estimates may be made by extending a subscription beyond a year, or by organizing a club and inducing others to subscribe.

Complete information as to the conditions of this contest, together with blanks will be found in the Daily, Sunday and Twice-a-week editions of The Republic from April 2 until April 29, 1903, or will be mailed to any one upon application. All communications and estimates should be addressed to The Republic Profit-Sharing Bureau, Call Box 201, St. Louis, Mo.

### Loss Of Life In 1902.

The loss of human life in 1902, apart from the ordinary ravages of disease, was greater than it has been in any year for a considerable period. It is estimated that the deaths caused by the volcanic eruption in the West Indies numbered about 50,000, and thousands more deaths resulted from a like cause in other parts of the world. War added something like 15,000 to 26,000 to the list of fatalities, the greatest losses of this character being in the Transvaal, China, Africa and Venezuela. Deaths from epidemics aggregated about 385,000, which is estimated at nearly 46,000 more than in the preceding year, while shipwrecks account for 4,200 of the accidental deaths, or nearly double those from that cause in 1901. Suicide figures a grand total of 8,231. The number of deaths caused by murder and accidents of various kinds will foot up a large aggregate, which cannot be approximately estimated.—Nashville-Banner.

The boarding house at the Abilene epileptic colony was burned Sunday.

Now's the time to advertise.





Merkel Logue No. 710, A. F. & A. M., meets Saturday night on or before the full moon in each month.

J. A. Leeman, W. M. S. M. Sewell, Sec.

Have you been to Abilene to see S. W. Grimes & Co's millinery? They have the prettiest and cheapest millinery and dry goods in Abilene.

An exchange says that in a certain town in one of the public schools some of the boys had a habit of going up stairs of puffing and panting as though completely tired out. This annoyed one of the lady teachers, and she met a group of boys as they came into the room recently and gave them a calling down. "See here, boys," she said, "you are making too much noise, and hereafter when you come into the class room I want you to leave your puffs and pants down stairs." And she has not found out why the class laughed.—Lockhart Post.

One of the most useless of all things is to take a deal of trouble in providing against danges that never come. How many toil to lay up riches which the never enjoy, to provide for exigencies that never happen, to prevent troubles that never come, sacrificing present comfort and enjoyment in guarding against the wants of a period they may never live to see!—Ex.

The prettiest line of lawns and dimites and so cheap at S. W. Grimes & Co., south side, Abilene, Texas.

Let Burroughs & Mann sell you your fishing tackle, poles, etc. A nice line.

Try a sack of Wedding Bell flour at Maxwell & Sons.

#### Too Great a Risk.

A reliable remedy for bowel complaints should always be kept at hand. The risk is too great for anyone to take. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy never fails and when reduced with water is pleasant to take. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

Now's the time to kill the dogs and we have the carbon to do it with. Burroughs & Mann.

#### Notice.

Drs. Leeman & King's office in Burroughs & Mann's drug store. Calls answered day and night, both in town and in the country.

Catarrah made a specialty. Hemorrhoids (piles) cured without the ordinary danger of the knife, no loss of time, no blood.

The ALCOHOL or WHISKEY HABITS, Opium, Morphine, Cocaine, Chloral; in fact, all drug habits cured, and you at your own homes and at your usual vocation. No loss of time; no railroad fare; no hotel expenses.

Call and see us; it will cost you nothing.

We will furnish you a trial treatment absolute free at your request, provided you will promise to follow directions.

Leeman & King.

We will sell our camp house in wagon yard cheap. This building would make a good barn.

J. H. Hughes & Co.

Are you coming to Abilene? If so, don't fail to call on S. W. Grimes & Co., south side of railroad, for cheap dry goods and beautiful spring millinery at a small price.

Who wants to rent a good five room house in Merkel—convenient to school, good barn, lots and garden, five acres of land, well and wind mill. For particulars see Basham, Shepherd & Co.

#### The Game Laws of Texas.

The new game laws of Texas go into effect June 30th and cut down gunners to the following birds, not more than 25 of which must be killed in any one day by one person.

Plover, ducks, snipe, jack snipe, curlews, and wild geese may be killed at any time.

Doves may be killed from Sept 1 to Feb. 1 of each year.

Antelope and mountain sheep are protected for five years, all the time.

