

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIV.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JUNE 11, 1903.

NO. 16.

J. P. Sharp & Co.

General Merchandise

If you want to save money,
we are the people to hunt up.
Don't forget this, please.

The Kindly Monitor.

Following is an extract from Judge Geo. N. Aldredge's speech delivered before the graduating class of the South Western University at Georgetown:

Young gentlemen and young ladies, in building character, make conscience your architect, and let it approve every inch of material used. Begin right. To begin right is to think right; for deeds are but executed thoughts, and if you guard the thoughts, the deeds will take care of themselves. Keep the inside of your heads clean, on this hangs all the law of right living. Get your self respect and keep it as an immediate jewel of your own soul. Live on good terms with yourself. I would rather be posted as a criminal on every wall in the land than have my monitor, conscience, whisper it to me, ever so softly. I could get away from those walls, but that little fellow goes with me by day and lies down with me at night, and he is the most uncompromising and the manliest little fellow in all the world. It seems to me his backbone is made of Bessemer steel, and between me and you, I have more respect for him than I have for all the sages and philosophers who ever lived or died. I pray you stay on good terms with that little monitor, and listen for his whisper at every turn of life. He has the right to rule you. He is a king and he is the only one that ever reigned by divine right. His coronation was not attended by any pomp and pageantry of state, but God was there and gave him domination over your lives.

The following is an extract from an article credited to the Mirror and Farm: "It is the man that honors the calling, and not the calling that honors the man. The farmer must occupy the position which he qualifies himself to fill, and he cannot reasonably expect to occupy any higher one. All

depends upon himself. In a recent lecture Prof. Brewer, of Yale college, well illustrated this idea by a case which came under his own observation. A man bought a farm for \$20 an acre. He so improved it that in a few years he was offered \$300 an acre for it. At his death it was sold for \$250 an acre. In a few years the purchaser sold for \$100 an acre to a man who finally disposed of it at \$12 an acre. Here it was plainly the man and not the farm that determined the value. It is so in all cases. Although there is a difference in farms owing to the location and nature of the soil, yet there is a wider difference in the men who run them, and the laggard must ere long drop out in accordance with the law of the survival of the fittest."

Hot Weather Weakness.

If you feel fagged out, listless and lacking in energy, you are perhaps suffering from the debilitating effects of summer weather. These symptoms indicate that a tonic is needed that will create a healthy appetite, make digestion perfect, regulate the bowels and impart natural activity to the liver. This, Herbine will do; it is a tonic, laxative and restorative. H. J. Freegard, Propr. Grand View Hotel, Cheney, Kan., writes: "I have used Herbine for the last 12 years, and nothing on earth can beat it. It was recommended to me by Dr. Newton, Newton, Kan." 50c at Burroughs & Mann's.

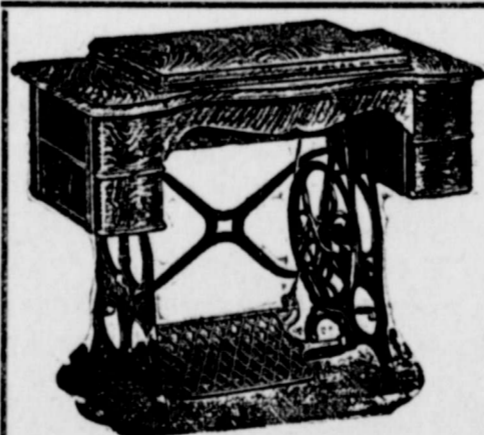
Our Children.

In all our haste, anxiety and struggle to make something out of our children, it were much better if we should be patient, observant, quick to note natural tendencies and earnest in our effort to develop them along those lines for which they are by nature most suited. This does not tickle our fancy often, for the boy we would see take a leading part has not been endowed with the qualifications to play that

part and to force him to attempt it is to force him to fail. Would it not be wiser to help him make a successful man after his own liking than a failure in the path we would prefer to see him travel? You may be gifted along some line of life and be anxious that your son follow you and perfect your undertakings, but the racer does not always transmit his speed nor genius its gifts. Is it not a fact that most of the failures in life are due to efforts along lines for which there was no real love qualification? We once had a small sprout planted from which we wished to develop a beautiful shade tree. Its second year's growth was promising; it was beautifully symmetrical and promised all we wished. The third year came and the center bud died, the limbs grew out long and ungainly, pruning did not give it proper shape for the top would not grow. The fourth year, a sort of second top, shot out at an ugly angle from a perpendicular, but it seemed that all the energy of the tree had gone to that one limb and it grew marvelously fast and soon became the trunk. So with child nature. We can't make them what we want, but we can help them by pruning and cultivating until they "shoot out" along the line of their life work. Your ideal preacher, lawyer or doctor may prove to be a merchant, a teacher or a carpenter, he may make an ugly bend from your perpendicular, but if you will help him along the line of his natural trend you will do the most possible for him. 'Tis not right you should do all.—Temple Times.

Mr. Joseph Pominville, of Stillwater, Minn., after having spent over \$2,000 with the best doctors for stomach trouble, without relief, was advised by his druggist, Mr. Alex. Richard, to try a box of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. He did so, and is a well man today. If troubled with indigestion, bad taste in the mouth, lack of appetite or constipation, give these Tablets a trial, and you are certain to be more than pleased with the result. For sale at 25cents per box by Burroughs & Mann.

"Uncle Dick" Perkins, the colored veteran of the Confederate Army, whom many of the Bulletin readers know, attended the recent reunion at New Or-



New Royal Sewing Machine

A fine drop-head machine—fully as good in every respect as those sold by agents for \$50—but our price is only \$20. Come and see.

W. P. Browning & Co.

We also carry a full line of attachments, oil, etc.



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.

leans and made a great hit with a speech. He told them that he lived in the greatest state in the union, and that Brownwood was the best town in the state. He said that the negroes never paid any taxes, yet they shared the school fund equally with the whites, and they were taught in separate schools as they ought to be, and that none of them thought of social equality. After much persuasion the crowd asked him to tell his opinion of Roosevelt. He replied that he didn't like for some one else to put words in his mouth, because he had rather speak for himself. Upon repeating urging he replied that he didn't like to say, but he remembered a passage in the Bible which said we ought to respect those in authority.

