

## Plenty of 8 Per Cent Money!

We have just about caught up with the rush we had for loans last fall. The demand for money was enormous and it has taken us some time to get through with it, but we are now up and better prepared than ever before to get loans through quickly, and at very little expense to the borrower, the expense being much less than it has been heretofore. Don't wait until you have to have the money before you apply, for you can't lose anything by applying now, and besides that by applying now you will be in plenty of time and avoid the rush this coming fall. We will inspect again in July, so if you need money take it up with us immediately. We have plenty of money now in bank ready for this business.

**COMPERE BROTHERS,**  
REAL ESTATE DEALERS AND MONEY LENDERS, ABILENE, TEXAS.

### Thick vs. Thin Stands of Cotton.

Mr. Editor:—As the farmers are busy chopping cotton, a word relative to thinning cotton might not be amiss. Now just how far apart the cotton should be left our farmers do not agree; but however, we all agree that as a rule we leave the cotton too thick. If the stockmen should put 90 head of cattle to the section when the grass would only carry 60, the season would have to be very favorable indeed or this over-stocking would prove disastrous to the business. Or if we should take the feed of two horses, hogs or cows and divide same among three animals we can readily understand that they would lose flesh and therefore decrease in value. The old rule of our fathers was to plant most any kind of seed so they were sound and to leave the cotton the width of the hoe, and we rarely ever see a cotton field thinned more than 12 inches apart. Now we have seen surface cotton roots 4 feet long, and we are of the opinion that where cotton is left three feet apart in seasonable years and if growing on rich land, will throw out roots 5 and 6 feet, drawing substance 10 and 12 feet in diameter from the soil. However, we see good crops growing during seasonable years from stalks poorly thinned, but the fruit will be found on top of the stalk and end of the limbs and but little on the body of the plant. Our farmers know that our best cotton is grown in seasonable years on land that had what is termed a poor stand, and when you see an exceptionally fine stalk, well limbed and fruited, displayed about the banks or store, this stalk came from a "skippy row," and the farmer knows it, too. No matter how fine the blood—how well graded our stock may be—the best of care is also required in order to get the best results. Impoverish the Norman colt and you can see the fine blood only in its limbs and head, its body being about the size of an ordinary scrub. If this is the case with animal life why not with vegetable life? By a thorough preparation of the soil by planting the best variety of seed, and with proper thinning, say two feet in the drill, and good tillage, we are led to believe by observation and experience that our farmers would produce at least 20 per cent more cotton annually. The stalk produces limbs and the limbs the fruit;

and one of the most important duties about the farm is proper thinning, giving to each and every plant the proper space.

FARMER TOM.

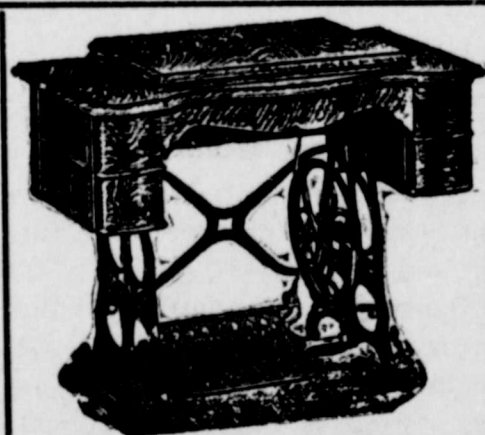
### Hot Weather Weakness.

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.

### Resolutions of Respect.

Whereas, it was the pleasure of the Supreme Grand Master to call from his labor in the terrestrial to the celestial temple, our highly esteemed brother and companion, Collins G. Harris, on the 18th day of May, 1903, in his 83rd year; and

Whereas, he had lived a devoted Christian life in the M. E. church, South, for a period of about 60 years, and has been an honorable and worthy member of the Blue Lodge in the Masonic fraternity about the same length of time, and had filled the office of secretary for a period of 25 years, and later in life became a



### 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.

member of the Royal Arch chapter, in which relationship he greatly delighted in and was a most affectionate and worthy companion. He was a model of meekness, and being associated with him about 14 years, yet never heard him utter a disreputable sentence detrimental to a member of the craft. He was a man who could be confided in on all the points. In consideration of the above brief sketch, therefore be it resolved,

1. That Merkel Lodge No. 710, A. F. & A. M., with profound reverence, acquiesce in the pleasure of the Supreme High Priest in controlling the craft in His infinite goodness, knowing He doeth all things well;

2. That in the death of our worthy brother the community has lost a good, peaceable citizen, the church a faithful Christian, the Masonic fraternity a model companion, and the family an affectionate father.

3. It was ordered that the craft wear the usual badge of mourning 30 days and that these resolutions be spread on the minutes of the lodge, a copy sent to the family and that they be published in The Merkel Mail.

A. A. Baker,  
G. E. Comegys,  
W. W. Wheeler. } Com.

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.

### Some Things That Count.

In "A Self-Made Merchant's Letters to his Son," Mr. George Lorimer has placed many suggestions worthy of our young business men's notice. Here is a sample:

I am anxious that you should be a good scholar, but I am more anxious that you should be a good, clean man. And, if you graduate with a good conscience, I shan't care much if there are a few holes in your Latin.

