

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIV.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JULY 30, 1903.

NO. 23.

The Result in Hunt County.

Altogether the most remarkable result of a local option election ever held in Texas was the footing of the votes cast in Hunt County last Saturday.

It will be remembered that in May 1902 local option carried in Hunt County, went into effect and was in operation about a year, when the court of criminal appeals knocked out the law on the technical ground of failure to tack up a notice of election.

Following this decision the saloons opened up over the county and did business as of yore.

As promptly as possible a petition was filed asking a new election and the court set Saturday July 18, and it is with the result of that date that we have now to do. At the election held in May 1902 the Pros. carried the county by 148 majority. At the election held July 18, 1903, the Pros. carried the county by near 2000. At the election held in May 1902 the combined vote of the four boxes of the city of Greenville gave the Antis 714 majority. At the election held July 18, 1903, the combined votes of the same boxes gave pro majority of 257.

Here is a county that within the space of little more than one year had two sieges of open saloons and one spell of local option. The voters were therefore in position to judge between the two—and that judgment! It shows that folks you know, vote pro. Think about the change in the city of Greenville? You'll have to figure on that some time to catch the full significance of its meaning. It shows that actual experience demonstrated to the voters of Greenville that all the specious arguments of the Antis were only delusions—that the red hot calamities which were going to gobble up all business enterprises and swamp both the city and country governments under local option failed to materialize. It shows also that the people who saw the local option program in force one time and the open saloon program in force two times during one short year put the stamp of an everlasting disapproval on the open saloon.

This result in Hunt is the most valuable contribution yet made to the pro side of the question at issue. It bears this distinction because it came of actual knowledge of conditions prevalent under local option, compared with conditions prevalent under the open saloon.—Bonham Favorite.

Geronimo Baptized.

Lawton, O. T., July 17.—Bent and broken from the toils of many a chase, bowed 'neath recollections of many a bloody crime, humiliated by chastising imprisonment in the soldiers' reserve, old Geronimo, the warrior of the plains, the human tiger of the forest, the old time terror of the great, broad west, the grim Apache brave whose ghastly form paraded in the wild dreams of a thousand expectant frontiersmen in; the treacherous days of yore; Geronimo, of whom the wide world has known and talked, upon whom millions have gazed and turned away to recall his great calendar of crimes—Geronimo has become a christian.

Last Sunday morning in the tabernacle on Medicine, at Law-

ton, O. T., with the Comanches sitting upon the ground on the one side and the Apaches on the other, each tribe with its interpreter standing in the fore-ground repeating the message of the pale face, a preacher stood and told of the wonderful story of love, of Christ who died for the sins of the world, of how the Indian could have a full and free salvation and pass through death to the real happy hunting grounds of the skies.

The sermon closed, an invitation was given for sinful men to repent. Geronimo and a dozen of his braves came forward and told their interpreter of how they had come to love the Christ and asked to be received into the church. At 2 o'clock the same day, in the midst of a multitude people, the minister sprinkled the clear water over the old chief's head and repeated "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost," and Geronimo became a Methodist.

A State of Mind.

In the State of Mass.
There lives a lass
I love to go N.C.,
No other Miss
Can e'er I Wis.,
Be half as dear to Me.

R.I. is blue
And her cheeks the hue
Of shells where waters swash;
On her pinkwhite phiz
There Nev. Ariz.

The least complexion Wash.
La! could I win
The heart of Minn.,
I'd ask for nothing more,
But I only dream
Upon the theme
And Conn. it o'er and Ore.

Why is it, pray,
I can't Ala
This love that makes me ill?
N. Y., O., Wy.
Kan. Nev. Ver. I
Propose to her my will?

I shun the task
'Twould be to ask
This gentle maid to wed;
And so, to press
My suit, I guess
Alaska Pa. instead.

—Unidentified.

The Fight For Little Round Top of Gettysburg.

The fiercest struggle is now for the possession of Little Round Top. Standing in its rugged summit like a lone sentinel is seen an erect but slender form clad in the uniform of a Union officer. It is Warren, Meade's chief of engineers. With practiced eye he sees at a glance that quickly seized, that rock-ribbed hill would prove a Gibraltar amidst the whirling currents of the battle, resisting its heaviest shocks. Staff and couriers are summoned, who swiftly bears his messages to the Union leaders. Veterans from Hancock, and Sykes respond at a "double-quick." Around its base, along its sides, and away toward the Union right, with the forces of Sickles and Hancock, the gray veterans of Longstreet are in herculean wrestle. Barksdale's Mississippians seize a Union battery and rush on. The Union lines under Humphries break through a Confederate gap and sweep around Barksdale's left. Wright's Georgians and Perry's Floridians are hurled against

Humphries and break him in turn. Amidst the smoke and fury, Sickles, with thigh-bone shattered, sickens and falls from his saddle into the arms of his soldiers. Sixty per cent of Hancock's veterans go down with his gallant Brigadiers Willard, Zook, Cross and Brook. The impetuous Confederate leaders, Barksdale and Semmes, fall and die. but their places are quickly assumed by the next in command. The Union forces of Vincent and Weed, with Hazlett's Artillery, have reached the summit, but all three are killed. The apex of Little Round Top is the point of deadliest struggle. The day ends, and thus ends the battle. As the last rays of the setting sun fell upon the summit, they are reflected from the batteries and bayonets of the Union soldiers still upon it, with the bleeding Confederates struggling to possess it. The embattled hosts sleep upon their arms. The stars looked down at night upon a harrowing scene of pale faces all over the field, and of sufferers in the hospitals behind the lines—an army of dead and wounded numbering over 20,000.—From "Gettysburg," by Gen. John B. Gordon, in Scribner's.

Put Honor in His Work.

Out of the great Kansas City flood comes an advertisement that contains a moral as big as life.

There were 19 bridges spanning the Kansas river at Kansas City. Some of them were modern, some of them were not of much account.

When the waters receded just one bridge was standing. It was assailed by a raging torrent, it was shocked by tons of drift and debris; the swirling water dug at its abutments, but it defied all and stood the test.

There was a lot of honor put into that bridge. The architect put it into his work. He couldn't foresee the flood, but he planned for what might happen, and planned well. The men who forged the steel rods and the men who drove the rivets put integrity into their work; the builder of the foundations was honest at every stage of his contract.

And that explains now why the Missouri Pacific bridge still spanned the Kansas river when the flood had passed by.

This mixing honor in trade doesn't always bring big profits on the jump. It is seldom a matter of great dividends in any one year or any one contract, but It Does Pay In The Long Run. It pays whether you are building steel bridges or making shoes. It keeps the shop open through hard times. It means steady business.

If you were in need of a steel bridge you would hunt up the builder and makers of the structure that defied the flood and give them the contract. That would be a natural proceeding.

"Honor Bright" is a fine trade mark.—Ex.

Brain Leaks.

True charity entails sacrifice. Despair flees when Hope walks in.

Envy is the full measure of small minds. >

If the home is right the boy is

very apt to be.

The easiest way to do a thing is usually the worst.

A cheap politician is a dear investment for the people.

Giving the Lord lip service is adding to Satan's ammunition.

You can get very little good out of life until you put some in it.

Our children are mischievous; other's children are simply mean.

Our eccentricities are signs of boorishness when exhibited by others.

The man who waits for the last laugh often has to take it out in weeping.

Some business men take their troubles home with them, and their joys down town.

Some men emulate the foolishness of Solomon and imagine themselves to be as wise.

Pessimism consists in diligently searching for something you are afraid you will find.

We know of some singers who persist in cultivating voices that should be harvested.

"Cast your burdens on the Lord" does not mean that you are not to carry your joys to him, too.

Don't Hurry.

"For those who want to work well there is time," was the keynote of a short address Senator Hoar gave the boys of the Armour Institute of Technology, of Chicago, recently.

For those who aim high there is time for thoroughness, time to place excellency above speed. Remember that there is something more to live for than money. Turn from the race after the world's goods, the mad fight for greed, to the love of the higher. You may devote yourself to the practical arts but remember that there is something nobler in human life. Do not neglect the spiritual side. A man may be ever so rich and ever so skillful, but he does ill who forgets tastes and affections.

I advise you to read some author every day. Read him so

well, soak yourself so thoroughly with him, bathe in his wisdom so often, that you will emerge from him as from a sparkling fountain of purity. Whom shall you read? There is little need for the lengthy discussions on that point, for our tongue is too rich in its singers. Read Wadsworth, sit at the feet of Emerson, or drink at the fountain of Milton, and you will have added to your knowledge of the practical arts the inspiration that helps develop the spiritual side. Never put your name to any business contract unless it is a certificate of excellence that is true and thorough.

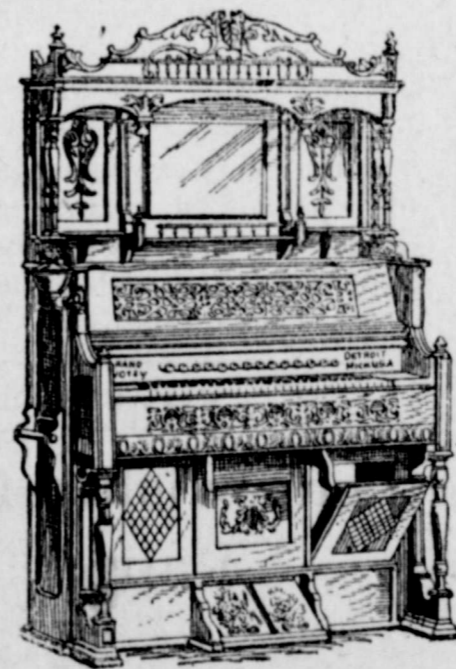
The Negro in Georgia.