The crowd laughed but did not stop asking his opinion and he finally stated that he thought Roosevelt was the worst enemy the negro had today, because he was teaching foolish young negroes to consider themselves equal to the whites, and because he was again bringing the race question to the front. There were 27 negro veterans at the reunion.—Brownwood Bulletin.

In Fisher County.

Roby Banner.

H. Foster of the Avalon community was in town Friday. He has just about finished cutting his wheat and says the yield is going to be greater than he expected. He says the green bugs and the frost damaged the wheat crop is much as the dry weather, Solomon Johnson and son, Charlie, were in from the Swedonia country Friday. Charlie left a sample of his oats at this office which is a very fine one. They are what is known as the winter turf oats and do well in this country. Mr. Johnson says wheat and oats are good in that part of the country.

Miss Edna Lyon of Buffalo Gap has been endorsed by the trustees as teacher of instrumen-

tal music in our public school the coming term. Miss Lyon's ability as a teacher is well known to the people of this place, she having taught here during the session of 1901-1902, and the selection of her as teacher is very satisfactory to the town and community at large.

Will Use Telephones.

The T. & P. railway is preparing to inaugurate telephone service along its lines. The El Paso News says:

"The Texas & Pacific railroad is arranging for telephone service along its lines. Special Agent Mulford of the American Telephone company is in Dallas, and is expected here in a few days to arrange for construction.

The service may also be connected with the local telephone lines, so that long distance messages can be sent to all points along the T. & P. from El Paso.

The primary object is to allow the general officers of the road to talk with subordinates.

Ten "Don't's."

Don't buy this week's groceries with next week's wages.

Don't expect the boy to be happy in a cheerless house.

Don't worry about trifles until the big troubles are settled.

Don't criticize the sermon if you haven't paid the preacher.

Don't be disappointed if your son insists on doing as you do.

Don't let your courtship days end at the altar.

Don't fail to religiously keep every promise you make to your children.

Don't begin to-day without a determination to profit by the mistakes of yesterday.

Don't grumble at your luck until you are ready to admit that you no longer possess pluck.

Don't forget that those who listen while you talk about your neighbors will listen while the neighbors talk about you.

Tell your neighbor about The Mail and ask him to subscribe.

20

Per Cent Discount

on all Millinery
from date until

Sept, 1, 1903

Mrs. HOOPLE,

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

Dr. King's New Discovery

For CONSUMPTION
CROUPS and
COLDS Price
50c & \$1.00

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



Merkel Lodge 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.

Everything in millinery goods from now until end of season at 33 per cent discount.
Watson & Bacon.

A young man, member of the Texas & Pacific steel gang, went crazy Sunday and was taken to Abilene and placed in jail for safe keeping. He was apparently in his right mind Friday, but has been in ill health for some time. It is reported that he has gradually grown worse since being confined.

Mrs. Grimmet Dead.

The announcement of the death of Mrs. Grimmet, wife of W. N. M. Grimmet, which occurred at the family home yesterday evening at 2 o'clock, was universally received with genuine regret. She had been seriously ill for several days with that dread and fatal disease, galloping consumption, but the end was none the less a severe blow to the husband and children as well as to a large circle of friends. Funeral services will be conducted at the cemetery this evening. The Mail joins with the community in expressions of sincere sympathy to the bereaved ones.

1-3 off of our regular low prices on millinery. This means the cheapest ladies and childrens hats ever sold in Merkel.

Watson & Bacon.

Disease takes no summer vacation.
If you need flesh and strength use

Scott's Emulsion

summer as in winter.

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

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 June 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

Bullard, Loran
Chitwood, Clifton
Dancer, W P
Deleon, Crespin
Edwards, Mrs Lorena
Stephenson, J H
Milam, Mrs Francis

If you have a buggy that needs painting take it to J. C. Watkins. He has a nice room in the rear of his store fitted up for that purpose. He also buys or sells on commission anything you may have to dispose of.

Mesdames Hampton and Howard of Abilene are guests of Mrs. Hoople.

Robertson county went dry Tuesday.

A Small Blaze.

Several pistol shots in quick succession last night at 10 o'clock made many hearts thump with affright, and a glare of light reflected against the business houses lent vigor to tired limbs and caused a general stampede in the direction of the fire. It proved, however, to be only a small house in the cotton yard.

Origin of the fire is not known for certain, but citizens are making investigations that may throw some light on the affair. The house and contents belonged to T. F. Compton and were valued at about \$100. Night Watchman Myrick is always on hand in cases of emergency. He deserves much praise for his efficiency.

Prof. S. M. Sewell is in receipt of a communication from Gail, Borden county, informing him that he has been elected to the position of principal of the Gail school. The appointment carries with it a healthy salary. This will be good news to the professor's many friends here, all of whom will join with The Mail in commending the foresight of the Gail people. Prof. Sewell has few superiors in school work. We graciously commend him to the good graces of these good people.

The Mail was in error last week in stating that Mrs. Burroughs had sold her farm. She only disposed of half of it, or rather the grass land.

C. P. Warren branded out 135 white face calves last week, and they were as pretty bunch of stuff as one will run up against anywhere. He expects his total crop to reach over 200. J. T. Warren branded 70 equally as good and expects 30 more.

Children's Day.

Children's Day exercises will be held at the Baptist church next Sunday night. The programs are well arranged, and will be entertaining and good. All are invited to attend.

Nice assortment of Ladies, Misses and Childrens trimmed hats at 33 1-3 per cent discount.

Watson & Bacon.

S. A. D. Ground reports a fine rain early yesterday morning reaching all the way from Center Point to Doan, and beyond. This fills all the gaps except a narrow strip running east and west bordering the town on the south.

J. T. WARREN, PRES.
G. F. WEST, VICE PRES.
T. A. JOHNSON, ASST. CASHIER.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK,

—OF—
MERKEL, TEXAS

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits \$65,000
Shareholders Responsibilities over \$1,000,000

We are always in a position to take care of our friends and customers. We want your business and will treat you right and make it to your interest.

GEO. S. BERRY, Cash.

Worst of All Experiences.

Can any thing feel worse than to feel that every minute will be your last? Such was the experience of Mrs. S.H. Newson, Decatur, Ala. "For three years" she writes, "I endured insufferable pain from indigestion, stomach and bowel trouble. Death seemed inevitable when doctors and all remedies failed. At length I was induced to try Electric Bitters and the result was miraculous. I improved at once and now I'm completely recovered." For Liver, Kidney, Stomach and Bowel troubles Electric Bitters is the only Medicine. Only 50c. It's guaranteed by Rust & Pittard, Druggists.