I can't hand out any ready-made success to you. It would do you no good and it would do

the house harm. There is plenty of room at the top here, but there is no elevator in the building.

I hear a great deal about men who won't take vacations and who kill themselves by overwork, but it is usually worry or whiskey. It is not what a man does during work hours, but after them, that breaks down his health. A fellow and his business should be bosom friends in the office and sworn enemies out of it.

You will always find it a safe rule to take a thing just as quick as it is offered—especially a job. It is never easy to get one except when you don't want it; but when you have to get work and go after it with a gun, you will find it as shy as an old crow that every farmer in the country has shot at.

I want you to learn right at the outset not to play with the spoon before you take the medicine. Putting off an easy thing makes it hard and putting off a hard one makes it impossible.

There is one excuse for every mistake a man can make, but only one. When a fellow makes the same mistake twice, he's got to throw up both hands and own up to carelessness. Of course I knew you would make a fool of yourself pretty often when I sent you to college, and I haven't been disappointed. But I expect you to narrow down the number of combinations possible by making a different kind of fool of yourself every time.

Remember that it's easier to look wise than to talk wisdom. Say less than the other fellow and listen more than you talk; for when a man's listening he isn't telling on himself and he is flattering the fellow who is. Give most men a good listener and most women enough note paper and they'll tell all they know.

Tact is the knack of keeping quiet at the right time, of being so agreeable to yourself that no one can be disagreeable to you,

of making inferiority feel like equality. A tactful man can pull the stinger from a bee without getting stung.

### George Stewart, Savior.

The middle ages have given us the story of Cyd and Sir Philip Sidney, but our modern times show forth every day nobler heroes than they.

There's Engineer Geo. Stewart of the Rio Grande road.

Running through the darkness on the embankment of the Grand river, Engineer Stewart saw a 50 ton rock on the track. He quietly told his fireman to jump, reversed his engine and turned on the sand. He did not budge from his post and went over with his engine.

When they went to pull him out Stewart still had one hand on the throttle and the other was grasping the air brake. Barely alive his first words were:

"Are the passengers saved?"  
He was told that they were safe.

Is my fireman alright?"

At that moment Stewart's side partner, caught under the tender was lying crushed into a jelly, but they told him (would you needless wound a hero in his last gasp of life?) the fireman was safe.

Then, said Engineer Stewart with his last breath, "I have done my duty. I die happy."

And it was a happy death.

Crushed, mangled, bleeding dirty, helpless, George Stewart died on the field of battle. His face was to the foe. He had fallen at the post of honor, the post of duty.

And there are thousands of such brave men in other engine cabs who would willingly do what Stewart did.

Then how can you be a pessimist?—K. C. World.

Prof. T. C. Weir was a pleasant caller Thursday and added his name to The Mail's list. He had just moved his family here from Nolan, naturally falling back to his first love.

## 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.**



# 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  
TOUGHS and  
OLDS

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.

A stubborn father has purchased a lover's alarm clock that works like a charm. At eleven o'clock it strikes loudly, two little doors open and a man with a dressing gown and cap on glides out holding in his hand a card inscribed "Good-night." As he bows and smilingly retires into the clock the young man takes the hint, says "Good night" to the fair daughter and departs.

#### Prohibition Matter.

Local option litigations in Hunt county is in a fair way of being settled, but not to the liking of the people, as the law will probably be knocked out. It seems there is a conflict between the decisions of the supreme court and the court of criminal appeals. The former, on a civil action, held the election to be valid, and the latter, in a criminal action, held it to be invalid. What effect this conflict of decisions will have on the case is not known.

Grimes county joins the long list of dry counties.

The Erath county election will be contested notwithstanding the county went dry by over 1100 votes.

Fannin county stepped into the prohibition column Saturday by a majority of 1,800 votes. Only three of the 31 boxes in the county went against the issue.

Bell and Williamson counties will soon have contests.

Franklin county went dry Saturday.

## Mother's Ear

A WORD IN MOTHER'S EAR: WHEN NURSING AN INFANT, AND IN THE MONTHS THAT COME BEFORE THAT TIME.

### SCOTT'S EMULSION

SUPPLIES THE EXTRA STRENGTH AND NOURISHMENT SO NECESSARY FOR THE HEALTH OF BOTH MOTHER AND CHILD.

Send for free sample.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists,  
400-415 Pearl Street, New York.  
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.

#### 700 Acres in Cotton.

H. P. Wellborn is increasing the size of his farm to a considerable extent this year. When he has finished planting he will have eleven hundred acres in cultivation. He has seven hundred acres in cotton, half of which is in one body. Mr. Wellborn believes in mixed farming and stock raising for this country and that he is meeting with success in that line of business one has only to see his well kept farm and ranch, to be convinced.—Snyder Coming West.

From all reports the oat crop is fine throughout the country and wheat is much better than first estimated.—Anson Western News.

Uncle Geo. Castle, our clever tax assessor informed us that he had made between 350 to 400 renditions this year than ever before, which is very evident that Jones county is becoming more densely populated.—News.

Phonograph entertainment and lecture, genuine concert size outfit, Ferrier Hall, Saturday June 20, 8 p.m. Admission 15c, gentleman and lady 25c.

#### Dora Dots.

News scarce this week.