The attention of those hysterical individuals who assert that the negro is not well treated in the south is invited to the action of the Georgia legislature, which has just defeated a bill having for its object the separation of the school fund of the state in such a way that only money derived from taxes paid by negroes would be available for the support and maintenance of negro schools.

The negroes pay an infinitely small portion of the tax and had the bill in question passed the schools for colored children would have been closed. The vote on the measure was 230 against and 59 for.—Houston Post.

The Flournoy Case.

The trial of this case, wherein George Flournoy was placed on trial charged with killing Jim Owens, was begun on Monday and was turned over to the jury Wednesday. The jury being unable to agree upon a verdict, were discharged Thursday. We are informed that the jury stood 8 for acquittal and 4 for conviction. We are also informed that the bond of defendant Flournoy was reduced to \$1,000, and a change of venue taken to Shackelford county. It is understood the case will be tried in October.—Stamford Courier.



MONEY!

is saved by

BUYING THE BEST

We sell the Farrand Organs, Mason & Hamlin, and others. Also a fine line of Pianos, nice line of Violins, Guitars, Mandolins; strings of all kinds.

Basham, Shepherd & Co.

The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEEMAN, PUBLISHER.

Published Every Thursday.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Office 57
Residence 11

If you know of any news item, we will consider it a special favor if you will report same to this office, either by person, letter or over the phone to either of the above numbers.

Political Notes.

From the Baird Star.

W. L. Grogan has leased his paper, the Sweetwater Review, to H. A. DeFord. The Review states that Mr. Grogan will be a candidate for the State Senate next year. Senator Sebastian will be a candidate for reelection and it is given out that Abilene will have a candidate, possibly John Bryan, our present representative. The campaign promises to be lively. So far as the Star is concerned we see no necessity for any one getting worked up over the Senatorship this far ahead of the election. Either of the three men mentioned would make a good Senator. Suppose they draw straws for the place. This would save a good deal of hard campaign work and a needless expenditure of a vast amount of gas on the part of the candidates.

It is rumored that Congressman Smith will have strong opposition next year. Ordinarily most people are willing to give a congressman a second term, and for this reason The Star believes it will be no easy matter to defeat the present congressman. However, it is none of our row any way.

Judge T. H. Connor, of the Second Supreme Court at Fort Worth, spent last Monday at Abilene and came down on the train with the Baird boys that night. Judge Connor's first term will be out next year and the Judge will be a candidate to succeed himself. Judge Connor has lots of friends in Callahan county, and it is not likely that any opposing candidate, should there be any, would make much headway against him, in this county at least.

We will have to elect the following district officers next year: Congressman, State Senator, Representative, District Judge and District Attorney. Bees are already buzzing in the hats of many prospective candidates and they are feeling the public pulse. So far the average voter has not considered the question but little, if at all. As to Representative, Jones County is entitled to that place this time by common fairness, but such things do not always go that way. Taylor county has had the representative for the last four terms and could hardly ask for it again, but may do so. At any rate Taylor county is in the position to dictate the nomination of this office provided she chooses to do so. There is fun ahead, sure.

Love vs Greed.

It is a curious fact that Greed, one of the lowest traits of the human heart, should so often walk in the garb of Love, the highest and noblest quality the creator has seen fit to permit man to exercise. But such is a fact. Greed is ashamed of his own face and his own name and his own attire. The very men that are and have been dominated by this trait have themselves associated the name "hog" and "swine" with it till no wonder other vestments must hide the

snout and bristles.

Like an angel of light, Greed charms his votaries and so lulls their spirits that they care not to examine if perchance horns may be hidden by a mask. Examples on every hand and of daily occurrence leads no man to examine and see if his guiding spirit be true or false.

So man seeks an honorable alias under which to work. One must provide for his children. Money, lands, houses, bonds, stock, etc., are accumulated for children. They must be provided for. That is the delusion under which the father works. Sometimes the children die, but the father works on, toils on, piles up. Sometimes all the friends are taken, but yet the toiler bends to his labor. In the end the victim, the slave of Greed, drops his burden and himself drops into the grave, having all his life been a galley slave, working under the lash, driven by his master, Greed, and all these years trying to make his conscience believe that he was working for his children. Not only was he believing a lie, but he knew he was believing a lie all the time. This is strange, but this awful master can compel his victims to knowingly believe a lie. Strange perversity!—Selected.

Curious Facts.

More ships possess the name "Mary" than any other.

A whale can remain under water for an hour and a half.

To crush a half-inch cube of granite requires a weight of eleven tons.

The first shell was used in warfare by the Sultan of Gujarat, India, 1480.

Whalebone may be easily cut if it be laid for a few minutes in hot water.

New York banks pay out in interests and dividends every quarter not far from \$130,000,000.

The first daily paper in America was printed at Williamsburg, Va., 1780, at \$50 per year.

It is estimated that there are about 74,600,000 horses in the world and 12,000,000 mules.

About 110,000,000 feet of birch wood was sent last year from Maine to England and Scotland for spoons.

A phonograph that shouts so loudly that every word can be heard at a distance of ten miles has been tested at Brighton.

The greatest size to which a horse has been known to grow was 20½ hands. He was a Clydesdale and was exhibited in 1889.

Half a ton of sawdust contains 160 pounds of charcoal, 180 pounds of acids, 248 pounds of water and 162 pounds of tar.

The United States and Great

That Long-wished-for Rain

is here, and the drought is at an end. In money matters, a "Rainy Day" is an unwelcome visitor. A wise provision against the discomforts of that day is a good account at this bank. Allow us to talk with you about this matter.

Warnick's Bank,
Merkel, Texas.

BROOKS COLD TIRE SETTER.

Tires Set Quicker and Better and Will Run Longer Without Loosening than is Possible When Set the Old Way.

Compresses the metal cold; no burnt or charred felloe surface to wear away, but a hard wood surface instead; no steam and water soaked felloes to shrink away and loosen the tire; no burnt paint to replace. It gives just the amount of dish required; no overdishing; no guess work about it. We guarantee our work and refund the money if not satisfactory. Give us a call and see the machine in operation.

COMPTON & SON,
Merkel, Texas.

Britain together handle more letters and periodicals than all the rest of the world put together.

Forty thousand birds, mostly sandpipers, are reported to have been killed recently on the North Carolina coast for millinery purposes.

A man who advertised for a cook and a music teacher received nine answers to the former advertisement and 289 to the latter.

Strong, Maine, is noted for its toothpicks, as more than half the toothpicks used in the United States come from there.

Thomas B. Walker, of Minneapolis, owns the largest tracts of pine timber possessed by any person or firm in the country

SALE DAY AT MERKEL.

Fourth Saturday in Each Month is Trade and Sale Day.—Do Not Fail to Come.

Bring in your marketable horses, mules, and such property that generally changes hands on such days. Stuff will be sold at auction, and cash buyers will be on hand to take you up on all reasonable cash propositions. Don't fail to attend. Ample accommodations can always be had at Story's Wagon Yard.

We now have a Turning Lathe and can turn out anything in woodwork; also have installed a feed mill and can grind your corn, etc., at reasonable prices. See us when in need of anything in our line.

Parker & Willingham.

An exchange of recent date tells of a boy entering the car and leaving the door open behind him, when an old man near thundered: "Was you brought up in a barn? Shut that door!" The boy did as he was bid, but the tears were seen to trickle down his cheeks. "There, there, never mind, lad, of course you wasn't brought up in a barn." "That's just it," blubbered the boy. "I was, and every time I see a jack-ass it brings it all back to me."

The mortgage is a self-supporting institution. It always holds its own. It calls for just as many dollars when grain is cheap as when grain is dear. It is not affected by the drouth. It is not drowned out by heavy rains. It never winter kills. Late springs and early frosts never trouble it. Potato bugs do not disturb it. Moths and rust do not destroy it. It grows nights, Sundays, rainy days and even holidays. It brings a sure crop every year, and sometimes twice a year. It does not have to wait for the market to advance. It is not subject to the bulls and bears on the Board of Trade. It is a load that galls and frets and chafes.

The blue color of the sky is probably merely the color of the air, seen through the length of about 45 miles. It has been observed by those who have ascended about five miles above the earth's surface that the sky appears of a dark inky hue, owing to the small reflection and dispersion of the light, while the blue color no longer appears above, but below them.

As It Should Be.

Lufkin Tribune.

Nearly every daily paper contains an account of how some man was shot and killed for being too familiar with other people's women folks. This is as it should be. This is a great, big, wide world and there is ample room in it for every man to live and be a gentleman. When he steps beyond the role of a gentleman and assumes the guise of a human wolf and wrecker of virtue he has a good sized killing coming and generally gets it.