Buck deer may be killed Nov. 1st to Jan 1st, females not at all provided that one man may not kill more than six bucks in one year.

Wild turkey, prairie chickens, and quails, may be killed Nov. 1, to Feb. 1 of each year.

The penalty of each violation of these laws is a fine of \$10 to \$100 or a fine and imprisonment in county jail five to thirty days.

Netting or trapping of all birds is prohibited under the same penalties.

These penalties apply not only to those killing but to have them in your possession, to transport, or to offer to transport or sell.

The same penalties apply to the destruction of nests or eggs, or to have same in your possession.

S. W. Grimes & Co., of Abilene guarantee to save you 25 to 50 per cent on men's, ladies' and children's shoes and slippers. "Your money's worth or your money back."

#### Walks Without Crutches.

I was much afflicted with sciatica, writes Ed. C. Nud, Iowa-ville, Sedgwick Co., Kan., "going about on crutches and suffering a deal of pain. I was induced to try Ballard's Snow Liniment, which relieved me. I used three 50c bottles. It is the greatest liniment I ever used; have recommended it to a number of persons, all express themselves as being benefitted by it. I now walk without crutches, able to perform a great deal of light labor on the farm." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Burroughs & Mann's.

Try reading The Mail.

J. T. WARREN, PRES.

GEO. S. BERRY, CASHIER.

G. F. WEST, VICE PRES.

T. A. JOHNSON, ASST. CASHIER.

# THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

MERKEL, TEXAS.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID IN	\$ 50,000.00
SHAREHOLDERS' LIABILITIES	50,000.00
SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS	14,000.00
TOTAL	\$114,000.00

WE SOLICIT YOUR PATRONAGE.

#### A Prominent Minister Recommends Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.

Rev. Francis J. Davidson, pastor of the St. Matthew Baptist church and president of the Third District Baptist Association, 2731 Second St., New Orleans, writes as follows: "I have used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy for cramps and pains in the stomach and found it excellent. It is in fact the best cramp and colic remedy I have ever used. Also several of my parishioners have used it with equally satisfactory results." For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

Will Calvert is an energetic champion of the special school tax and says he hopes to see it adopted without a dissenting vote. Will is a young man, but has a long head on his shoulders.

See J. H. Hughes & Co. before you buy your corn or oats.

Mrs. Ed J. Leeman and Miss Laura Herring are visiting in Abilene today.

S. H. Ballard reports a freak of Jack Frost at the home of Lee Brooks last night. At one point Mrs. Brooks found a square of frost as big as a man's hat and fully two inches thick. Mr. Ballard says it was like snow, and had it been it would not have presented any different appearance. Its formation is queer, at least, yet there is an explanation as nature is not freakish.

Federal court was in session only one day, adjourning Monday afternoon. All cases were continued or transferred except two felonies and one or two which were rendered by agreement or default. The court officers returned to Ft. Worth or Dallas on the midnight train.

In the U. S. district court Monday Lawrence Gentry plead guilty to robbing the post office at Anson was sentenced to a year in the penitentiary and Jim Groves was sentenced to a year and a half and \$100 fine.

Groves fought the case which accounts for his longer sentence.—Daily Reporter.

Every one is interested in S.W. Grimes & Co's store on south side, Abilene. Why? Because they can get better and cheaper dry goods and millinery there than any other place in Taylor

Prof. and Mrs. Sewell were pleasant callers yesterday evening and the management took a great delight in showing them over the office.

Light frost was reported in some places Tuesday morning, but no serious damage resulted.

## Implements...

**FOR THE FARM:**

**FOR THE HOME:**

Plows,  
Cultivators,  
Planters,  
Hoes,  
Rakes,  
Plow Points,  
Etc., etc.

Queensware,  
Glassware,  
Stoves, Ranges,  
Lamps, Cutlery,  
Etc., etc.

Nothing but Dependable Goods

# 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 world wide facts. It is Democratic in politics, but distinctly a national newspaper and family journal. The subscription price of \$1.00 gives you two papers each week, 104 papers a year.

We have bought the old school building and will sell the lumber cheap in any amount wanted. J. H. Hughes & Co.