A nice rain fell at Dora Tuesday.

Crops looking fine. The hum of the binder can be heard from all points of the country now.

G. W. Hawkins went to Merkel Thursday.

I. E. Bryson and Charley Fuller went to Abilene Thursday.

Carroll Lowery of Hill Co., is visiting his sister, Mrs. Richardson.

Preaching Sunday by Rev. Bates of Wingate. Singing at Mr. Elliot's Sunday evening.

Carroll Sanders went to Nolan Sunday.

Bradley Dunlap and Jim Johnson went to Valley Creek Sunday.

Kat Klaw.

Merkel lodge No. 710, A. F. & A. M., will have installation of officers on the night of June 24.

"Who are the people that hold up and advance this great country?" asks the Italy News-Herald, and then answers its own question by saying: "Surely it is not the law-breakers or the stingy fellows. It is the men who identify themselves with the better class, do their part on every proposition and live an open, upright life."

Evangelist Lillian Pool will preach at Rock Crossing Sunday, June 21, at 11 o'clock.

Mrs. Geo. L. Paxton of Abilene is visiting her brother, J. T. Warren, and family.

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.

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

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

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts	\$121,784.09
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	1,965.59
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	15,600.00
Premium on U. S. Bonds	956.25
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	6,000.00
Other real estate owned	1,200.00
Due from Natl Banks (not reserve agts)	449.37
Due from State Banks and Bankers	5,117.59
Due from approved reserve agents	12,065.27
Notes of other National Banks	237.00
Frac. paper currency, nickles & cents	9.12
LAWFUL MONEY RESERVE IN BANK, VIZ	
Specie	2,551.50
Legal-tender notes	2,000.00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer	750.00
(5 per cent of circulation)	750.00
TOTAL	\$170,115.78

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus fund	10,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	4,58.68
National Bank notes outstanding	15,000.00
Due to other National Banks	5,000.00
Individual deposits subject to check	47,757.10
Time certificates of deposit	3,000.00
Notes and bills rediscounted	28,500.00
Bills payable, including certificates of deposit for money borrowed	6,000.00
TOTAL	\$170,115.78

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 12 day of June, 1903.  
W. W. WHEELER,  
Notary Public.  
CORRECT—Attest: Taylor Co., Texas.  
J. T. WARREN, }  
J. O. HAMILTON, } Directors  
G. F. WEST. }

The Mail gives all the news.

## OUR GROWTH!

is a source of satisfaction to the management.

CAPITAL, \$15,000  
PROFITS, 5,000

Our methods of business are meeting with popular approval.

Warnick's Bank,  
Merkel, Texas,

#### His Last Hope Realized.

(From the Sentinel, Gebo, 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.

Miss Valley Hill is visiting in Buffalo Gap.

H. C. Williams, Mesdames Leeman and Mann and Misses Freeman and Jennings attended as delegates the League Conference at Abilene this week.

Mesdames Burroughs and Warnick visited in Abilene Monday.

#### "Did You Ever?"

Our regular \$3 Cabinet Photos at 99c per doz. for the next few days. Remember that this is strictly the highest grade work made anywhere and generally goes at \$4 per doz. Best work on best Platino paper on best cards. Come and see for yourself.

All work absolutely guaranteed by a home man.  
Barnhill's Photo Gallery.

#### Mass Meeting.

All citizens of Merkel, who are interested in a cleaner town, are invited and urged to be at the Tabernacle Monday evening promptly at 8:30 o'clock. Needed and urgent business to transact which is of importance to every citizen of the town.

Don't forget the time and place, and be on hand at the meeting.

The trustees of Merkel Tabernacle would be pleased to receive bids for privilege of selling refreshments on the ground at old soldiers' reunion picnic June 27.

Bids close at noon June 22.

All bids must be sealed and either mailed to Tabernacle trustees or the undersigned.

Jos. H. Warnick, Treas.

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

#### Barbecue at Abilene.

On June 25, a big barbecue will be given at Abilene for which immense preparations are being made in way of amusements and entertainments. Many beeves have been slaughtered, great stacks of food of various kinds have been purchased, and the occasion promises to be the biggest thing of its kind ever held in this section.

Among the attractions will be the following:

Public speaking by Gov. Hogg and other noted men. Masonic installation and ceremonies incident to the laying of the corner stone of "Anna Hall" at Simmons College. Base ball games between several teams.

Merkel people and the people of the Merkel country are especially urged to attend. There will be food in abundance for all.

A cloudburst at Heppner, Oregon, followed by a flood, Sunday, washed away the town, and 500 people were drowned.

Miss Lucy Leeman is visiting in Abilene today.

Judge Miller was visiting in Abilene yesterday.

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 I 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.

#### Reunion and Picnic.

Merkel Camp No. 79, U. C. V., in session assembled, unanimously decided on a picnic to be held at the Tabernacle on June 27, to commence at 10 a. m., to which all citizens and soldiers, regardless of which army they were in, are cordially invited to be present and take a part, and all are respectfully solicited to bring full dinner baskets, as this is designed to be an old-fashioned occasion in which all may participate and enjoy.