Faith and Foresight.

Foresight is no worthy substitute for faith. We put ourselves to great pains in working out a series of events in advance. When foresight has satisfied us that we know pretty much how events will shape themselves, we rest in consciousness of having a long head. No matter how skillfully we put two and two together, and reason out the future, we know perfectly well that something may intervene to upset our calculations, and make the long head seem pitifully short. Foresight will fail, and we have just as much reason for concern when we think we know as when we know we do not know. Faith takes no account of minor circumstances, and leaves no place for insecurity or worry in the soul. Faith is better than foresight, and in faith the future is not a burden. It is not important to the man of faith whether he knows or does not know God's plans for him in advance.—Ex.

Jim McCarty and Miss Lizzie Hargroves were married at the residence of the bride's parents yesterday evening, Rev. Lowery officiating. The Mail joins with their friends in sincere congratulations.

Ben Hill is up from Abilene, taking a vacation.



MRS. L. S. ADAMS.
Of Galveston, Texas.

"Wine of Cardui is indeed a blessing to tired women. Having suffered for seven years with weakness and bearing-down pains, and having tried several doctors and different remedies with no success, your Wine of Cardui was the only thing which helped me, and eventually cured me. It seemed to build up the weak parts, strengthen the system and correct irregularities."

By "tired women" Mrs. Adams means nervous women who have disordered menses, falling of the womb, ovarian troubles or any of these ailments that women have. You can cure yourself at home with this great women's remedy, Wine of Cardui. Wine of Cardui has cured thousands of cases which doctors have failed to benefit. Why not begin to get well today? All druggists have \$1.00 bottles. For any stomach, liver or bowel disorder Theford's Black-Draught should be used.

For advice and literature, address, giving symptoms, The Ladies' Advisory Department, The Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

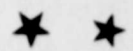
WINE OF CARDUI

..BLANK BOOKS..



WE are agents in Merkel for the M. P. Exline Co., of Dallas, acknowledged to be the BEST Blank Book makers in the State. Call around and see our samples.

We save you money. Place your orders NOW for FALL delivery. Bank Books a specialty.



Notary supplies of all kinds. Anything in the printing line.

Ed J. Leeman,
Merkel, Texas.

The world is full of sorrow and sadness. You can not count on the fingers of one have those whose lives you know that have some tragedy to darken each one. The wise man has truly said, "Every heart knoweth its own bitterness." But what is the use, where is the good sense of looking on the dark side? We know it is there, so let it alone and look for the joy that has come to bless each one of these tragic lives. If your heart is full of bitterness never let it come through your lips or countenance. The writer once knew a woman whose life was a blessing to all those about her. She was always pleasant and cheerful. Asked one day how she had been able always to see the bright side of everything she brightly replied, that when a young woman she and all of her household had been plunged into deep sorrow, and that all were so gloomy that some one must comfort the others and she felt it her duty to do so. From that she began to cultivate the habit of cheerfulness. This world is also full of sunshine if our eyes are looking for it. The concluding clause of the quotation given is, "and a stranger doth not intermingle with its joy." So cultivate the joy, talk about the brightness and will increase and make you a pleasure to yourself and a joy to those about you.—Texas Church Helper.

Consequence of the Boer War.

While the Boer War was still raging, the Christian people of South Africa were gladdened with the tidings of an unusual spiritual awakening in the various camps in Ceylon and India, at St. Helena and in Bermudas, where the Boer prisoners had been banished. This awakening led to the conversion of hundreds of young men, and among them 175 resolved to consecrate themselves to missionary service in South and Central Africa, and to seek preparation for their contemplated life work just as soon as they returned. They came home in due time and their purpose is unchanged. The reformed Dutch church of South Africa was deeply moved. And although greatly impoverished by the train and devastation of the war, they proposed to see the men through. A fund of \$50,000 was raised for the purchase of building at Worcester, Cape Colony, to serve as a preparatory school.

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

CLEARANCE SALE CONTINUED.

Our 30 day Clearance Sale was such a marked success we have decided to continue the sale and will make very low prices on all Summer Goods.

33½ per cent discount on all Serge and Alpaca Suits.
Straw Hats at Actual Cost.
25 per cent off all ladies' Skirts and Waists.
10 per cent reduction on men's, ladies' and children's Slippers.
We still have a fine assortment of

Lawns and Dimities at Low Prices. We have also cut the prices on all Laces and embroideries.

Big bargains in Lace Curtains and White Quilts.

Extra values in men's Negligee Shirts, all styles.

It is our aim to keep our stock as complete as possible at all times, and give the trade the best of service. If you are not satisfied with your grocer, give us a trial. We will do our best to please you.



We Have It
for Less

We Have It
for Less

One Avery Cultivator left: will sell at a bargain.

The Farmer's Paradise.

There is a small strip of country four or five miles west of town that has fallen under Jupiter Pluvius' displeasure this year. It has been blessed, up to a few days ago, with only a very light sprinkle since last March, and yet crops in the strip show up about as well as any in the more favored spots.

There is some corn in this strip that has made a fairly good yield; sorghum, milo maize and cotton are also fine, and show very little effects of the drouth.

To the average down-easterner this statement will seem overdrawn, but the fact remains. It is hard to believe that corn will make a "nubbin" or even fodder without rain. However, a fine season was in the ground at planting time, which partly accounts for the remarkable showing made.

As a drouth resisting country this section has no superiors, and as the country is better developed its success as a farming country is more fully demonstrated to the satisfaction of even the skeptical. A drive through the country now will convince one that it offers great inducements to the home seeker.

Yesterday's Abilene Reporter states that the wires report a light snow at Tyler, Texas. Last week the Reporter accused The Mail of taking vermifuge and soothing syrup, and now we shall have to retaliate by accusing the Reporter force of "whiffing the atmosphere" of a cold storage.

If you want the correct time of day, call at the First National Bank. They have just put in a handsome new Electric Clock.

Wagon for sale, cash or fall time.

J. H. Warnick.

James H. Hardy, who was recently arrested near Abilene on the indictment charging peonage, has been tried at Montgomery, Ala., and fined \$1,000.

The Drouth Broken.

The rain of yesterday evening puts this country on an equal footing with any other section of the State, as it practically insures a bumper cotton crop. Feed stuff is already made, and there is a world of it. Cotton has not suffered for moisture, but the rain will put new life into the plant and aid it in putting on fruit.

To the north and east of us the rain was ample for all needs, the fall here amounting to nearly an inch. Good showers also fell south of town, but west and southwest the rain was partial. However, all the dry places came in for the blessing.

The rain will be worth much to the country. Late feed stuff will come on "a-humpin'," and the country will take on a new lease of life. The farmer is happy, ditto the stockman, and a broad smile chases itself across the expansive countenance of the merchant. So mote it be.

JULY.

Too hot to crawl, too hot to creep,
Too hot to wake, too hot to sleep,
Too hot to stand, too hot to fall,
Too hot to laugh, too hot to bawl,
Too hot to ride, too hot to walk,
Too hot to whisper, too hot to talk,
Too hot to starve, too hot to eat,
My head's too hot, so're my feet;
Too hot to write, too hot to think,
Too hot to drown myself in drink;
Too hot to live, too hot to die,
Too hot to work, too hot to try,
Too hot to kick about the heat,
Too hot for eggs, too hot for meat,
Too hot another line to sing—
Too dadgummed hot for anything.
—Baltimore American.

I take this method of expressing my gratitude to the ladies of Merkel for their kindness to my wife during her sickness.

E. W. Dennis.

Tom Durham, charged with robbing the post-office at Cisco, was given an examining trial before Federal officers at Abilene yesterday, and was bound over in the sum of \$500 to await the action of the grand jury.

John Sears purchased 14 head of mules, twos and threes, yesterday, the prices ranging from \$50 to \$75. They will soon grow him a big revenue.

The report has reached here that Hugh Ramsey is suffering from some aberration of the mind and has to be confined in an asylum, but the truthfulness of the report can not be vouched for. The family now lives at West Point, Miss., and will be remembered by the older citizens of this community.

Gen. Thos. N. Waul, a distinguished citizen of the State since 1850, died at his home near Greenville Tuesday. He was a hero of the Confederacy, having commanded Waul's Legion during the war. One by one these old soldiers are dropping out of ranks and passing to their reward.

I. S. Allen has generously treated his residence to a coat of paint, which helps its appearance wonderfully.

The son of Mrs. Burk, mentioned elsewhere as having been operated upon, died Tuesday and the interment took place at the Merkel cemetery. The item was written Tuesday morning, at which time he was reported much better.

A letter from Prof. C. E. Evans, who is a member of the board of summer normal examiners at Austin, states that he is doing nicely. He will be absent some time yet.

Dr. and Mrs. Crenshaw came in yesterday from Jacksboro. Mrs. Crenshaw will be better known as Miss Mae Boring, who has many girlhood friends here, in the old home. Master Crenshaw accompanied his parents.

Through the kindness of Congressman W. R. Smith The Mail is in receipt of the report of the Twelfth Census, Population—Vol. 1. The book contains 1000 pages and is a valuable reference. We return thanks for the favor.