#### A Demonstration of What Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy Can Do.

"One of our customers, a highly respected citizen of this place, had been for ten years a sufferer from chronic diarrhoea," writes Walden & Martin, druggists, of Enterprise, Ala. "He had used various patent preparations and been treated by physicians without any permanent benefit. A few months ago he commenced taking Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and in a short time was entirely cured. Many citizens of Enterprise who know the gentleman will testify to the truthfulness of this statement." For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

Bargains to be had at S. W. Grimes & Co., in millinery and dry goods. The most up-to-date line of millinery ever brought to Abilene. They are designers and hat makers. Call and see them when in Abilene. South side of railroad.

We mix and make all the latest and best drinks. Come and see. Burroughs & Mann.

## THE FORD'S BLACK-DRAUGHT FOR CONSTIPATION

Constipation is nothing more than a clogging of the bowels and nothing less than vital stagnation or death if not relieved. If every constipated sufferer could realize that he is allowing poisonous filth to remain in his system, he would soon get relief. Constipation invites all kind of contagion. Headaches, biliousness, colds and many other ailments disappear when constipated bowels are relieved. The Ford's Black-Draught thoroughly cleans out the bowels in an easy and natural manner without the purging of calomel or other violent cathartics.

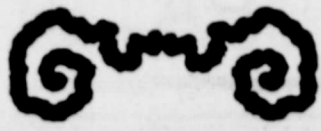
Be sure that you get the original The Ford's Black-Draught, made by The Chattanooga Medicine Co. Sold by all druggists in 25 cent and \$1.00 packages.

Morgan, Ark., May 25, 1901.  
I cannot recommend The Ford's Black-Draught too highly. I keep it in my house all the time and have used it for the last ten years. I never gave my children any other laxative. I think I could never be able to work without it on account of being troubled with constipation. Your medicine is all that keeps me up.  
C. B. McFARLAND.



# Come and Look.

The loudest voices can be heard at the greatest distance, but it is the soundest argument that creates the BEST IMPRESSION.



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.

Anything in DRY GOODS and GROCERIES.

## J. O. HAMILTON

### The Farmer's Column.

#### Interesting Items Pertaining to the Farm and Farm Life, From Our Exchanges.

Boll weevils don't eat corn, oats, millet, sugar cane, potatoes, chickens or eggs. This is simply a pointer to be studied over by the men who can't sleep well unless they plant all their land in cotton.—Austin Statesman.

Because he can no longer do hard work the farmer sometimes moves from the farm to town. Few are contented in town. The old farm is the only place that seems like home. He has learned to love the rural home during the many years of hard labor spent in making it a desirable place to live. Among familiar surroundings, performing a few of the many customary tasks, resting under the shade of the trees, he has planted and cherished, enjoying their luscious fruit, the old farmer will not rust out and will not need to seek further to find happiness during his declining years.—Ex.

Intensive farming is the kind that must eventually predominate in the Southwest. The intensive system will sooner or later be adopted on large as well as small farms. There is as much reason why every acre of a 500-acre farm should be made to produce a maximum yield, as that the same should be done on only a few acres. But it will be a long time before this is done. But in these days the small farmer has no reasonable excuse for not crowding every acre he has, not only in producing large crops, but valuable crops, for the ultimate result is the number of dollars the crop will bring. For this purpose the farmer has a long list of fruits and vegetables to select from. An acre of cotton may yield twenty-five or thirty dollars. An acre of many fruits and vegetables may easily sell for five times as much, with little, if any more labor than is applied to the acre of cotton. An acre of corn, making 30 bushels, may sell for fifteen dollars, while an acre of tomatoes, or many other vegetables, can be sold for ten to twenty times as much? The only obstacle in the way of a general adoption of the intensive system is lack of the special knowledge required, and that difficulty is being rapidly

removed by agricultural colleges, farmers' institutes, and agricultural papers, books and bulletins and other means of disseminating agricultural knowledge. Those who hold aloof from these modern and efficient means of education may content themselves with their surroundings and conditions, for they will never acquire the needed knowledge spontaneously.—Farm and Ranch.