A. A. Baker, Capt.  
J. A. Leeman, Adjt.

#### PROGRAM.

- 1.—Instrumental and vocal music.
- 2.—Invocation—J. J. Miller.
- 3.—Speech—J. P. Copeland.
- 4.—Instrumental music.
- 5.—Music.
- 6.—Recitation—Miss Lucy Leeman.
- 7.—Music.
- 8.—Essay—Miss Annie King.
- 9.—Music.
- 10.—Speech—J. T. Tucker.
- 11.—Music.
- 12.—Speech—Mr. Corning.
- 13.—Music.
- 14.—Volunteer speeches.
- 15.—Music.
- 16.—Invocation—T. N. Lowery.

#### In Fisher County.

Roby Banner.

Jim Morrow, who was arrested last week on a charge of slander, has been released by Sheriff Visser, having given bond in the sum of \$500.

The first cotton squares was reported by W. F. Finch of the Avalon community. Now that the rain has come we look for a bumper cotton crop, and the prospects are good for high prices.

The Banner man's oat crop is about ready to harvest, and we are going to have trouble. Our land is so rich that it pushed the oat heads out before they had time to boot, hardly time to slipper.

The material for the construction of the large iron bridge across Cottonwood creek one mile east of town, is on the ground and we presume work will begin immediately as it is to be completed by the 20th day of July.

W. J. Tomlinson was in from his farm in the Pledger country Friday. Mr. Tomlinson is going pretty heavy on the cotton crop this year, having about 190 acres planted, and says he never had better prospects for a crop at this time of year than he has now.

F. H. Parker has completed making up his report of Roby's school census recently taken by him, by order of the board, and reports 95 male children and 92 female children within the scholastic age in Roby Independent School District, a total of 187, an increase of 23 over that of last year.

# 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 District Epworth League Sunday School convention is in session at Abilene.

A series of divine services will commence at the Cumberland Presbyterian church on Saturday, August 28, which are designed to embrace the second and third Sabbaths. Everybody cordially and fraternally invited to attend and participate in these meetings.

A. A. Baker, Pastor.

A fine boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Pee the 14th inst.

#### Card of Thanks.

Editor Merkel Mail:

To the kind and noble hearted of your town, who have been so faithful in the illness of my sister, Mrs. W. N. M. Grimmet, I, with Bro. Grimmet and children, desire to return our sincere thanks and ask an interest in their prayers.

Mrs. E. L. Cogdell,  
Mineral Wells, Texas.

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

A cold storage is the latest institution(?) to be established in Merkel—we learn. It won't last long, we opine.

#### 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.

DRY GOODS AT WHOLESALE 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.

#### A Good Showing.

Agent McCord informs The Mail that his balance sheet for the month of May foots up a total of \$4,280. This means the receipts for the freight handled and the tickets sold by him, but fully nine-tenths of the amount is freight receipts only. He also informs us that the receipts of this month will exceed those of last month fully \$1,500, the amount up to Sunday being about \$3,000.

Over \$4,000 paid out in Merkel every month in freight rates! That is a good showing and speaks well for the town as a business center.

Mrs. M. A. Burroughs left Friday morning for Arlington to visit her daughter, Mrs. Lawrence. It is hoped that the change will be beneficial to her, and that she will be restored to her usual wonted health.

The commissioners' court will convene as a board of equalization on June 22nd at the court house in Abilene, at which time and place all persons so desiring may appear and contest the assessed valuation of their property.

#### 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.

#### In the Social Whirl.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Berry entertained Friday evening complimentary to the Misses Nabors of Cameron, who are the guests of their aunt, Mrs. T. J. Coggin. The amenities of the evening were dispensed with music and conversation. Refreshments were served, and the guests in viva voce pronounced the occasion one of intense enjoyment.

Mr. and Mrs. Roberts of Nugent have issued invitations for a "home party" at an early date. Quite a number of Merkel people have received invitations. The amusements will consist of riding, hunting, fishing and indoor sports. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts have the reputation of being royal entertainers, and the occasion will no doubt prove a very pleasant one.

The Abilene Summer Normal begins June 25th.

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.

Will Berry of Sweetwater stopped off in the city Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dickson returned from Dallas Thursday.

Mrs. Collings and daughter, Miss Dora, who has been visiting relatives here, returned Friday to their home at Pecos.

H. L. Fife, representing the Chemical Fire Extinguishers, who has been in town several days, has sold several of his 5 gallon machines.

He will return Friday or Saturday and will give a fire test at 8 p. m., and after the fire, a meeting of the fire boys and citizens will be called.

J. C. Copeland favored The Mail with a visit last press day and shoved his subscription figures forward.

Will Hamilton came in Thursday from Austin where he attended State University. Will graduated with high honors from the law department, and we feel sure, has the making of a successful lawyer in him. He deserves success at any rate. The Mail hopes he will reach the top-most rung in his profession.