The Mail is in receipt of a letter from J. J. Eubank of Abilene containing a petition to the commissioners' court calling for a prairie dog election. Those interested can find the petition at the First National Bank. Sign it if you wish.

A fine line of cut glass to arrive soon at Ustick's.

See the new line of silverware at Ustick's.

Sam Hunt writes from Sabano, Texas, for The Mail. He is manager of the Tin Can Gin Co., at that place, and his friends here wish him well.

The largest steer in Oklahoma is said to be owned by H. Broadwell of Ralston. The steer is three years old, was raised exclusively on range grass, and is 19½ hands high. It weighs 2889 pounds, and measures 16 feet from the end of its nose to the tip of its tail.

G. T. Cain and family came in yesterday from Stephenville, and will spend a few days here with relatives. They are en route to Robert Lee, their future home.

Now for big, juicy, luscious watermelons.

Just Once More.

Only one crushed white flower,
And the soiled white glove I wore;

Ah! for that feverish hour
Just once more!

Ah! for the sweep and shiver
Of the mad music's strain!
Ah, for the pulse's quiver
Once again!

Ah! for the arms that held me,
For one wild hour lived o'er;
Ah, for his lips to kiss me,
Just once more!

Hands that must lightly sever
Or e'er the night is done;
One heart to love forever,
Only One!

Ah! for the dream and passion
No dream can ere restore!
Ah, for love's old, old fashion,
Just once more!

—Nellie C. Hastings.

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 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.

It 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 OFFER. 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.

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

**Dr. King's
New Discovery**

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

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.
C. E. Evans, W. M.
R. B. Ustick, Sec.

Best Passenger Service
...IN...
TEXAS

THE
TEXAS AND PACIFIC
RAILWAY

"No Trouble to Answer Questions."

DINING CARS
BETWEEN
FORT WORTH and SAINT LOUIS

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

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

A PLAIN STATEMENT.

The life of a newspaper man in Merkel is not "easy pickings" by a "jug full." His path is lined with many thorns.

Merkel people are the best people in the world, but they do not foster home enterprises like they ought and which the success of the town demands. The Mail has always enjoyed a reasonable patronage, and yet it has been a meager "enough" to keep the paper up to the expectations of its patrons. Too many of our patrons send to other places for work that could be done fully as well and equally as cheap at home, while fully half of the business element do without all stationery or else use the printed forms found in book stores.

When it comes to advertising, many of them say they don't believe in it, while others use fancy colored circulars and booklets printed abroad. These same fellows will argue hours at a time against the practice of sending off after goods, and then turn around and do the same thing they were arguing against. One of these fellows was distributing his wares a few days ago, when from the opposite direction came his competitor with announcements printed at home. A bystander commented upon the products of a home and foreign office and then and there pledged his support to the man who stayed with home people, although he had been a customer of the other fellow for several years.

Some of our subscribers are not as loyal as they should be, and are too prone to give other papers preference. Many of them expect great things from the home paper, and we are constantly reminded that good papers can be had at the same price and that they will take an Abilene paper in preference to the home paper should the latter not maintain its present standard.

This is the status of the newspaper business in Merkel. What a great amount of pleasure the situation discloses!

The certainty with which summary vengeance is meted out to the black rape fiends does not seem to have any deterrent effect upon others of their color, and the brutal assaults are increasing in frequency and bloodthirstiness throughout the country. Where it will end, there is no telling. At the present there seems to be no remedy. When questioned as to why he committed such a crime, a rape fiend recently stated that he didn't know; that he was seized with a mania to commit the crime, and that the thought that he would meet the fate of others of his color who were guilty of the same offense did not enter his mind. And yet

after the crime was committed he blanching a leaden hue and was so badly scared his actions gave him away and fastened the crime upon him. He was arrested and confessed to the deed after being promised immunity from mob violence, and his last act was to take his own worthless life while incarcerated in jail. And the fear of mob violence clung to him to the last. A brute by instinct and fiendish by nature, is it any wonder that he was frantic with fright, and that his sole thought was one of fear? He felt no sorrow for his victim, a little girl; neither did he express any regret for his crime. Confronted with such facts, is it any wonder, then, that the race problem presents a very grave aspect?

Last week The Mail published an item pertaining to Editor Moore, of the Stephenville Empire, in which it was stated that he had thwarted the anti prohibitionists by hiking to prevent the service of an injunction upon him. Later it developed that the injunction was served upon a member of the Empire force. However, Moore's son and another employe got out the paper, and notwithstanding no service had been made upon them and that the instructions of Mrs. Moore, acting publisher, were being carried out, the boys were jerked up before the District Judge, fined and sentenced to jail. And this, too, after four publications of the election results had been made. It is a measly shame and such assumption of authority should be condemned by all good people. The judge who imposed this injustice should be held up to public ridicule, and the good people of Erath county should see that he retires to public life at the end of his present term.

The Sulphur Springs Gazette prints a list of 35 counties that have voted on local option since the first of last August. Of these 6 went wet and 29 went dry. There are in the State of Texas 243 organized counties, and of these 133 are absolutely prohibition counties, 62 are partially dry and 48 entirely wet. The march of the prohibition sentiment has been steadily forward and its beneficent influence has encircled the State.

The action of the District Judges throughout the State in granting injunctions palpably for the purpose of gaining time for the saloonmen, has had the effect of bringing the judiciary into disrepute. Justice demands that the judiciary should be above reproach.

Senator Sebastian's organ, the Breckinridge Democrat, announces that under no circumstance will he be a candidate for a third term. This will no doubt be a disappointment to Mr. Grogan, who was desirous of dangling the gentleman's scalp from his belt.

A million gallons of whiskey were destroyed by fire in Glasgow recently, and only seven lives were lost. This leads an exchange to remark that if the whiskey had gone in the usual way the fatalities would have been much greater, with many other troubles thrown in.

The Florida negroes who lynched one of their own color, at least showed a commendable spirit of race pride, however much such acts of lawlessness are to be deplored. Race pride will raise the standard of any people.

Danville, Ill., was the scene of a race riot Saturday in which a negro was hung, then burned, and over 20 people injured. The chickens are coming home to roost all right.

Texas' magnificent school fund amounts to forty-six million dollars. And yet its average free school term is only five months of the year.

The cleaning process which the town is now undergoing will redound to its everlasting good.

It is time to begin preparing for the fall rush by planting an ad in The Mail.

Let Merkel as a trade center be heralded far and wide.

In his speech at the Farmer's Congress R. E. Smith, the alfalfa king, said: "I have taken a porker from a field of alfalfa at eight months of age and, after topping him off for ten days with corn, sold him, weighing 250lbs, at 7 cents per pound. Upon alfalfa hogs seem to thrive best and the hog is of less injury to the plant than any other animal. He never dies of cholera upon these meadows. There he gets his growth upon alfalfa alone. Coursing through the dense mass of clover he disdains all other feed, and answers the call to corn with an audacious grunt, and goes bounding over the clover with his tail curled in ringlets and beautiful festoons over his back."

T. E. Telford arrived from Stephenville Saturday where he spent a month's vacation.

Just Returned
 From the eastern markets with a good big stock of
NEW - GOODS
 We can make you a Saddle or set of Harness to order. You tell us what you want and we will make it. Yours for Business,
 TRY
 M. E. **R. L. HUDSON.**

Simmons College, Abilene, Texas.
 Is an endowed educational Christian Institution.

The twelfth annual session will begin on Monday, September the fourteenth, 1903, and close on Thursday, June the Sixteenth, 1904. The departments are Academy (four years), College (four years) Music-any instrument (two to six years), Painting and Drawing (two to four years), Oratory (two years), Commercial Science, and Military Tactics (two years). Yale, Berlin, Univ. of Chicago, and ten other colleges and universities are represented in the Faculty.

The standard of scholarship in the several departments is that of the best institutions in the United States.

All expenses for the session (exclusive of the fine Arts-music, painting, and oratory) amount to two hundred and fifth dollars. Each course in the fine arts costs fifty dollars for the session. The session is divided

into three terms and fees for each Term are payable at the beginning of the Term.

Simmons College doubled its enrollment and had no case of serious illness on its campus last session.

The College has seven brick buildings and fourteen instructors.