#### A Boon To The Farmer And Feeder.

Ever since farmers began to feed cows to increase the quantity of their milk, and colts and calves to make them grow, wheat bran has been a staple feed. Its value for such purposes was unknown. One result of this use of a once waste product is that the price has gone upward from 50 cents per cart load to \$20 per ton, and feeders have not rebelled because they imagined they could not do without it. The price of bran as a feed need not trouble the farmer at all, for alfalfa hay contains practically the same nutritive properties and in the same proportions, and is eaten by horses, cattle, hogs, sheep and even fowls, with greater relish, and consequently with better results, than bran. It can also be fed without any admixture or preparation, which cannot be done with bran. Then see the difference in price between bran at \$20 per ton and alfalfa grown on the farm at a cost of \$3 per ton the first year, and nothing but the mowing and bailing thereafter, thus making it a highly profitable crop whether fed on the farm where grown or sold on the provender market. As long as it is necessary or desirable to feed dairy cows, or butcher's stock, it will pay to grow alfalfa. Any well drained land with a porous subsoil and a fertile surface soil will grow profitable crops of alfalfa. The soil should be as free as possible of weeds, and thoroughly prepared, as for all small seeds, and about twenty pounds of seed sown per acre, early in the fall. After this frequent mowings will keep down the weeds until the alfalfa gets full possession. On good land three to four cuttings may be had each year. It should be

mowed when the blooms first appear. Much depends on the curing, for the best part of the plant is the leaves, and if they are shattered and wasted much of the value of the hay is wasted also.—Farm and Ranch.

The farmer who raises hogs to the full capacity of his farm will prosper, if he sells nothing else but hogs. The selling price of hogs is now nearly twice that of beeves.

An exchange says that "the shiftless farmer never shelters his stock, never greases his wagon, never curries his horses, leaves his plows in the field, uses no paint, lets the gates sag and fence tumble down, then complains that 'everything goes contrary with me.'" We hope we have no such farmers in this section.

The demand for all kinds of meat producing animals will be greater in Texas than ever before in the history of the Lone Star State, and our farmer should at once begin the raising of hogs and sheep in connection with their farms. They are not much trouble and will bring in a good lump of cash that you wouldn't otherwise get.

#### A Trip East.

The editor and little daughter took a run down to Fort Worth Thursday night, returning Saturday morning. While in the Panther City we had occasion to visit Polytechnic College and found it highly prosperous. Among the pupils are many from this section, namely: Alonzo Bickley, Luther Heizer and Miss Lucy Leeman of this place, John Hawkins of Nubia and Miss Woods of Abilene, besides others whose names we have forgotten. The faculty highly endorses the work of the Taylor county delegation and give flattering reports of their conduct and ability. Rev. H. A. Boaz, formerly pastor of the Methodist church at Abilene, is president of the college.

Two of the biggest things in Fort Worth are the packing plants and the interurban railway. It is impossible to describe the former from our limited observation of it, but it is safe to say that the establishment of the plants there will redound to Fort Worth's greatness and prove a lasting benefit to Northwest Texas.

The interurban railway has a corner on the traffic between Ft. Worth and Dallas. Cars are run between the two points every

hour in the day and makes the distance of 32 miles in a little less than one and one-half hours, although it is said that one hour will be the limit just as soon as the line is put in good working order. We were impressed with the interurban because it passes through a fine country and has promoted truck farming. All along its route may be seen large truck patches, and the close proximity of two good markets is bound to result in further advancement along the line of diversified farming. After reaching the black land belt just beyond Arlington on the route we were made to realize the extent of the recent rains in that country. Entire farms were idle, with not a foot of land, you might say, in cultivation so far as the present crop is concerned. However, upland farms were in better shape. Some corn had been planted, but without plowing, and was just coming up.

Wheat is growing nicely and with dry weather will make a good yield. On some farms no ground had been broken for cotton and many farmers are going to plant without bedding—a thing seldom heard of in that country. Farms had just begun to dry, but the rains of Friday will give the farmers another set back. The pictures drawn of the roads in Dallas and adjoining counties have not been overdrawn, for many of them are yet almost impassible.

Altogether, in contrasting that country with this, we were impressed with the fact that we have reasons to be proud of our showing. This country is much more prosperous, and the people are a long sight more contented with their lot. One such trip as this is sufficient to demonstrate the superiority of this section over all others.

Try reading The Mail.

## 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.

# GEO. L. PAXTON,

ABILENE, TEXAS.