A nice lot of men's hats just received and will be sold away down same as all other goods handled :- :-

## THE RACKET STORE.



# 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 place 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.

The Colorado Clipper has adopted the Baird Star's tactics in misrepresenting The Mail on the local option question. It says: "The Merkel man figures it out that prohibition must be a mighty good thing for Colorado at a distance." Now, as a matter of fact, we did not make any claim at all in reference to the good or injury which local option has worked for Colorado. We merely gave an outline of statements made by the Clipper and Spokesman, and added this postscript: "Perhaps the Spokesman more nearly voices the sentiments of the people, hence enjoys the patronage which the Clipper claims to have lost." By this it was meant that the Spokesman more nearly voices the sentiments of the people on the local option question, not as to the good or evil resulting therefrom. The Clipper well knows that there be people in every town who will withdraw their patronage from the paper that "goes agin" their belief. They are in Merkel, they are in Colorado, and they are in every other town. The truth of the matter is, The Mail has never claimed that prohibition increases the business of a town or aids it in any way except morally. As the Clipper was an avowed enemy to prohibition, it is but natural to suppose that it made enemies during the campaign, and must have lost some patronage. Furthermore, Colorado may have lost some business through the adoption of prohibition—certainly we have never disputed this oft-repeated assertion by the Clipper. The Mail started this agitation, but it does not propose to submit to gross misrepresentations, and in all fairness the Clipper should learn to digest good English before heaping its vials of wrath upon the head of a contemporary who feels to differ with it.

## STOLE HIS LAURELS.

In speaking of a Grayson county editor's experience of making a hot fight for prohibition and after the battle is over seeing the fellows who "sicked" him on most turn a "cold shoulder" to him, or give him "the marble heart" as it were, the editor of the Merkel Mail makes the following announcement anent the fight here in Taylor county: "This editor has lost none of his faith in local option, though he will fight shy of future contests. It was ever thus. The fellow who is entitled to the laurels must play the second fiddler. And he is left with an empty bag as a souvenir."

The News is a friend to Editor Leeman and, of course, regrets very much that some one stole his laurels, but it seems to the News that the Maileditor's

consciousness of having done his whole duty in a fight against the greatest evil of the age should make up in a measure for the loss of his laurels, also for any financial loss sustained in the fight, even though a clear conscience doesn't pass as cash with the grocer or wholesale paper house. —Taylor County News.

The Mail appreciates the compliments paid by its esteemed contemporary, but begs to plead "not guilty" to the charge of "it might have been." We have no regrets. The stand taken on the question was not a "spontaneous burst of enthusiasm," and we expected nothing out of it, hence were not disappointed. The News fell into the error, perhaps, without stopping to think that the article being in a single paragraph applied only to the thing under discussion, namely: the Grayson County paper.

## THE INJUNCTION CRAZE.

There are many ludicrous sides to this injunction business, and the counts in the ground for contest usually show a preponderance of evidence on the side of the contestants. However, the following sample from the Orange contest papers filed by the saloons, is entitled to the whole bakery:

"The election was illegal because many men who would have voted against prohibition were deterred from doing so by reason of the fact that prayer meetings were held in the churches on election day, church bells were tolled, ladies congregated around the polls and importuned voters to cast their votes for prohibition; that children marched on the streets singing songs and carrying banners; that the election should be declared void because George W. Carroll, a wealthy citizen of Beaumont, in a signed statement agreed to bear the expense of any increased taxation caused by the adoption of prohibition."

The board of pardons, in the case of Milton Young of Tarrant county, who was pardoned last week, shows a spirit of commendable justness and fairness. Young had shot to death one Oldfield, a school teacher, for debauching and seducing his 12-year old sister, and the official document granting a pardon to him concludes with the remarkable language: "The deceased had been on intimate terms with the family of the applicant, and that of his father, and such base and brutal betrayal of confidence and friendship deserved death at the hands of the applicant."

This expression emanated from Gov. Lanham and it is a remarkable one. It has always been the unwritten law in Texas that a seducer deserves death at the hands of relatives of the wronged, but such an utterance by the chief executive, while generally commended, is considered out of the ordinary.

The Texas Christian Advocate hits the nail on the head when it says: "Preachers ought to be very sparing of the abuse of people from the pulpit. It is a poor substitute for preaching and its tendency is to alienate rather, than draw people to you." Abuse from the pulpit is just as bad as abuse from the street corners.

Methodists are getting ready to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birthday of John Wesley, June 17th. The great founder of Methodism was born

at Epworth, England, two centuries ago. The adherents of Methodism now number 28,000,000, and all around the world bi-centenary services will be held.

Human nature is human nature, in the north or in the south. When a crime is committed that is sufficiently revolting to call for summary vengeance, the people, regardless as to where they live, will forthwith issue general invitations to a necktie party.

A paradox: Irish potatoes are being shipped in carload lots from Ham, Texas.

This should be a year of hog and hominy.