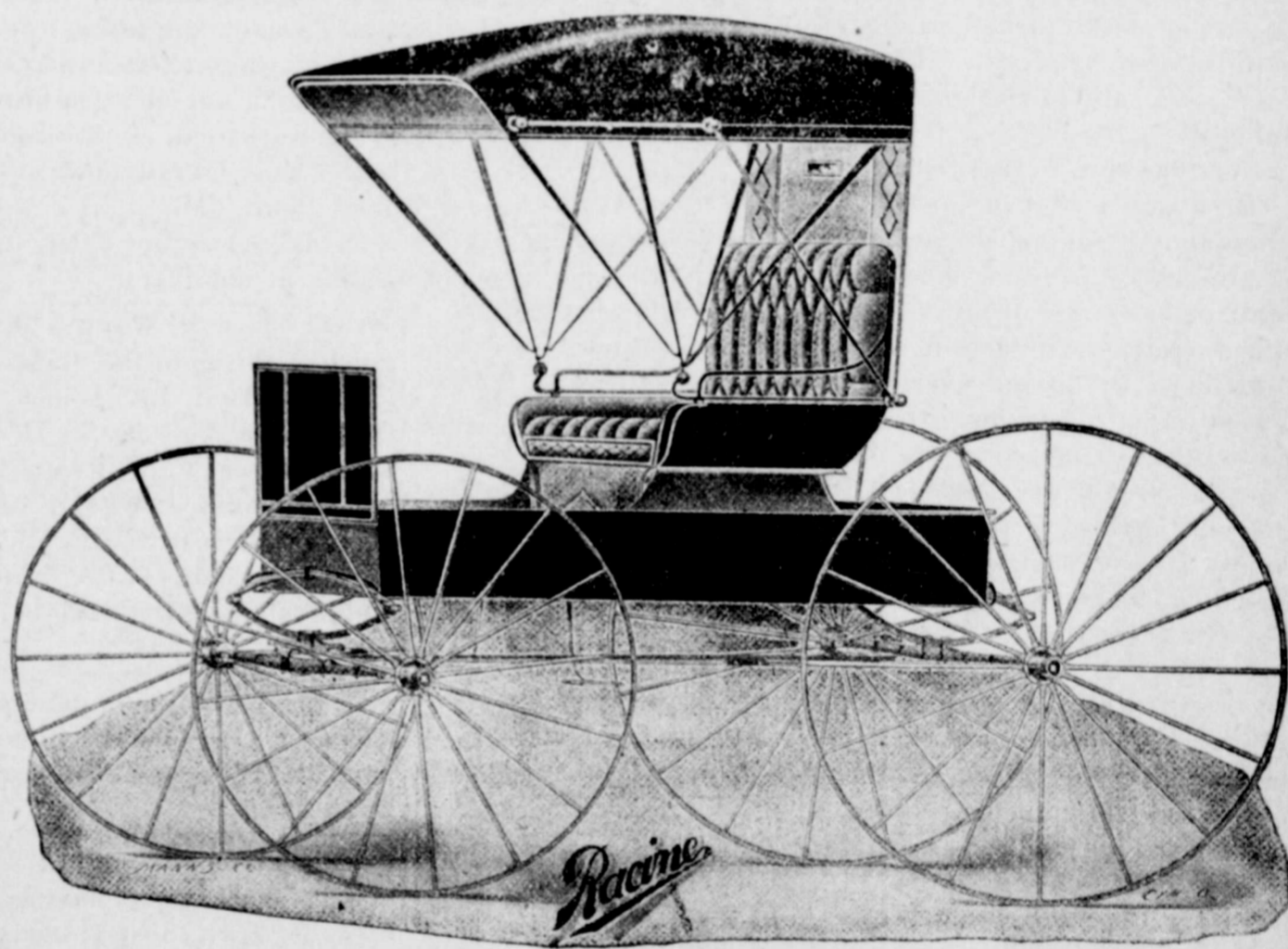
For catalogue or other information write to

Oscar H. Cooper, LL. D.,
 President.

Time to Advertise.

It is time now for the merchants of Merkel to begin their fall campaign of advertising. No town in this country offers better facilities or greater inducements to the trading public than Merkel, but it must be proclaimed from the housetops. Our fine cotton market must be heralded abroad.

We have something to offer the people and no time should be lost in doing it.



Comfortable, Pleasant Riding!

Is enjoyed most perfectly and delightfully by those using the famous

"RACINE" BUGGIES.

Acknowledged to be the most durable vehicles ever sold in West Texas. Always look well. Always run well. BEST FOR THE MONEY IN THE WORLD! Be sure to get a "RACINE" vehicle. Made by the largest manufacturers of high-grade vehicles in the world. Guaranteed by them.

ED. S. Hughes & Co.,

Distributors for West Texas. : : Abilene, Texas.

Repulsive Features.

Blackheads, pimples, greasy faces and muddy complexions, which are so common among women, especially girls at a certain age, destroying beauty, disfiguring and making repulsive, features which would otherwise appear attractive and refined, indicates that the liver is out of order. An occasional dose of Herbine will cleanse the bowels, regulate the liver and also establish a clear, healthy complexion. 50c at Burroughs & Mann's.

Don't fail to read Warren's Bargain Counter ad.

One Man's Way.

E. D. Sherman has been so harassed by ill health that he will be forced to retire from active farm life and will probably move to town. Mr. Sherman has farmed in this country for 15 years. During all those years he has never experienced a crop failure, and this is the only year he has ever had to replant his cotton. His crops now are fine. He has milo maize to "throw at the birds;" his corn will make 35 bushels to the acre; cotton is fine; and then there is sorghum, peas, et cetera, galore.

To a Mail reporter Mr. Sherman gave some valuable points about farming.

Like our good friend T. J. Parson, he is a firm believer in giving cotton distance, the farther the better, and says the plants will do better three feet apart than they will if left thicker. He plows his land deep, say 8 inches, early in the fall, and then double harrows it and repeats the operation until it is thoroughly pulverized. All crops are planted early, as he finds that early plantings are the best.

In planting cotton he uses a very narrow plow—just wide enough to receive the seeds from the planter. Throughout the season he constantly stirs the top of the ground, especially if it is unusually dry and goes over the ground every ten days on up to gathering time.

Mr. Sherman cultivates his corn pretty much the same way. A poor stand of corn is the best for the country, he says. What he has done others can do, and Mr. Sherman's success shows the great results of scientific farming.

Governor's Birthday.

One of the most interesting events observed at the state capitol today was Governor Lanham's birthday. The governor was born at 4 o'clock a. m. July 4, 1846, and was therefore 57 years old at 4 o'clock this morning.

He was seated in an easy chair in his office this morning receiving the congratulations of his friends very pleasantly, when in a moment a shadow came over his face, his eyes rested upon the floor for a moment, when he raised his head and said:

"I am very grateful to my friends for their affectionate congratulation; they are indeed pleasant, but a feeling of sadness comes over me when I recall the fact that this is also the fifth anniversary of the death of my sainted mother. The coincidence is right remarkable, and is perhaps without a parallel, that she died at 4 o'clock, Jul 4, 1898, the very moment I was 52 years old."

—Austin Cor. Fort Worth Register.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Anderson of Abilene visited their daughter, Mrs. Berry, here Sunday.

Bargain Counter!

We have placed on a certain counter in our store a few items to be sold under value. The goods are new and are all right every way. We found we were overstocked and preferred taking our loss now rather than at the end of the season. We mention a few RARE BARGAINS NOW ON THE COUNTER:

- Men's Canvas Shoes, were 1.50, now \$1.19
- Boys' Canvas Shoes, 3s to 5s, were 1.50, now 1.04
- Boys' Canvas Shoes, 13s to 2s, were 1.25, now93
- Boys' Canvas Shoes, 8s to 12s, were 1.00, now82
- Ladies' Patent Leather Slippers, 2.00 kind..... 1.48
- A few pair men's 1.00 Gloves at..... .88
- Ladies' Fancy Hose, 20c kind..... .13
- Ladies' Fancy Hose, 10c kind..... .07
- 35c matting now 25c. 30c kind at 22c. 25c kind at 18c
- One lot of about 50 Wash Skirts—Crash, Covert and Duck—were 1.50, now 1.18

J. T. Warren.

Cholera Infantum.

This has been regarded as one of the most dangerous and fatal diseases to which infants are subject. It can be cured, however, when properly treated. All that is necessary is to give Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and castor oil, as directed with each bottle, and a cure is certain. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

Just to see what happens, try Chase & Sanborn's Teas and Coffees, when you are tired. Sold by

J. T. Warren.

Tom Everson is here ready to take charge of the machinery for the new gin.

Local showers have fallen throughout the country during the past few days. In some places good showers fell, while in others they have been very light, but have had the effect of cooling the atmosphere.

Perhaps 100 of our people are at Eastland attending the Pettis murder trial. Every train carries out additional witnesses.

Strayed—One sorrel mare about 13 hands high, branded B H L (connected) on thigh. \$2.50 for information leading to her recovery.

2t Jos. A. Tuckness.

Miss Georgia Comegys left Saturday for Comanche, I. T., to visit her sister, Mrs. Hunt. She will be absent several weeks and The Mail wishes her a very pleasant visit.

R. A. Miller is in Abilene this week finishing up the work on the two new ward school buildings.

E. D. Sherman returned Thursday from Mineral Wells where he spent two weeks for the benefit of his health. We are glad to note that he is improving.

Mrs. Eva Perkins (nee Miss Eva Martin) or Roscoe visited her parents here Sunday.

Cures Sciatica.

Rev. W. L. Riley, L. L. D., Cuba, New York, writes: "After fifteen days of excruciating pain from sciatic rheumatism, under various treatments, I was induced to try Ballard's Snow Liniment, the first application giving my first relief, and the second, entire relief. I can give it unqualified recommendation." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Burroughs & Mann's.

Buy a summer lap spread off Warren's Bargain Counter.

Drs. Leeman and King performed an operation upon the little boy of Mrs. Burk, sister of D. W. Hawthorne, Monday, for the removal of abscess of the lungs. The little fellow has been in a critical condition for some time and had reached the stage where an operation was necessary to save his life, although he is not yet out of danger by any means. Between one-half and a gallon of pus was drawn off and relief was almost instant. It is hoped that he is now on the road to recovery.