Union Ridge Dots.

Rain has been falling in this vicinity most every day this month and farmers are wishing for it to slack up a while now.

Oats are ripe and farmers will go into them with their binders as soon as it is dry enough.

Cotton around this place is up and looking nice. Cotton chopping is the young peoples' pastime now.

Miss Mary Sears and brother, Charley Joe, came home last week from Valley Mills, where they have been attending school. We are glad to have them with us again.

The rain Sunday morning cut our Sunday school short; the attendance was small and Sunday school was dismissed, and singing took its place.

Mr. Calaway of Cross Roads will preach at this place Sunday morning at eleven. There will also be singing in the afternoon.

Miss Lillie Jones returned from Abilene Sunday evening, where she has been visiting friends. She reports a real nice time.

We suppose T. A. Gaskins has plenty of rain to do him a while, as he was out in the rain Saturday and knew how much fell.

Mrs. W. F. Jones is reported real sick this week. Her eyes are troubling her again. We are sorry to hear of her misfortune and hope she is improving by this time.

The singing people of this community are expecting to meet at Mr. Sears' Saturday night and enjoy themselves singing for a few hours.

Well if I am favored by seeing this in print will try to give more news next time.

Unome.

We hear of harvesting in every section of the country. It is impossible to give an average estimate, some farmers saying that they will have a good yield; others that they will make nearly a failure. It will be safe to say that the average will be between 10 and 20 bushels per acre.

—Stamford News.

His Last Hope Realized.

(From the Sentinel, Gebu, Mont.)

In the opening of Oklahoma to settlers in 1889, the editor of this paper was among the many seekers after fortune who made the big race one fine day in April. During his traveling about and afterwards his campaigning upon his claim, he encountered much bad water, which, together with the severe heat, gave him a very severe diarrhoea which it seemed almost impossible to check, and along in June the case became so bad he expected to die. One day one of his neighbors brought him a small bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy as a last hope. A big dose was given him while he was rolling around in great agony, and in a few minutes the dose was repeated. The good effect of the medicine was noticed and within an hour the patient was taking his first sound sleep for a fortnight. That one little bottle worked a complete cure, and he cannot help but feel grateful. The season for bowel disorders being at hand suggests this item. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

Now is the time to buy your ladies and childrens hats at 33 1-3 per cent discount.

Watson & Bacon.

W. A. Cozart sends The Mail to the boys at Roswell, N. M., G. O. having left for that place Saturday. Mr. Cozart reports plenty of rain for the present, although he has had nothing like the rain we have had here.

Ed V. White, who is at the head of the Lampases schools, stopped off in Merkel Tuesday to visit old haunts. Honors have crowded upon Ed thick and fast, but they have not erased his love for the old home. He left for Roscoe yesterday to visit his parents.

I. S. Allen and wife say there are no better people on earth, when it comes to waiting on the sick and offering their help where they think it is needed, than the Merkel people, and they ask The Mail to make this statement and to thank all for courtesies shown.

Tom Wingo who had to replant 30 acres of cotton two miles south because of the ravages of cut worms reports the second crop up and the same worms working on this crop. He says the worm is as big as his small finger in many instances. This worm is playing havoc in many southern Texas cotton fields.—Reporter.

Spring fights have opened up, one being pulled off this morning.

Ustick has just received 72 fine set rings. And those fobs for ladies and gentlemen are the latest things out. See them.

Don't wear your last summer hat when you can buy a nice new one at 33 1-3 per cent discount.

Watson & Bacon.

The People's Bank.

We make an earnest effort to accommodate all classes. Our aim is to make this in every respect the People's Bank; a bank where all may feel at home; a place where those of moderate means may expect the same treatment as those more favorably situated.

Warnick's Bank,
Merkel, Texas,

You Will Be Happy if Well.

Paine's Celery Compound

**Bestows that Health and
Vigor that Makes Living
a Pleasure.**

If you are sick and out-of-sorts, it is in your power to make yourself healthy, strong, and happy.

There is not the slightest reason why you should go through life feeling sickly, miserable, languid, and melancholic. To be well and strong, means happiness and true joy.

If you are sleepless, rheumatic, neuralgic, dyspeptic, or have the shadows of disease hovering over you; if you are not as bright, energetic, and strong as you were some weeks ago, the use of Paine's Celery Compound will tone up and fortify your whole system, cleanse the blood, correct digestion, sharpen the appetite, and conduce to restful sleep. Thousands once in a half-dead condition owe their present good health to the use of Paine's Celery Compound. Mr. Wm. S. Gibson, of Pleasureville, Ky., who, through sickness and suffering, was brought near the dark grave, writes as follows, regarding his marvelous cure:—

"I have been broken down in health and strength, nervous system shattered, kidneys out of order, had nervous and trembling spells off and on for the last ten years. I have taken three bottles of your Paine's Celery Compound and all of the above-mentioned troubles have left me, and I can now do a good day's work. I go about my business all day long and it don't worry me, and I now feel better than I have in ten years. I have a good appetite, and can eat and get around on foot as active as when I was a boy. My age is 65 years."

DIAMOND DYES

Color Jackets, Coats, Capes,
Ribbons, Neckties, Waists...

Stockings will not fade or crock when dyed with Diamond Dyes. Direction book and 45 dyed samples free.

DIAMOND DYES, Burlington, Vt.

That Throbbing Headache.

Would quickly leave you, if you used Dr. King's New Life Pills. Thousands of sufferers have proved their matchless merit for Sick and Nervous Headaches. They make pure blood and build up your health. Only 25cents, money back if not cured. Sold by Rust & Pittard, Druggists.

Don't send your orders for calendars out of town, but give them to the Mail. We have the prettiest line ever shown in the town and guarantee the prices to be as low as any foreign concern can possibly make.

To The Public.

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

Burroughs & Mann have a nice line of guaranteed clocks, going cheap. New alarm clocks \$1.00

Right Kind of Farming.

Perhaps there is no section of the State which contains a better or more prosperous class of farmers; but still conditions could be greatly improved here by the employment of scientific methods in the cultivation of crops—methods which have revolutionized farming in other sections. By scientific methods we mean that the condition of the soil must be studied and its adaptability to the successful growing of certain crops experimented upon. Every farm can be improved when these principles are brought into use.