## List of Subscribers of Merkel Telephone Exchange.

Alsobrook, Mrs B S res.....	87
Adkisson, Dr J A res.....	17
" " office.....	43
Allen, I S res.....	40
Bank, First National.....	66
Bank, Warnick's.....	18
Berry, Geo S res.....	84
Browning, W P res.....	77
" & Co furniture.....	68
Burroughs & Mann drugs.....	59
Burton-Lingo Co lumber.....	60
Bruce, T D res.....	9
Bigam, W R res.....	47
Barnhill, W A res.....	98
Clay, W L res.....	37
Coats, E D res.....	42
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Chenault & Hand grocers.....	56
Coggin, T J res.....	64
Comegys, G E.....	51
Davis, C E res.....	85
Davis, C E Pool hall.....	62
Dickson, W H hardware.....	53
" " residence.....	49
Dennis Bros grocery.....	33
Depot, T & P.....	2
Elliott, John res.....	50
Elliott & Miller shop.....	55
Grimmett, W N M res.....	63
Hughes & Co livery.....	4
Hamm, J C res.....	36
" " lumber.....	45
" Frank res.....	81
Hoople, Frank res.....	49
Hamilton, J O store.....	31
Hughes, J H res.....	10
Hotel, Alsobrook.....	1
" South Side.....	93
Harris, Alex res.....	21
Hutcheson, C R res.....	24
" store.....	86
Johnson, T A res.....	26
King, Dr J H C res.....	41
" Dr J H C office.....	59
Largent, C M ranch.....	67
Leeman, Dr J A res.....	70
" " office.....	59
" Ed J res.....	27
Little, Dr J W res.....	58
" " office.....	76
McGuffin, F P res.....	65
Martin & Hill store.....	46
Miller, R A res.....	19
Mann, J L res.....	35
McCord, W H res.....	11
MERKEL MAIL.....	57
Maxwell & Son store.....	25
Norris, J M res.....	22
Pittard, J K res.....	15
Rust, Dr E M res.....	78
" " office.....	43
Rust & Pittard drugs.....	43
Star Store.....	69
Sheppard & Hoople mar.....	52
Sharp & Co store.....	44
Senter, D M res.....	34
Thurmond, W P res.....	5
Warnick, Dr J H res.....	48
" " office.....	18
Warren, J T res.....	29
" " store.....	54
" C P ranch.....	23
West, G F res.....	6
" " hardware-grocery.....	72
Williamson's restaurant.....	32
Williams, H C res.....	12
Watkins & Son market.....	61
Watkins, J C sec-hand store.....	74
Woodard, J A livery stable.....	80
Watkins, J C res.....	89
Young, R B res.....	39

# 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.

When an officer of the government is caught stealing he is charged with being "irregular" in his duties. Strange, isn't it?

Roosevelt and trust rule is the basis for harmony among Ohio republicans.

Springtime, Gentle Annie, is still wearing her winter raiment.

### Kissing Not Dangerous.

The Stillwater Advance refers to the alleged danger of kissing and denounces it as an unmitigated slander on the women. "There can be no more danger in kissing a beautiful woman," says the paper, "than in kissing the sunlight or a new blown rose, and for the purpose of demonstrating our position we stand ready to kiss any white woman (who does not wear store teeth) from Cape Cod to Kalamazoo. We are not afraid of this diabolical kissing microbe; and the man who would recommend the abolition of the health-giving kiss is fit only for treason, stratagem and spoils and is clearly unconstitutional and should be abolished himself."

### The Three First Questions.

J. T. Warren has advertised recently in various weekly papers offering a section of his land for sale. Naturally, he has received many letters of inquiry in regard to it, coming from all parts of the State, and among the first questions asked are these three:

Is it near a good school?

Is it near a church?

Is your town "dry"?

And yet in every community you will find people who argue that a good school is not a prime factor in the growth and development of a community, and that a school tax is a detriment to the settlement of the country!

And there are others who claim that when you drive out whiskey you also drive out trade, and business, and all those enterprises that foster and build up a town!

If the time ever comes when Merkel people must choose between a "dead" town and higher education, and a "live" town and drunkenness, debauchery and ignorance, there can be but one choice—let the town go to the demnition bow-wows.

The Old Reliable

# Mitchell Wagon

Has been on the market for over

65--SIXTY-FIVE YEARS--65

More MITCHELLS in West Texas to-day than any other make. The almost perfect satisfaction they've given explains why. ∴ ∴ ∴

GET THE MITCHELL WAGON.

It is the Best.

The Best is Cheapest.

# 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.

Commissioner W. W. Wheeler was in from Merkel today and reports a cold storage opening up in that town.—Reporter.

Yes, it is here, but in very feeble health. Nine-tenths of the people of Merkel will watch over it carefully, and upon the very first appearance of alarming symptoms will administer a soothing narcotic. The Reporter should be charitable and keep us posted on Abilene's weakness in this direction.

The spirit of music, like an archangel, presides over mankind and the visible creation. Her afflatus divinely sweet, divinely powerful, is breathed on every soul to some nobler sentiment, some higher thought, some greater action. Oh music sweetest, sublimest ideal of Omniscience, first born of God, fairest and loftiest Seraph of the celestial hierarchy, Muse of the beautiful, daughter of the Universe! In the morning of eternity when the stars were young, her first grand oratorio burst upon enraptured Diety, and thrilled the wondering angels; all heaven shouted; ten thousand times ten thousand angels' tongues caught up the song; and ever since, through all the golden cycles, its breathing melodies, old as eternity, but ever new as the flitting hours, have floated on the air of

heaven. The Seraph stood with outstretched wings, on the horizon of heaven—clothed in light, ablaze with gems, and with voice attuned swept her burning harp strings, and lo! the blue infinite thrilled her sweetest note. The trembling stars heard it, and flashed their joy from every flaming center. The wheeling orbs that course their paths of light were vibrant with the strain, and pealed it back into the ears of God, the far-off milky way, the bright gulf-stream of astral glories, spanning the ethereal deep, resounded with its harmonies, and the star dust isles floating in that river of opal, re-echoed the happy chorus from every sparkling strand.—Bob Taylor.