Messrs. Terrell Winters and Jim Swan, two prosperous farmers of the Noodle community, had business in our city Thursday.—Anson Western.

Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Runyan, parents of Mrs. Dr. King, left last week for their home at Amity, Ark., after a pleasant visit here. Their visit was principally for the benefit of Mrs. Runyan's health, and we are glad to note that she is much improved. Mr. Runyan was favorably impressed with this country and will no doubt speak a good word for it all along the line.

Mrs. Hand, mother of Mrs. S. A. Chenault, has returned from Gatesville. She was accompanied by Miss Jessie Edwards of Oglesby, who is the guest of Miss Ada Gamble.

Miss Florence Collins of Clarksville is the guest of her cousin, Miss Birdie Collins.

Working Night and Day.

The busiest and mightiest little thing that ever was made is Dr. King's New Life Pills. These pills change weakness into strength, listlessness into energy, brain-fag into mental power. They're wonderful in building up the health. Only 25c per box. Sold by Rust & Pittard.

J. T. Warren has placed on sale a nice line of saddles from \$16.50 to \$35.

To The Public.

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

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 Ice Consumers.

Orders for ice should be given not later than 10 o'clock for morning deliveries and by 5 o'clock for evening deliveries. This will enable us to make deliveries promptly and satisfactorily. Please bear this in mind.

J. W. & L. M. Watkins.

No prizes go with our high grade coffees and teas—nothing but cream, sugar and satisfaction.

J. T. Warren.

Mrs. Austin Fitts left Monday for Mansfield and other points on an extended visit to relatives.

Work on the new gin was begun last Monday and it will be pushed to rapid completion. It is being located on the Isaac Taylor lots, one block west and north of the Tabernacle. The machinery is already en route and will be here by the time the building is ready to receive it.

S. A. Walden says he has a half bale of cotton to the acre already in sight. His corn and milo maize are also fine and he will have feed to burn.

The Perfect Liver Medicine.

Mrs. M. A. Jolley, Noble, O. T., writes: "I have used Herbine for a number of years, and can cheerfully recommend it as the most perfect liver medicine, and the greatest blood purifier. It is a medicine of positive merit, and fully accomplishes all that is claimed for it." Malaria cannot find a lodgment in the system while the liver is in perfect order, for one of its functions is to prevent the absorption of fever producing poisons. Herbine is a most efficient liver regulator. 50c at Burroughs & Mann's.

A syndicate of capitalists formed a company at Ft. Worth recently and purchased a desirable tract of land, consisting of 275 acres, in the suburbs of that town, which has since been subdivided into lots and put on the market. Geo. S. Berry of this place is treasurer of the company and J. T. Anderson of Abilene secretary. Mr. Anderson will soon move to Ft. Worth, we learn. Taylor county people are astute business men and their services are sought abroad. Messrs. Berry and Anderson are to be congratulated upon their good fortune.

Mrs. H. C. Burroughs returned Friday from Eastland county, where she had been to visit her father, H. T. Mathis. He is dangerously ill with dropsy, we are sorry to learn. Mr. Mathis lived here several years and is quite well known to the old settlers.

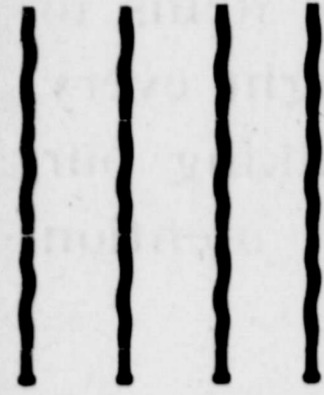
W. P. Thurmond ordered the next three papers to visit him at Ash Grove, Mo., where he and family are now visiting, having left for that place Saturday. Mr. Thurmond will visit the market before returning.

For Sale—Registered Berkshire male, two years old, cash or trade.

2t E. D. Sherman.
Prof. S. M. Sewell came up from Abilene Saturday.

AT COST

All trimmed hats at
ACTUAL COST!
No fake, but a fact.
Come and see . . .



Mrs. HOOPLE,

If you want a cut of your building, either residence or business house, in The Mail, bring around a picture and \$2.50 in money.

It is easier for a man to go to heaven on a full stomach than on an empty one. Now is the time to advertise.

Advertised Letters.

Following letters remain un-called for in the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, and if not called for will be sent to the Dead Letter office Aug. 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

Arants, Miss Jimmie
Bradley, Mrs. Sarah
Cavett, W. T.
Davidson, Mrs. Maud
English, Bob
Griffin, W. A.
Hays, Rev. L. A.
Martin, Chas.
Martin, W. S.
Miranda, Vincent
Marin, Francisco
Patterson, John
Reed, Jim
Thompson, Chas.

Will Buy It Back.

You assume no risk when you buy Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. Burroughs & Mann will refund your money if you are not satisfied after using it. It is everywhere admitted to be the most successful remedy in use for bowel complaints and the only one that never fails. It is pleasant, safe and reliable.

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.

A fine girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Frazier, yesterday. Mrs. Frazier was formerly Miss Fannie McNeese, the family now living in the lower edge of the county, but being here on a visit.

F. E. Allyn came down from Eskota yesterday evening.

Ben Trimble, night operator at Pecos, came down Monday to spend a few days visiting here.

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,
409-411 Pearl Street, New York.
50c. and \$1.00; all druggists.

The Boss Worm Medicine.

H. P. Kumpe, Druggist, Leighton, Ala., writes: "One of my customers had a child, which was sick, and threw up all food, could retain nothing on its stomach. He bought one bottle of White's Cream Vermifuge, and it brought up 119 worms from the child. It's the boss worm medicine in the world." White's Cream Vermifuge is also the children's tonic. It improves their digestion and assimilation of food, strengthens their nervous system and restores them to their health, vigor and elasticity of spirits natural to childhood. 25c at Burroughs & Mann's.

Gems of Thought.

Indifference is the invincible giant of the world.—Ouida.

Be ignorance thy choice where knowledge leads to woe.—Beattie.

A soul occupied with great ideas best performs small duties.—Martineau.

We lose the peace of years when we hunt after the capture of moments.—Bulwer.

Nothing more detestible does the earth produce than an ungrateful man.—Ausonius.

Unbounded courage and compassion joined proclaimed him good and great, and made the hero and the man complete.—Addison.

Kind hearts are more than coronets, and simple faith than Norman blood.—Tennyson.

All other knowledge is hurtful to him who has not honesty and good nature.—Montaigne.

Provision is the foundation of hospitality, and thrift the fuel of magnificence.—Sir P. Sidney.

People seldom improve when they have no other model but themselves to copy after.—Goldsmith.

A proud man is seldom grateful, for he never thinks that he gets as much as he deserves.—H. W. Beecher.

Do what he will, he can not realize half he conceives. The glorious vision flies. Go where he may, he can not hope to find the truth and beauty which are pictured in his mind.—Rogers.

Depend upon it, that if a man talks of his misfortunes there is something in them that is not disagreeable to him; for where there is nothing but pure misery there never is any mention of it.—Johnson.

Although men are accused of not knowing their own weakness, yet perhaps a few know their own strength. It is in men as well as in soils, where sometimes there is a vein of gold which the owner knows not of.—Swift.

Some events must be represented on a large scale, others diminished; the great majority will be lost in the dimness, of the horizon, and a general idea of their general effect will be given by a few slight touches.—Macauley.

Some tears belong to us because we are unfortunate; others because we are humane; many because we are mortal. But most are caused by our being unwise. It is these last, only, that of necessity produce more.—Leigh Hunt.

The trial of the Coons case at Eastland resulted in a hung jury.

In a difficulty at Phantom Hill Sunday Bob Strong was severely stabbed by a knife in the hands of Borden Manly. He will recover.

Ustick has just received a large shipment of jewelry, embracing many new and up-to-date goods. See them.

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.

Night Was Her Terror.

"I would cough nearly all night long," writes Mrs. Chas. Applegate, of Alexandria, Ind., "and could hardly get any sleep. I had consumption so bad that if I walked a block I would cough frightfully and spit blood, but, when all other medicines failed, three \$1.00 bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery wholly cured me and I gained 58 pounds." It's absolutely guaranteed to cure Coughs, Colds, LaGrippe, Bronchitis and all Throat and Lung Troubles. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Rust & Pittard's drug store.

Day of Boy Wonders.

Honey Grove Signal.
Ladonia people are excited over the appearance in that town of a wonderful prodigy, a 13-year old negro preacher. Reports say the sable youth is mighty in his scriptures and that his sermons have put whites and blacks in a "weavin' way." These are the days of boy wonders. We have boy preachers galore, boy actors, boy editors and boy philosophers. Nobody, however, has discovered a boy worker. When we hear of a boy who cuts stove wood before he is told to do so; or who gets up in the morning without a liberal application of a board by his father we'll issue a special edition.

Champion Liar's Yarn.

Flatonio Record.
It is said that all men are liars. The other morning we overheard a traveling man at the depot tell the following to a companion: "I once knew a nigger who was afflicted with stammering, and being advised to take starch in order that he might be clearly understood, he took it in such large quantities that he became so stiff he could neither get his hands into his pockets nor walk around a corner and was obliged to have his backbone taken out to enable him to get his boots off."