Some farms are better adapted to the growing of cotton, others to small grain, and still others to fruit and vegetables. By experimenting along the line of diversified crops, the farm can be made to yield a handsome profit each year. Plant hogs, plant wheat and oats, plant forage, plant potatoes, plant a little of everything. Our farmers are prosperous, but they can enjoy a greater prosperity by grasping the means within their power.

Mr. J. W. Tarbett, of the Wild Horse country, dropped in to see us a few minutes Monday. He said that the hailstorm in his neighborhood the previous Thursday was several miles in extent and damaged cotton that was just coming up to such an extent that it might have to be replanted. He thought this would be the case with some of his. Corn was beaten about considerably and the blades badly ripped up, but he thought it would recover without serious injury. He said some of the hailstones were very large, one he saw measured was 9 inches in circumference, but very few approached anywhere near that size.—Haskell Free Press.

Last week we received a copy of the Collins (Miss.) Commercial and in looking over its columns noticed an item about the "Free State of Van Zandt." This caused us to look to the heading where we found the name of Sam M. Leeman, formerly of The Merkel Mail. Sam seems to use the same sharp-pointed pencil he did when down in Texas and his paper looks prosperous. Shouldn't wonder, though, if he doesn't sometimes pine for the big Lone Star.—Wills Point Chronicle.

Rev. Smith of Comanche, who represents the old school faction of the Baptist church, has been conducting a series of meetings at the Tabernacle. He is a forceful speaker and his sermons are calculated to do much good.

50 Per Cent.

Increase IN SALES OVER LAST YEAR

This is largely due to the class of merchandise carried in stock. No one wants to buy year after year the old things, when something newer and better is obtainable. When you shop here your purchase is secured by the best judgement of merchandise buyers of 15 years experience. Not an article is here but expert skill has selected it for its price and purpose. Being the oldest general store in Merkel, we had choice of different lines for this place.

Below we give some of the selections made:

Hamilton-Brown Shoes,
Thoroughbred Hats,
Majestic Clothing,
Topsy Hosiery,
Eagle Shirts.



Bray Clothing for Workingmen,
Thompson's Glove Fit'g Corsets,
Chase & Sanborn Tea and Coffee,
Peace-maker Flour,
McDonald Overalls.

You can't make a mistake in buying this class of merchandise.

J. T. Warren.

Constipated Bowels.

To have good health, the body should be kept in a laxative condition, and the bowels moved at least once a day, so that all the poisonous waters are expelled daily. Mr. G. L. Edwards, 142 N. Main St., Wichita Kansas, writes: "I have used Herbine to regulate the liver and bowels for the past ten years, and found it a reliable remedy." 50c at Burroughs & Mann's.

We give as good cold drinks and cream as can be obtained anywhere. Come and try them. Burroughs & Mann.

The ladies of the Baptist church gave their entertainment at the Tabernacle Friday night. The exercises were very good and showed careful preparation. About \$60 resulted from the sale of ice cream, which will be used to carpet the church.

Little Nellie Tracy is doing nicely and her parents are very much gratified that her condition is so favorable. She was able to sit up on the twelfth day, nearly all the soreness has left her, and the bandaged member gives her less trouble than anticipated.

It is an old saying that if it rains on the first day of June it will rain somewhere in sight every day during the month. So far the prophecy has held good and from present appearances it bids fair to keep up the lick.

Prof. C. E. Evans has sold his residence at Anson, and this week carpenters are busy at work cutting the framing for his new home, which is to be built on his lots just across the street from J. W. Daniel. It will be an attractive addition to that part of town. The professor is to be congratulated upon his faith in the town.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Harkrider are rejoicing over the visit of the stork. It is a girl, and arrived Saturday in answer to the prayers of little Nell.

Tax on Babies.

Extreme hot weather is a great tax upon the digestive power of babies; when puny and feeble they should be given a few doses of White's Cream Vermifuge, the children's tonic. It will stimulate and facilitate the digestion of their food, so that they soon become strong, healthy and active. 25c at Burroughs & Mann's.

We have a full supply of base balls, bats, catchers and fielders mits.

Burroughs & Mann.

R. E. Tracy shipped a couple of cars of fat cattle to New Orleans Sunday. The cattle were loaded for St. Louis Saturday, but the flood situation there has grown worse and the company refused to bill them for that point. Mr. Tracy is hopeful of hitting a nood market at the former place.

J. L. Banner and Mr. Foster, of the Salt Branch community, were pleasant callers Saturday. Both have had good rains and expressed themselves as highly pleased with the outlook for crops. Few years have started out so well and indications are good for a banner crop year all around.

DRY GOODS AT WHOLE-SALE COST. Also a nice lot of spring and summer goods just received which will be sold as cheap as any. Don't fail to see us.

Respectfully,
DENNIS BROS.

Mack Berry, son of Y. H. Berry, came in Friday from Huntsville, where he had been attending Sam Houston Normal. The Mail is glad to state that he graduated with high honors and is the possessor of a first grade certificate.

Iron building on Front Street for rent, good stand for grocery and grain. Nicely painted inside.

Warnick's Bank
or P. H. Watkins.

Driven To Desperation.

Living at an out of the way place, remote from civilization, a family is often driven to desperation in case of accident, resulting in Burns, Cuts, Wounds, Ulcers, etc. Lay in a supply of Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It's the best on earth. 25c. at Rust & Pittard's Drug Store.

Try Burroughs & Mann for bicycle tires and repairs.

A Nice Shower.

In last week's paper it was stated that indications were favorable for rain as we went to press, and before the paper was mailed out a good shower fell. The blessing was repeated Saturday and again Sunday. These rains covered a large scope of country from Merkel north, but did not reach south of town, the railroad seeming to be the dividing line. In the Canyon only light showers fell, while at Dora there was no rain, not even a light sprinkle. North and northwest, in Jones and Fisher counties, good rains fell, and they varied around to the east and southeast, there being very few gaps.

The country south of town has had good showers, and even these have been spotted. It is hoped that they will come in for the blessing before the spell is over with.

When you want a pleasant physic try Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They are easy to take and pleasant in effect. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

Milt Wiman returned to Dallas Monday night.

Mrs. J. K. Pittard and little son left Friday night for Linesville, Ala., to spend a few weeks with Mr. Pittard's parents. The Mail wishes them a pleasant visit.