### Education.

Man is here to be educated.

**THEDFORD'S**  
**BLACK-DRAUGHT**  
**THE ORIGINAL**  
**LIVER MEDICINE**

A sallow complexion, dizziness, biliousness and a coated tongue are common indications of liver and kidney diseases. Stomach and bowel troubles, severe as they are, give immediate warning by pain, but liver and kidney troubles, though less painful at the start, are much harder to cure. Thedford's Black-Draught never fails to benefit diseased liver and weakened kidneys. It stirs up the torpid liver to throw off the germs of fever and ague. It is a certain preventive of cholera and Bright's disease of the kidneys. With kidneys reinforced by Thedford's Black-Draught thousands of persons have dwelt immune in the midst of yellow fever. Many families live in perfect health and have no other doctor than Thedford's Black-Draught. It is always on hand for use in an emergency and saves many expensive calls of a doctor.

Mullins, S. C., March 10, 1901.  
 I have used Thedford's Black-Draught for three years and I have not had to go to a doctor since I have been taking it. It is the best medicine for me that is on the market for liver and kidney troubles and dyspepsia and other complaints. Rev. A. G. LEWIS.

The world is a schoolroom. Nature is a book. Life is a term at school.

Adam was put to school before he was a day old. Eve learned the wrong lesson very early in life. Before books were written or letters invented man was at school.

The thorn teaches a lesson.  
 The sunset delivers a lecture.  
 The sunrise chants a poem.  
 The ocean in its sullen roar suggests to us its foreign shore.  
 The stars discourse music.  
 Forever singing as they shine.  
 The hand that made us is divine.

Every human being is undergoing a process of education. Experience is the head master of the best school. We all go to him. We cannot escape from his schoolroom; it is as wide as the world. It is a dear school, but says Poor Richard fools will learn in no other. This great teacher has a way of his own. He gives you no advice nor delivers any lectures. He makes no promises; he expects none. He leaves you to choose your own books and to choose your lesson. If you go right, he smiles; if you go wrong, he smites. He believes in corporal punishment. He gives you a blow for a blunder; cudgels you for every mistake.

Experience teaches nothing by the abstract method; everything is in the concrete. To teach you the meaning of a pit, he throws you into one. He teaches the nature of poison by the rattlesnake's bite. To give you some idea of electricity, he knocks you down with a stroke of lightning.—Roswell Record.

J. T. Ellis, once a Methodist preacher, who came here with consumption died Sunday at the home of Mrs. Thorns. He was sick a long time.—Reporter.

This is probably the Ellis who formerly lived here, and who is well known to many of our people, although it is the first intelligence of his death received that we know of. His life's his-

tory would afford interesting reading, if sensational family episodes count for nought. The Mail regrets to hear of his death. He was more sinned against than sinning. Requiescat in pace!

Rev. E. L. Armstrong, presiding elder in this district quite a while, is reported in a dangerous condition at Corsicana. He has been bed-ridden ever since he left Abilene about eight years ago. His malady is locomotor ataxia. He has written considerably for the Methodist papers since his confinement to his room. Many friends in Abilene and all over the country sympathize with him in his affliction which has been unusually severe in length.—Reporter.

### Ignorant Know-Alls.

Did you ever notice that the childless wife and husband are the first to tell how to raise children; that the farmer knows how to make law, and the lawyer knows how to farm; that the teacher becomes the student, and the student the teacher; that the railroad man is an economist and the economist an engineer; that the fool is a wise man and the wise man a fool? If you have never noticed these little things watch your every day surroundings for a few days and see if it is not true.—Bryan Eagle.

### The Gambling Evil.

Terrell Transcript.  
 The gambling evil is attracting the attention of the good citizens all over the state. In many places grand juries have been instructed to rigidly investigate and surpress it, while judges have deemed it wise to publicly denounce through the press its baneful effects. Perhaps none of the so-called minor offences are responsible for greater distress. The desire to get something for nothing, when once firmly established, leads to a life utterly unproductive and worthless. The gambling influence is always bad. His profession is a running sore on his social body.

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 a 1d 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 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. 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 & Hoople,  
**BUTCHERS**  
 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.



# 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.

A Texas hog raiser writes: "Many farmers have the mistaken idea that it is necessary to engage largely in the swine raising industry in order to make the business pay. In view of the increasing demand for porkers and the high prices paid for hogs at the markets of the southwest, it would seem no extended argument in support of the contention that the industry can be profitably conducted even on a small scale would be necessary. A farmer with a pasture of limited size and only a small amount of available feed does not need to keep too many hogs. If a few well bred animals are kept and given proper care they will yield as large returns as twice the number neglected. A decade ago it would have been a difficult matter to make any one believe that a 7 months old pig could be made to weigh 150 pounds, and this result could not have been brought about by raising nondescript types then so common. Good breeding and careful feeding two or three times a day form a combination that would be hard to improve upon. There is money in hogs under the present conditions, even when indifferently cared for, and the industry should yield infinitely larger returns when intelligently conducted."

Good butter always finds a ready sale at a profitable price. Quality, not quantity is what counts.