A Public Free Horse.

Anderson County Herald.
Some people's idea of a newspaper is that of a free horse for everybody to ride. If these same people go into a store for a lead pencil they expect to pay for it; if they get a soda, a beer or a straight drink of knock out drops, they expect to pay for them; if they get the baby a pair of shoes they expect to pay for them. But they request all sorts of things of a newspaper, and often do not say so much as "Thank you."

Miss Annie King came up from Abilene and spent Sunday with home folks.

Brutally Tortured.

A case came to light that for persistent and unmerciful torture has perhaps never been equaled. Joe Golobick of Colusa, Calif., writes. "For 15 years I endured insufferable pain from Rheumatism and nothing relieved me though I tried everything known. I came across Electric Bitters and it's the greatest medicine on earth for that trouble. A few bottles of it completely relieved and cured me." Just as good for Liver and Kidney troubles and general debility. Only 50c. Satisfaction guaranteed by Rust & Pittard, Druggists.

A Boston girl is making a quilt out of her old stockings.—Houston Post.

If she has kept up with the style in the matter of hose she should have enough different colors to make a crazy quilt.—Dallas Times-Herald.

Of course she has kept up with the style, and we predict that her quilt will rival Joseph's coat in varied fantastic coloring.—Del Rio News.

And now she has a chance to add a few half hose, and if she doesn't rush and complete that quilt before the fashion changes again the quilt will be a wonder of the world.—Ballinger Ledger.

By a liberal use of editorial sox she could make her quilt "more holy than righteous."

Too Much For Patrick.

The other day a little, red-faced Irishman approached a postoffice which had three letter boxes outside. One was labeled "City," another "Domestic" and the third "Foreign." He looked at the three in turn and then, as a puzzled expression crossed his face, scratched his head.

"Faith," he was heard to mutter, "I don't know in which one to put the letter. She's sure a domestic, an' she lives in the city, all right, an' she's a forinor, too, but begobs, damfino how the dommed thing can go in both of the holes at once!"—Ex.

But They Won't.

Hearne Democrat.

What a good old world this would be if everybody had a set of books to keep and would therein make the daily entries of his or her own shortcomings, leaving their neighbors to record their own. No, but they won't do this. They had rather close their eyes to their own faults and put on a pair of magnifying glasses to view their neighbors. It is a pity that this class of fault finders, gossipers, backbiters and sacreligious hypocrites could not see the devil as he lies in wait for them and smiles at his increased insurance every time they speak ill of any one.

The Papers Forgotten.

Many merchants, especially in small towns, may be asked the question: "Why advertise," and in many cases will give an evasive answer with their lips, while secretly they believe it is a sort of donation to a worthy newspaper man. Such merchants are certainly blind to their own interests. An advertisement is a contract, which alike protects the buyer and seller. It is, or should be a guarantee that whatever is offered for sale is just what it is represented to be, and is offered to purchasers at prices that cannot be raised. Thus the buyer is protected from shabby or inferior goods which are unsafe to advertise. The honest advertiser, and there are few merchants who care to risk their reputation and ruin their business by advertising goods that are only salable when the customer is deceived, and merchants who make a practice of deception in advertising thrown on their goods.

Thus advertising protects the merchant against his competitor of shabby goods, also by bringing to his counter intelligent buyers, who realize that his printed guarantee goes with everything purchased at his store.

Montgomery Ward & Co. sell an immense amount of goods in Texas, they have no salesmen here, but their ad appears in every paper with which they can make a contract. The Texas merchants grumble that money is sent away from home. They don't stop to think that money is sent by these big merchants to Texas to start the Texas money their way and seeing and knowing positively that through advertising alone do these big merchants reap a rich harvest, and that from the people who should be their customers.

In the days of prairie fires, the wise pioneer would apply a torch to the prairie when he saw the blazes coming toward his property, thus destroying the material on which the fire fed, and seeing it die without damaging his property. If the Texas merchants would "fight fire with fire" and judiciously apply the torch of advertising their big competitors would be driven from the field, while a substantial growth in their prosperity would be realized.—Dallas News.

Fifty divorces were granted during the term of District Court at Terrell. During the twelve weeks of court less than half that number of marriage licenses have been issued.

Will Mann and Otho Williams, with their families, returned Saturday from a fishing trip on Jim Ned. Ask them for further particulars.

OUR CLEARANCE SALE

Was a Success

And for that reason we are going to continue it until Aug 15. The people responded liberally. All of them got BARGAINS and were well pleased. If you failed to take advantage of the

SLAUGHTER OF SEASONABLE MERCHANDISE

come while the sale is on and get what you need. Remember, all goods have been marked down; you get real values. There are bargains for all. Prices advertised will hold good until above date, but no goods charged.

J. P. SHARP & CO.

A Sweet Sounding Word.

Floresville Chronicle.

Hope! How sweetly sounds the word. This little monosyllable has furnished a fruitful theme for sermon, song and story. In youth we hope that maturer years will bring brighter joys—that for deeds of valor and heroic service done we shall win the laurel wreath. The mother caresses lovingly her child and dreams in visions many hued—of wealth and fame and power—dreams and hopes. The father, in quite proper pride, hopes for the day the son who bears his name shall win the world's applause. The lover dreams of one grand paragon—thinks of a new made home, and hopes. Sweeter, far, the thinks, than the joys the world affords. But sweeter still is the hope that spans the grave—that links death with immortality and bids us struggle on. Without this hope the clouds would gather and stout hearts grow faint. Blessed hope! Bright are the joys the angels keep in paradise, but none shall be sweeter than the balm that makes us see in the open grave the door of heaven.

A southern Kansas exchange says a new game has become very popular in that town. They call it "Christianity." "It takes two people to play the game, a boy and a girl. The girl gets on one side, she is the Christian, and the boy on the other side, he is the heathen. Then the heathen embraces Christianity. A curious circumstance which has been observed in all towns is that the man always shows deep interest in this game until he makes a winning, when

he very often grows indifferent and backslides."

At Sweetwater.

Review.

The Burton-Lingo company has received two cars of lumber this week for the oil mill, and the remainder will be shipped as fast as possible.

A box of Wine of Cardui and one of Grape Juice were found in the cistern on the Hughey premises on North Second street, Wednesday morning. The boxes were marked for a Colorado firm and the supposition is that they were stolen from a car on the local, Tuesday night, while the crew were unloading another car.

A case of wife beating at the Windsor hotel, Sunday night, in which a Mr. Smith and wife were the principals, was investigated in Justice Freeman's court Tuesday. The former was proven innocent of the charge of wife beating, but will have to answer to a charge of disturbing the peace.

Material for the Orient continues to arrive daily. A trip to the T. & P. yards, where huge piles of rails, ties, piling and bridge timber of every description are stacked, ought to be conclusive proof to the most skeptical that the Orient people mean business. The ties, now being received in large quantities, are of oak and have been soaked in a preparation of creosote which will preserve their usefulness for years.

S. J. Patterson returned from Eastland Tuesday morning, having been excused from testifying in the Pettis case.

MERKEL HIGH SCHOOL.

First Session Begins Sept. 14, Continuing 9 Months.

Merkel High School opens Sept. 14, 1903, and continues nine months. All who wish to transfer their children to Merkel school should do so at once. There is every reason for believing that the next year will be the most successful year in the history of the school. It is the aim of all concerned to give the pupils attending Merkel High School advantages equal to those afforded by the best schools in the State.

You will make no mistake if you enter your children in Merkel High School. 3t

A Beautiful Old Custom.

Calvert Courier.

The Courier notes with regret the passing of that beautiful old custom that subscribers observed of gratefully showing their appreciation of the country editor's labors by bringing to his table the toothsome products of the farm. Such visions of juicy hams and festoons of linked sausage, what heaps of yams and loads of pumpkins, what prodigality of honey, popcorn for the children, nice warm socks of wool, with an occasional suit! But, alas, we have fallen upon untoward and degenerate times. The editor of this great torchlight of liberty must do the best he can while he pulls down his last summer's coat to hide the 8x10 patch on the bosom of his pants and listens at night to the music of the empty frying pan as it is flapped against the kitchen wall by the festive wind.

Questions in Geography.

What did Dela wear?
When did Mary land?
Whom did Connecti cut?
Whom did Kan sass?
Where is Ore gone?
What does Ida hoe?
Who was the Ken tuckey!
Who first knew York?
How many did New Hamp shear?
How much is a Washing ton?
Who saw U tar?
How much do Io her?
Why don't Al ask her?
Where did he lose Ana?
—New York Sun.

Passing of the Range.

At Abilene, Tex., recently, four leagues of land originally deeded to Guadeloupe county by the state of Texas, were sold to J. B. Dibrell and F. C. Weinert

\$90,088.62. The land is situated on the Clear Brazos, twenty-four miles southeast of old Fort Phantom Hill, Taylor county, and it is understood that the purchasers will cut the tract into small bodies and sell for farming purposes. Thus are the pastures in West Texas gradually being placed on the market and acquired by actual settlers.—Farm Journal.

The Pettis trial is still on at Eastland and new developments have centered much interest in the case. Many of the witnesses have returned home.