Picnic For the Fourth.

A picnic will be held on July 4th in Mrs. Moore's pasture near the Castle Peak road and one mile east of the peak. It is a nice, cool, shady place and an ideal location for a picnic ground. There will be public speaking and various amusements and everything possible will be done to make the occasion a complete success. Let everybody go and take their baskets.

The case of the State vs. Will Halstead, charged with conducting a disorderly house, was tried in county court Thursday and resulted in a verdict of guilty. The lowest fine, £200, was assessed against defendant. The case will be appealed.—Sweetwater Reporter.

Mrs. Chenault of Hico is the guest of her husband's brother, S. A. Chenault, and family.

Prices are Low and Qualities Good

At The RACKET STORE.

READ THESE PRICES:

3 ply chair bottoms each	8c	8 day half hour strike alarm clock	\$2.50
Glass tumblers per set	15c	New Haven alarm clock only	84c
Good white cups and saucers, set	50c	500 page hubback ledger	19c
Set of good plates	40c	7 1-2x12 inch counter book	5c
1-4 lb pkg shoe nails	2 1-2c	Indexed memoranda book	5c
4 oz bottle machine oil	5c	10c kind of envelopes, per bunch	5c
No. 1 brass lamp burners	5c	5c kind of envelope, per bunch	2 1-2c
Bright metal can opener	4c	Commercial envelopes, 4x9 1-2	8c
Heavy 1-2 gal tin cup	5c	Commercial note paper, 4 bun	5c

Our goods are priced at bedrock figures and would appreciate a share of your trade.

THE RACKET STORE,
L. E. ADRIAN, Prop.

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

LET THE PAPERS ANSWER.

A few issues back The Mail published two clippings, one from the Denison Gazette in which it was claimed that no prohibition town ever gives its paper a decent support, and the other from the Garland News refuting the charge and giving a list of prohibition towns that had good papers well patronized. The Mail added to this and asked for a comparison between the papers published in Abilene, Merkel and Colorado—prohibition towns—and Baird, Sweetwater, Big Springs and Pecos—saloon towns. The Baird Star took up the challenge and proceeded to propound a few questions to the papers in the prohibition towns, and started off by saying that the Star did not suffer by the comparison. In the course of his remarks Gilliland, as usual, draws upon his imagination. It is stated that "Abilene and Colorado are cited as examples of the good prohibition does a town," when no claim was made by this paper nor was it even hinted, that prohibition in any way benefited a town. The only thing we wished to impress upon the reader was the fact that prohibition towns support papers just as well as saloon towns do.

In answering the questions propounded by the Star the Colorado Clipper says prohibition has hurt both the town and the papers, and cites several reasons therefor, foremost of which is that, as a rule, stockmen are a drinking men and will do their trading in the town where they can wet their whistles. It also says as much whisky is drank under prohibition as under the license system. Local patronage, it is claimed, has fallen off fully \$50 per month since prohibition went into effect, while much trade has gone from the town, although as a whole the paper is enjoying a better patronage now than ever before, which is attributable to an increase in foreign patronage.

In the same town we find another paper which gives its experience under prohibition. The Spokesman has enjoyed a largely increased patronage, notwithstanding the two hard years, and last year added a cylinder press and much other new material to its plant. Its advertising patronage has steadily increased and its job department is humming, not to mention its growth in circulation. Perhaps the Spokesman more nearly voices the sentiments of the people, hence enjoys the patronage which the Clipper claims to have lost.

The Abilene papers have not answered the questions propounded by the Star. They have had prohibition only a very few weeks and therefore can not

speak from actual experience. The Mail takes the liberty, then, of propounding the Star's questions to the Weatherford and Cisco papers.

Let the papers answer.

The result of the local option election in Erath county was a complete vindication of the people from the charge of fraud grow-out of a similar election held last year. The law was defeated on some irregularity, and the saloon element was elated to the extent that all joints and dens of vice and corruption were run wide open, to the disgust of all law abiding people. Business men were foremost in the fight against this lawless element, with the result that the county went overwhelmingly for local option. The Dublin Telephone and Stephenville Empire are to be congratulated upon their valiant fight for the right. May they reap a just reward for their labors.

Nothing could be more heart rendering than the recent statement from the war department that ten officers and seventy-three enlisted men have killed themselves in the Philippines because of home sickness. This all comes of our imperialistic tendencies, or rather the greed for conquest. The profits of "benevolent assimilation" and exploitation are piling up thick and fast, and in our efforts to Christianize (God forgive the word) the Filipinos we are falling into the brutal methods of inhuman warfare ruthlessly waged

The Reporter fell into an error, in copying an editorial from the Mail on the Grayson county local option situation. The words, "this editor will fight shy of future contests," had reference to the editor of the Grayson county paper and not to the editor of The Mail, as the Reporter had it. We make no rash statements, for a man don't know what he will do until the time comes for action. Local option contests are not at all a savory dish, and we are not hunting a place to "butt in."

The pros of Grimes county got up a petition with enough signers to secure a local option election and the antis paid a lawyer \$250 to stop the proceedings. The man who had possession of the petition gave it up to the lawyer for \$65, and now the people are working up another petition. It is just such acts of lawlessness as this that is responsible for the wave of prohibition that is sweeping the State.

Congressman Ball of South Texas has resigned, for what reason he would not state. However, as an old Congressman used to say, no man will resign his seat in congress unless he is insignificantly small or has the assurance of something better. Congressman Ball has never been accused of smallness, hence it must be assumed that he has a graft on some corporation.

The Court of Criminal Appeals has decided the payment of a poll tax an essential qualification to jury service. The man who failed to pay his poll tax is a back number.

The vital statistics law went in effect June 1st. All births and deaths must be reported by attending physicians, and a failure to do so is punishable in every case.

Illinois is keeping up her record in pulling off lynchings. But

Illinois is too far north to command attention from the rabid south haters.

John Wilkes Booth seems to have had as many lives as the cat which always came back. He has died several times recently.

The year 1903 promises to be a record breaker in the matter of calamities—floods, cyclones, wrecks, and disasters generally.

Local option Matters.

Rusk, Lampasas, Brazoria, Milam and Walker counties were added to the long list of prohibition counties last week.

Local option is not yet in force in Grayson county, temporary injunctions being the order of the day. The antis have adopted the tactics used in this county.