About 60,000 cow hides have passed through the hands of the Amarillo hide dealers since the first of January. They have

been shipped in from all parts of the Panhandle country, and practically represent the cattle losses during the winter.

Wealthy people are the only ones who can afford to keep poor cows and they usually object to doing so.

Instead of planting cotton only for a sale crop year after year, it would be better sometimes to plant a large crop of Irish potatoes, or sweet potatoes, for there may be a great deal of more profit in these than in cotton. The writer knows a small farmer with forty acres under fence, who left cotton off his list one year and planted eight acres of sweet potatoes, and his neighbors wondered at his folly. During the month of November he sold 1700 bushels of potatoes to a wholesale dealer at 75 cents per bushel, cash—about eight times as much as he would have received from the same ground planted in cotton. The next year he planted six acres in Irish potatoes, and sold the crop for more than he received for the sweets. This farmer kept posted on demand and supply, and when he thought that any of the common farm products would bring a good price in its season he tried it for a money crop. His conclusions were generally correct, or he was a most successful guesser. At any rate he was a most successful farmer.

Kaffir has become a very popular crop in the West and especially in the Southwest, where its value as a feed crop and its drouth resisting powers make it

especially valuable. The varieties in common use are the red and the white.

In salting butter do not salt it to suit your own taste. Be satisfied if it pleases the purchaser's palate. Make him want your butter so bad that he will part with 25 or 30 cents for every pound you send him. Much depends upon the salting of the butter. Very soft butter should be highly salted to cover its many defects. Salt like charity hides a multitude of shortcomings.

It is quite as necessary to know when to plow as how to plow. Many Texas farmers are now struggling with their refractory clods because they refused to wait a day or two longer for the ground to dry out to a condition that would make good work possible. They were in a hurry to plant, being already belated, so they planted in badly prepared land, and many had to plant a second time, thus losing a week in the attempt to save a single day.

The prospects for a big crop of cotton this year seems rather cloudy at present. Cotton is late; in many fields the stand is defective, and it is late to remedy the defect; the soil over considerable areas in the best cotton growing sections of the state is in bad condition on account of the incessant rains of February and March and subsequent plowing while the soil was still to wet. Then we have the boll weevil to reckon with, though this is an unknown quantity. The summer and fall weather may influence the yield materially, but on this feature of the case no safe predictions can be made. At least we have the statistical fact that a small cotton crop sells for more money than a large one.

#### A Good "Angel" in Jail.

Millionaire Herbert S. Mills, a convict for a year in the Cook county jail, Chicago, for illegal use of the mails, has spent \$120,000 during his incarceration in making the prison less forbidding in aspect, giving "lifts" to men released and alleviating the wants of fellow convicts' families.

The remarkable thing about this benevolence is, not that a rich convict should be willing to furnish the money, but that prison authorities should permit anything which suggests enjoyment in a punitive institution. Almost as much credit is due to Jailer John L. Whitman, who consented to and helped on the work, as is given to the convict who paid for it all.

Over the barren prison interior was thrown a magic spell of beauty and comfort. Convicts who were skilled painters were put to work at Mill's expense decorating the walls and ceiling of the corridors in bright colors, the bare chapel was transformed into a cushioned, curtained oratory, the recreation room was provided with a piano, the long corridors become floral alleyways. The brightness and cheerfulness of it all was reflected in the faces of the convicts.

Men leaving the jail, with the prison stain upon their names and its gloom in their hearts, were given letters by Mills to his friends in business, and in nearly every instance immediate employment was secured. Toward the last Mill's mail had grown heavy with letters from ex-convicts whom he had helped to an honest life.

It was a strange way to spend

## 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 VERMIFUGE!

For 20 Years Has Led all Worm Remedies. EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED. SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS. Prepared by JAMES F. BALLARD, St. Louis.

For Sale by BURROUGHS & MANN,

Merkel, Tex.

one's time in prison. But, even had Mills derived no compensation pleasure from the cheer he spread abroad like sunshine, the relief of jail idleness must have been a material reward, for the man who has acquired more than a million dollars in business and is still in his prime has habits of restless industry that will not permit him to sit still and brood darkly over his troubles. He must be doing something or go mad.

Mill's wisely directed activity, his enthusiasm in turning one of the most cheerless places in the world into a place of beauty and comfort, only illustrates once more the fact that a man's success in anything he undertakes lies largely within himself and that environment the most discouraging is a secondary matter. —Kansas City World.

#### Govern The Tongue.

It is your tongue, it belongs to you, and it is the only one for which you are responsible. Your neighbors' tongue may need care also, but that is their business; this is yours. See that it is properly attended to. Watch your tongue; it needs watching. It "is a fire"—watch it. It is a helm which guides the vessel;

let the helmsman keep wide-awake, It can bless or it can curse; it can poison or it can heal; it can pierce hearts and blight hopes; it can grow discord and separate chief friends. That tongue has already got you into trouble; it is "set on fire of hell." It burns up peace, blessing, reputation and hope. It causes sad days, weary nights, tearful eyes and heavy hearts. "If a man will love life and see good days let him retain his tongue from evil and his lips that they speak no guile."—Rosenberg Silver X-Ray.

#### 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.

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

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



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