Henry Norris, who lives 10 miles north of town, reports a fairly good shower at his place, but not near as much as fell here. Six miles north the rain began to get lighter.

A TICK TEST

Fred Robinson of Audra, Tex., fed Bass' Medicated Stock Salt to two work horses which ran in a very ticky pasture with cattle. All were almost covered with ticks. He noticed one horse ate the salt and other did not. In a few days no ticks were on the salt eating horse, but were as bad as ever on other horse. He then examined the cattle and all in the pasture with Bass' Salt were clear of ticks, but none except ones eating Bass' Salt were clean.

W. M. Horn, Hodges, Tex., says: "My cattle were dying with fever, and ticks were on them, when I began with Bass' Medicated Stock Salt. Not one was sick afterward and in two weeks could not find a tick."

Geo. W. McDaniel lost 5 out of 70 head in two or three days. On the day he began with Bass' Medicated Salt no more were sick.

Mack Merchant fed Bass' Medicated Salt to his cattle, not thinking of ticks. In a month the ticks were gone, but he does not know how long before. Some say it was hot weather and some Bass' Medicated Stock Salt.

J. T. Warren sells it; see for yourself.

Vehicles!

I have the best line of Buggies and Wagons on the market. The prices speak for themselves. Come and see

W. H. Dickson

The Farmer's Column.

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

One of the most wasteful habits some farmers have and one that surely reduces the profits or the year's campaign is the careless manner in which farm implements are cared for. All tools, even single plows and hoes, when not in actual use, should be cleaned and placed where they will not be rotted and rusted by rain and dew, nor warped and cracked by the sun. As a rule costly implements seldom live out half their natural lives. We have seen threshers, cultivators, seeders, and many others, left exposed to every element of deterioration year after year until rendered useless, when good care would have rendered them serviceable for double the time. Because a machine suffers no pangs, some farmers imagine that they are not affected by the elements. They will carefully house the horse or the cow, but give no attention to the cultivator. In so doing he punishes only himself.

Crops That Aid the Cotton-Grower.

E. W. Kirkpatrick.

Success is obtained by the skillful marshalling of every available resource. The successful General secures command of soldiers who are distinguished for their bravery, loyalty, and skill. He supplies best equipment, inspires with hope and good cheer, and exacts perfect discipline. These are conditions necessary to success.

Captains of Industry are compelled to combine a multitude of rare qualities of business skill and acumen. Close study and long continued experience are necessary to success.

Statesmen, Jurists, Authors, practitioners and every class must pay the price of long continued patient effort in order to succeed.

The cotton-farmer is no exception, and he must avail himself of every advantage within his reach. Every cotton-grower, large or small, land owner or land renter, will find his profits increased by growing several crops in addition to cotton. Every member of the family will be aided and encouraged by growing fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Perseverance is one of the necessary elements of success in any pursuit. A farmer in order to attain highest success must stay

with his work. He must continue in one location, with soil, climate, friends, and neighbors until he is familiar with all the conditions before he can hope for distinguished success.

The planting of trees and vines and flowers often result in making home permanent, and prevents the frequent ruinous moves that are often made by farmers. The family garden and orchard reduce the expense of living and add to the income. They bring health and luxury and good cheer to the family.

Alfalfa, sorghum, potatoes, milo maize and other feed crops should be grown on every farm. These crops serve many good purposes. They will prevent feed bills, they will supply the pigs and fowls and bees with excellent supplies. The surplus fruit, vegetables, and feed stuffs could be sold for cash. These crops can be carried along with the cotton with less loss of time or capital. The family and work-hands will enjoy these things, a general air of satisfaction will settle about the farm where the table is supplied with fruits, wines, jellies, preserves, melons, cantaloupes, milk, butter, honey, fowls, eggs, syrups and all the numerous delicacies commonly found in well-managed Texas farms. If a landlord should be so stupid and blind as to refuse the use of cultivated land for these things the tenant should plant them in the waste places or rent a spot from some more rational neighbor.

By paying reasonable rent it is easy to secure land for these crops. Cotton is becoming very profitable; at prevailing prices it will soon be produced in greatly increased quantity; that increase will cause prices to fall below the line of large profit, when we will be compelled to seek other crops of greater profit. Hence the necessity of becoming familiar with other equal or superior crops for profit.

No Pity Shown.

"For years fate was after me continuously," writes F. A. Gulledge, Verbena, Ala. "I had a terrible case of Piles causing 24 tumors. When all failed Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured me." Equally good for Burns and all aches and pains. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's Drug Store.

Very Remarkable Cure of Diarrhoea.

"About six years ago for the first time in my life I had a sudden and severe attack of diarrhoea," says Mrs. Alice Miller, of Morgan, Texas. "I got temporary relief, but it came back again and again, and for six long years I have suffered more misery and agony than I can tell. It was worse than death. My husband spent hundreds of dollars for physicians' prescriptions and treatment without avail. Finally we moved to Bosque county, our present home, and one day I happened to see an advertisement of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy with a testimonial of a man who had been cured by it. The case was so similar to my own that I concluded to try the Remedy. The result was wonderful. I could hardly realize that I was well again, or believe it could be so after having suffered so long, but that one bottle of medicine, costing but a few cents, cured me." For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

A very grave indictment has been brought against the cigarette smoking habit by foreign scientist who recently expressed himself as follows—"Watch a cigarette smoker. He first draws in all he can of the smoke, then exhaling he forces it through the nose. How much mucous surface is bathed by the smoke? Over one thousand square feet. It first passes through the larynx into the bronchial tubes, then into the bronchioles, or small bronchi, into the air cells—about 725,000,000 of them. All this surface, especially the air cells, absorbs the nicotine from the smoke, and is carried in the blood, where it is distributed to the brain and the heart. Now, nicotine paralyzes muscular fibre, and the heart is especially effected, because it receives and distributes all the blood in the body."—Health.

An Ode to Carry Nation.

Mrs. Nation. Mrs. Nation,
After much deliberation,
But without procrastination,
You have found your occupation.

And with earnest application
To this joy of renovation
Without thought of compensation
You have gained a reputation.
You have shown determination
And a lot of animation,
Working for emancipation.
Of this thirsty generation.
And to increase the complication

Joints sighs show desolation
And their stock depreciation
From the very last quotation.
Their keepers view with consternation

The awful work of desecration
And their only consolation
They can hunt a new vocation.
During your incarceration
With ample time for meditation
You proposed continuation
Of the present agitation.
You know the combination
You indorse the proclamation
Of this great administration
In benevolent assimilation.

Not a Good Likeness.

The little daughter of the house watched the minister, who was making a visit, very closely, and finally sat down beside him and began to draw on her slate.

"What are you drawing?" asked the clergyman,
"I'm making your picture," said the child,

The minister sat very still, and the child worked away very earnestly. Then she stopped and compared her work with the

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!
Most in Quantity. — Best in Quality.
For 20 Years Has Led all Worm Remedies. EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED.
Prepared by JAMES F. BALLARD, St. Louis.
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

For Sale by BURROUGHS & MANN,

Merkel, Tex.

original, and shook her head.

"I don't like it much," she said. "Taint a great deal like you. I guess I'll put a tail to it and call it a dog."—Ex.

The Dollar.

Just a little dollar on its mission sent, make a lot of people glad each time the coin is spent. You pay to the butcher for meat to give you strength; he takes it to the grocer from whom it goes at length some pretty bit to buy, or helps to get her winter hat to make her rival sigh. The dry goods man sends on the coin to pay his market bill, and though the coin is often spent, it stays a dollar still, and every time it's spent at home some act of good is done, in booming local interests ere the sitting of the sun.

But if you take the shining coin and break the local chain, the chances are that from after 'twill ne'er return again. If once it passes out of town, the butcher and the baker, the grocer and the dry goods man, the cooks and undertaker, the carpenter, the carriage wright, the blacksmith everyone will lose the chance to touch the coin ere the setting of the sun.

Just keep the little coin at home, just keep it moving well, and

every time it changes hands somebody's goods 'twill sell. That single little dollar has thus a wonderful power to make somebody richer a dozen times an hour. It pays the bills, wards off the ills, and ne'er its power relaxes to soothe the doctor, buy the coal and pay for clothes and taxes.—Exchange.

"The Mewl" wrote a school boy, "is a hardier bird than the guse or turkey. It has 2 legs to walk with, 2 more to kick with, and it wears its wings on the side of its head. It is stubbornly backward about going forward."

General Booth, head of the Salvation Army, was recently asked what he considered the greatest evil threatening us in the twentieth century. The following reply is both comprehensive and pointed and reveals the insight of an experienced observer: "I am of the opinion, that the chief danger that confronts the coming century will be religion githout the Holy Ghos; Christianity without Christ; forgiveness without repentance; salvation without regeneration; politics without God and heaven without hell."

The Mail gives all the news.

The Man WHO TOILS

Deserves and certainly should appreciate a pretty and a comfortable home.



GOOD AND DURABLE FURNITURE

is our hobby and it's one that has won friends and customers for us.

INDUCEMENTS

To newly married couples to buy th eir outfits here.

Geo. L. PAXTON

ABILENE, TEXAS.