The contest in Erath county was brought to a close Saturday after a hard fight, the pros winning by fully 1200 votes, nearly 3 to 1. The election last year was much closer, but prohibition was defeated on a technicality.

Fannin county is in the throes of an election which will be decided Saturday. The county is claimed by the pros by a big majority.

As to Incorporation.

There has been considerable incorporation talk during the past few days, and judging from the expressions heard on the subject public sentiment is pretty evenly divided. However, a great many have an erroneous opinion concerning the benefits of incorporation. They too easily fall into the error of taking it for granted that incorporation means a doubling up of taxes, when careful investigation would convince them that this could be easily avoided, and that incorporation does not necessarily mean a tax burden. Other towns of Merkel's size are running smoothly under incorporation, and there is no reason why we could not do the same.

The least that can be said in favor of incorporation is that it would result in a cleaner town. This is argument enough in favor of it. A small tax for the betterment of sanitary conditions and street improvement would be a paying investment in the long run. Think over the matter, or let's call a mass meeting and discuss the subject. What say you?

Jones County News.

Mr. Edgar Boaz returned a few days ago from Borden county, where he had gone with his cattle.

The damage to the corn and fruit crops in the Mount Zion section by the hail is very bad in places. Cotton was damaged but was planted over.

Capt. J. H. Milsap drove in from his farm near Nienda, a few days ago, and showed us some fine specimens of alfalfa raised on his place. The Captain has about three acres which will yield several tons per acre.

On July 17th Anson will be 22 years old and some of the older citizens are talking in favor of having some kind of gathering to commemorate the day. An old time barbecue has been suggested. An excellent move, nothing would advertise our town more.

Mr. G. H. Carlton, one of Jones county's prosperous farmers, was in town Wednesday morning after binding twine to finish gathering his wheat. Mr. Carlton says that he has a 20a piece of wheat that is taking

R. L. HUDSON

Dealer In

Saddles, Harness, Lines, Bridles, Collars, Hames, Traces, Whips, Lap Dusters and Saddle Blankets.

In fact, everything carried in a first class saddle and harness store; the only exclusive saddle and harness business in town, and will make prices right. First door north of Masonic Hall.

No Ticks! No Black Leg! No Fever!

But strong, healthy cattle and horses made by BASS' MEDICATED STOCK SALT. Cattle fatten faster, grow faster and free from ticks if free access to the Medicated Salt is had. Not an experiment, but a tried success. Price, \$2.50 per 100 lb. sack; 1000 lbs. for \$22.50.

J. T. WARREN, Merkel, Tex.

more twine to the acre than any wheat he has raised in seventeen years.—Anson Western-News.

Convicted of Lunacy.

A. J. Blackburn was tried and convicted of lunacy last week. He was from the Merkel country, was 91 years old, and was born in Tennessee. His son died with whom he was living and he is without any means of support, blind and cannot walk without assistance. He claims he inherited \$108,000,000 from England, which was sent to him in an iron safe to Merkel, but other parties got it and won't let him have it. He has been a powerful man in his day, having killed a man, by beating him with his fists. He was lodged in jail, owing to his dangerous tendencies.—News.

A Bit of Texas History.

1. Claimed and controlled by Spain by right of discovery.
2. Ceded by Spain to France pursuant to the treaty of 1800.
3. Transferred by France to the United States by the treaty of April, 1806.
4. Exchanged for Florida and

receded to Spain by the United States, under the treaty of February, 1809.

5. Severed from Spain and made part of Mexico by revolution prior to 1834.

6. Erected into the Republic of Texas as by the revolution of 1835-6.

7. Annexed to the United States by the consent of the people of Texas, and became a State of the Union in February, 1848.

8. Adopted her ordinance of secession and became one of the Confederate States of America in 1861.

9. Restored to the Union after the fall of the Confederacy in 1865.

10. It is now the greatest State in the Union, and is making greater progress and development than ever before.

"A recent visitor in Brownsville wanted to know if tamales were ripe now, and if they really grew on cornstalks here. He was told that they are in season all the year, and as for the latter question anybody can see that tamales have shucks, just like corn has."

If you want a wagon get the best, get

A MITCHELL

The "Old Reliable Mitchell,"
"The Monarch of the Road."

The Mitchell has made the best record of any wagon ever sold in West Texas--of any in the world. Whenever you see a man with a MITCHELL you see a man that is pleased with his wagon.

The Mitchell is Fully Guaranteed
Has Been on the Market 65 Yrs.

Let us sell you one.

ED S. HUGHES & CO.

ABILENE, TEXAS

30 Day Clearance Sale!

In order to close out all Summer Goods, we inaugurate a 30 Day Clearance Sale.

During This Sale We Offer

All 7½c Lawns and Dimities at per yard 5c
 10c Dimities and Lawns at 8½c
 12½c Lawns and Batiste at 10c
 15c Lawns, Batiste and Dimities at 12½c
 Lace stripe Etamine, white and tan, reduced from 65 to 50c
 20 per cent reduction on all ladies' Skirts and Waists.
 2 pieces Silk Waisting as long as it lasts at 10c yard.
 1 piece black Brocaded Silk, regular 50c value to close at 25c

We are closing out all ladies' and children's Oxfords and Sandals at greatly reduced prices.

CLOTHING

Ours is the kind that fits well, wears well and looks well.

Our \$15.00 Suits, sale price \$12.45.
 Our 12.50 Suits, sale price 9.95.
 Our 10.00 Suits, sale price 8.55.
 Our 6.50 Suits, sale price 4.95.

All boys' and youths' clothing reduced in like proportion.

SHOES

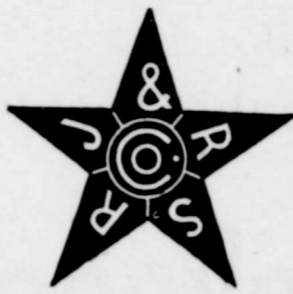
We have just received a large shipment of the celebrated **STAR BRAND SHOES**, and will sell them at the lowest prices possible.

We carry a well assorted stock of Staple and Fancy Groceries, and will appreciate your trade in both Dry Goods and Groceries.



The Star Store

Avery Cultivators are the BEST; try one



Starting Evidence.

Fresh testimony in great quantity is constantly coming in, declaring Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds to be unequalled. A recent expression from T. J. McFarland Bentorville, Va., serves as example. He writes: "I had Bronchitis for three years and doctored all the time without being benefited. Then I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery, and a few bottles wholly cured me." Equally effective in curing all Throat and Lung troubles, Consumption, Pneumonia and Grip. Guaranteed by Rust & Pittard. Trial bottles free, regular sizes 50c and \$1.00.

Sunday School and League Conference.

To be held at Abilene., Texas. June 15-18, 1903.

PROGRAM.

8:30—Sermon, J. A. Biggs,
 MORNING SESSION JUNE 16th.
 8:30—Song and Prayer Service
 E. A. Smith.
 9:00—Welcome Address, H. A. Tillet.
 9:20—Response, W. B. Crockett.

9:30 INTERMISSION.

9:35—Report of Superintendents.
 11:10—Address, Hindrance to Successful S.S., E. A. Smith
 11:30—Question Box, and General Discussion.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2:30—Devotional Services,
 E. L. Sisk,
 3:00—Our Literature, ten minutes to each subject:
 1 The Visitor, W. A. Manly.
 2. The Magazine, H. C. Williams.
 3. The Quarterly, Lesson Papers, and Catechism, E. R. Bryan.
 3:30—Sunday School Training Work, ten minutes to each subject
 1. To Attend Church, Z. B. Pirtle.
 2. To Give to the Cause, T. E. Powell.
 3. General Discussion.
 4:00—How to make practical, Paragraph 247 of the Discipline,

(1) I. E. Hightower, (2) Geo. Fisher.

General Discussion.

4:30—Children's Day. Its importance, Mrs. S. W. Scott.

8:30—Sermon, W. A. Manly.

MORNING SESSION, JUNE 17th.

8:30—Prayer and Praise Service, C. H. Ledger.

9:00—Primary Work in the Sunday Schools, Mrs C. S. Field.

General Discussion.

9:30—Grading and Methods, F. W. Chatfield.

10:00—Bible Teachers Study Circle, C. S. Field

10:30—Modern Superintendent, Jno. Basden.

10:45—Modern Teacher, R. B. Young.

11:00—Sermon, R. S. Heizer.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2:30—Prayer and Praise Ser-

vice, T. N. Lowry.

3:00—Reports from the Leagues.

3:30—Best Methods of Conducting Devotional Services.

1. Speaker, C. E. Conner.

2. Speaker, S. M. Sewell.

3. Speaker, Mrs. Anna Mast-

ting.

4:00—Does the League Fill the Place of Class Meeting and Love Feast? 15 minutes.

1. M. H. Hudson.

2. Dr. Caloway.

3. C. W. Irwin.

8:30—Sermon, L. A. Webb.

MORNING SESSION, JUNE 18th

Sunrise Prayer Meeting, Alonzo Bickley.

8:45—Song Service, G. A. Nancy.

9:00—Mission of the Junior League, C. A. Evans.

9:25—Best Plans With Children, Mrs. C. J. Monroe.

10:00—The Application of C. and H. Department, Miss Sallie Hopkins.

9:30—Scope of the C. and H. Department, A. E. Watson.

10:30—Missionary Work of Leagues. Are the Young Men and Women of this Generation Responsible for the Gospel Being Carried to the People of this Generation?

1. C. E. Evans.

2. E. B. Bynum.

11:00—Is it Feasible for the Abilene District League to Support a Missionary? C. D. West, ten minutes. General Discussion.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2:30—Song Service.

3:00—Why Have We Not a League in Every Pastoral Charge? B. B. McCamel, 15 minutes, Judge Jesse Wright, 15 minutes.

3:30—What Should be Expected of the League as Soul Winners? Miss Kate Slatton, M. K. Jackson.

4:00—The Social Feature of the League, Miss Lenora Barrett.

Discussion.

4:30—Election of Officers.

8:30—Jubilee Service, J. R. Henson.

All Preachers, traveling and local, League Presidents, Sunday School Superintendents

are members of the Conference.

Elect one delegate for every League and Sunday School. One delegate for every twenty members of S. S. League, and fractional part of twenty. Send in names of delegates to Rev. J. R. Henson, Abilene, Texas.

Everything in our millinery goods at 1-3 off regular prices. We have a fine assortment of new hats just made up. Comprising some of the prettiest patterns of the season.

Watson & Bacon.

League Program.

Leader—Edgar Maxwell.
 Subject—Gold or God.
 Lesson—18:18-30.

References—Ps. 119:72; Jas. 5:3; Rev. 3:18; Job 28:12-7; I Tim. 6:6-8; Mark 8:34; Matt. 6-19-20.

Worldly condition has no moral—Miss Duncan Browning.

Riches never satisfy—Arthur Rose.

Money-getting and money-using are perilous—Miss Ida Martin.

The principle of sacrifice—Miss Etna Diltz.

The great reward—Miss Annie King.

June 4th.

W. W. Wheeler left Tuesday night for Fort Worth to meet the crowds of immigrants which the railroads are unloading there by the hundreds. He will endeavor to bring a part of them out this way, and if he succeeds, citizens of the town should provide conveyances in which to take them over the country. The various railroads have gotten up these excursions to entice people from other states. They furnish free transportation to real estate agents in order that every section of the State may be represented and have a chance to secure a part of these home seekers. Such a move can but result in the rapid settlement of this great commonwealth with a very desirable citizenship

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

J. M. PATE
THE BARBER,
 NORTH FRONT STREET.

M. J. PATE,
Tonsorial Artist and Cranium Manipulator
 First class barber work guaranteed. Give me a trial.

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 Some newspapers print READING 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 experiences 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 or \$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 & Hoople,
BUTCHERS
 Everything Nice and clean; an up-to-date market. We would appreciate your patronage.

Best Passenger Service
 ...IN...

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.

**THEDFORD'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. Theford'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 Theford'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 Theford'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.

Implements...

FOR THE FARM:

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

FOR THE HOME:

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

Nothing but Dependable Goods

W. H. Dickson

The Farmer's Column.

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

West of the Mississippi farmers and others are suffering from floods, while east of the river they are suffering greatly for lack of rain. The drought extends from New England to Tennessee and Kentucky.

The farm, properly run, is a manufactory and should turn out well finished products. As in other manufactories looking after the waste and turning it into profit is an important factor if financial success is sought.

The greater part of the range section of Texas has been blessed with good rains, although there are spots where there has been no rainfall. Generally speaking grass is very plentiful throughout the range country and the outlook has not been better for years.

An investment that returns 10 per cent of the amount put in will satisfy most financiers, but the farmer sometimes hesitates about the purchase of machinery that will make a return of 25 per cent of its cost. Machinery that is not needed is expensive at any price, but very few farmers buy more than can be used to advantage.

At a late sale of Poland China hogs at Disco, Indiana, 68 head were disposed of at an average price of \$285. No animal sold for less than \$100 and the top price was \$1700 paid for a sow. Such prices are, of course, greatly out of the ordinary, but there is money to be made out of hog raising rightly followed, in nearly all sections of the country.

Throughout the western portion of the state the mesquite bush has practically covered the country, there being now at least 100 where there was but one of these trees forty years ago. It would be better if the same could be said of mesquite grass. As the bushes spread the grass disappears. The mesquite tree, however, furnishes much excellent food for cattle and sheep in the beans abundantly borne by the more aged trees.

Red Polled Cattle.

J. Webb Howell.

With the breaking up of large ranches and fast increasing population the man with the hoe, the small farmer is encroaching upon the big cattle men. Big cotton farms are being cut up into smaller ones. Changes are being wrought now that were never before thought of. New methods, new ideas, new implements, better stock and high priced lands have caused a revolution with the farmer. Diversification is the cry and to be successful stock farming is a necessary adjunct. Good blood is essential. The best and cheapest way to make a beginning is to buy a registered bull. Study the quality and characteristics of the different breeds and buy the one that suits your fancy best.

If you want a bull whose get are red and muleys, buy a Red Poll. Ninety per cent of his calves are red. We have two crops of half-breed Red Polled calves and have to see the first one with horns. Hornless cattle require less feed, less shelter and command higher prices in the lead-

ing markets than cattle with horns.

Red Polled cows are early maturing, easily handled and long breeders. They give a good quantity of rich milk. Their dairy records will compare favorably with the strictly dairy breeds.

As a farmers' cow the brute stands pre-eminently in the lead, as their record at the last International Fair in this class clearly showed they were first. A farmer who wants a cow that will give a good quantity of rich milk and raise a good Red Polled calf besides, the Red Polled cow fills the requisite. If the calves were selected with the same care from large ancestors, given the same attention, pushed and pampered as beef cattle are, their weights would be heavier, but the profits less.

Bryan, Texas.

Farmers should study farming and work their farms, and leave the dirty work of politics to politicians, for usually politicians are fit for nothing else. We do not mean that farmers should ignore political questions, for no other class of citizens are so deeply concerned as they, for the interests of the farmers are touched at some point, favorably or unfavorably, by every political question. They should read and study these questions as they arise, and vote according to the dictates of intelligent patriotism. All efforts heretofore to organize farmers into a huge political machine have fortunately failed. All political machines stink, and farmers above all others should have nothing to do with. The intelligent, patriotic vote of the farmers is the hope of the country.

Give Her Room.

T. J. Parton, near Merkel, has been observing things as he went along. He dropped into our office Thursday to commend The Reporter's crusade for wide cotton rows, and to say his experience and observation convince him that our contention is right. "Last year I dug up a cotton root which had grown four feet two inches near the surface in search for moisture," said Mr. Parton.

"Fearing some might doubt the accuracy of this statement I had several of my neighbors to measure the root.

"Based on this, a cotton plant would draw moisture from a circle ten feet across, and, to my mind, is convincing proof that we all plant cotton too thick."

Mr. Parton's conclusions are certainly justified, and he notes numerous instances in which a half-stand doubled a full stand in yield.

He cuts his cotton two feet, and is certain that he gets more by doing so.

He plants two rows at a time, fastening two planters together, following a cultivator which opens the soil to moist dirt, and he finds that his planting can thus be done by half the force.

He has about 135 acres of cotton planted and keeps but one man regularly to help him. In cultivating he doubles up his implements also and saves labor in the same way.

He has ten acres in big boll cotton from which he hopes to get seed for next crop of a superior grade.—Daily Reporter.

High-Water Pants.

Waelder News.

An exchange wants to know what would be thought of a man

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.

WORMS! **WHITE'S CREAM VERMIFUCE!**

Most in Quantity. — Best in Quality.

For 20 Years Has Led all Worm Remedies. EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED.

Prepared by **JAMES F. BALLARD, St. Louis.**

For Sale by BURROUGHS & MANN,

Merkel, Tex.

who would have his pants made from sixteen to twenty inches too long for his leg and then go around holding them to keep from trailing in the muddy filth. He would probably be considered crazy. But where does the comparison come in? I don't know of any women who do this.

A Splendid Remedy.

Neuralgic pains, rheumatism, lumbago and sciatic pains yield to the penetrating influence of Ballard's Snow Liniment. It penetrates to the nerves and bone, and being absorbed into the blood, its healing properties are conveyed to every part of the body and effect some wonderful cures. Mr. D. F. Moor, Agent Illinois Central Railway, Milan, Tenn., states: "I have used Ballard's Snow Liniment for rheumatism, backache, etc., in my family. It is a splendid remedy. We could not do without it." 25c, 50c, and \$1.00 at Burroughs & Mann's.

The wages of sin is death. The following expression from Cole Younger, the noted Missouri bandit is an impressive sermon: "I am not at all proud of my wasted years. The man who chooses the career of an outlaw is either a natural fool or an innocent

madman. To me the word outlaw is a living coal of fire. The past is for me a tragedy wherein danger lurks along every trail. My dear friend, if you are endowed with physical strength, valor and steady hand, let me warn you to use them well, for God that gave them is the final victor. Twenty five years of my life I have passed in prison! How many men can conceive what suffering that means! But I have learned much in my lonely cell. I have learned that hope is divinity; that a surplus of determination will conquer every weakness; that vengeance is for God and not for men. I am often surprised that I remember anything; prison life and prison discipline may destroy a man's reason in much less than a quarter of a century. Nevertheless, I am convinced that prisons and prison discipline are the safeguards of the nation. There is no true liberty apart from law. Beyond that boundary line liberty must surrender its rights."

Y. H. Berry returned Friday from Tennessee, where he disposed of a car of horses.

Nice room 10x28 on front street, rent reasonable.

Warnick's Bank or P. H. Watkins.

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.