

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIV.

MERKEL, TEXAS, AUGUST 20, 1903.

NO. 26.

SUNDAY MORNING

REFLECTIONS

What the Preachers are Talking About in Their Pulpits, and Late Church News

Three Evils.

There are three kinds of evils: (1) Evils due to the clash of physical forces with human interests, which we call evils of accident; (2) evils due to the faulty hygiene and sanitation, speculative investments, preventable war, inexcusable misunderstanding between capital and labor, which may be called evils of ignorance, and (3) evils due to deliberate malice, downright dishonesty, cruel lust and wanton drunkenness.

Methodism.

Methodism has grown until it has a combined constituency of 30,000,000 persons of many nations and tongues, owns churches and colleges upon which the sun never sets, and has an income of millions of dollars a year, but its real strength lies in the supernatural power and victory over sin enjoyed by all true Methodists.

Dishonesty.

There is a feeling prevalent that dishonesty is becoming common in public life. The terms "graft" and "grafter" are being freely applied in connection with men hitherto supposed to be respectable and honest. No mercy should be shown to the man who violates the trust of public office and uses it for barter.

Man and the Universe.

The fact that man is the greatest being upon the planet argues that he should have absolute control over all its functions and forces, but yet he is a victim to conditions over which he has no control. He should be the recipient of the very best this universe affords, yet he is nominally a pauper.

Social Life.

Blessed are they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness in social life. What the social life needs is a strong infusion of righteousness, charitableness, modesty, temperance, healthy amusement and intelligence.

Influence.

No one can really possess a spirirual gift without making some one else better for that possession. The human soul is positive; it must give something out from itself. From the laugh and prattle of the cradle on to the fulness of old age man is ever giving good or evil, joy or sorrow, discouragement or inspiration to those with whom he comes in contact.

Why Counterfeited.

Did you ever see a counterfeit ten dollar bill?
Yes.
Why was it counterfeited?
Because it was worth counterfeiting.
Was the ten dollar bill to blame?
No.

Merkel Is Bidding For Your Cotton

DICKSON IS BIDDING FOR YOUR TRADE

Onward and Upward in my efforts to please the trade--this is my motto, and the many friends won for this store show how well I have succeeded.

LANSING WAGONS OWASSO BUGGIES

In this department I can certainly interest all. They are acknowledged leaders, and having handled them many years I can recommend them as the BEST. Get others' prices then come to me. It will be money in your pockets.

I sell the famous Yellow Kid Disc Plow.

I handle the time tried Bement Farm Implements:

Plows, Cultivators, Disc Plows, Harrows, etc.

They are the best, and you can well afford to come many miles to purchase such implements. They pay in the long run.

My prices are always right, and goods the best. Come and see.

BRIDGE and BEACH STOVES and RANGES

They are decidedly the best. Find a man who is using a Bridge & Beach and you will find one who has a satisfactory article.

I have everything usually carried in an up-to-date hardware store, and sell honest goods at honest prices.

A full line of Single and Double Harness.

W. H. DICKSON FOR HARDWARE

Collars! Bridles!

We don't keep them.

We sell them at prices that keep them moving. All kinds. Cheap ones 75c; better ones \$1.25 to \$1.75. Good, none better, at \$2 to \$2.50. Bridles! Oh, just any old price.

R. L. Hudson.

Did you ever see a scrap of brown paper counterfeited?

No.

Why not?

Because it is not worth counterfeiting.

Did you ever see a counterfeit Christian?

Yes, lots of them.

Why was he counterfeited?

Because he was worth counterfeiting.

Was he to blame for being counterfeited?

The Sweetest Things of Earth.

What are the sweetest things of earth?

Lips that can praise another's worth;

A fragrant rose that hides a thorn,

Riches of gold untouched by scorn;

A happy little child asleep;

Eyes that can smile, though they may weep;

A brother's cheer, a father's praise;

The minstrelsy of summer days.

A heart where never anger burns;

A gift that looks for no returns;

Wrong's overthrow; pain's swift release.

Dark footsteps guided into peace;

The light of love in lover's eyes;

Age that is young as well as wise;

An honest hand that needs no ward:

A life with right in true accord;

A hope bud waxing into joy;

A happiness without alloy;

A mother's kiss, a baby's mirth—

These are the sweetest things of earth.

The Coward's Lot.

"A little thing that I observe during the war has always made me have a sympathetic feeling for the man who is without cour-

age," said an old soldier who went through some of the hot skirmishes of the sixties, "and I am inclined to believe that some men are just natural cowards, and can't help it. Many men went into the war with the very best of intentions. They wanted to fight, and intended to fight, for the principles they knew to be right. I can imagine they plunged into the thing with a desperate resignation, probably believing they would die on the battlefield martyrs to the cause which they espoused. I am quite sure this was the case with the soldier who figures in this little story. His heart was in the right place, and in sentiment I dare say the South contributed few stronger men to the cause of the Confederacy. But he simply could not stand the gaff. When the hot issue of powder and lead was passed up to him he quaked in his boots, and all his high resolves to achieve well and handsomely as a soldier simply counted for naught, and he was left cowering on the point of desertion. I never shall forget one battle he was in. It was a fierce fight. Some of his more daring and stronger comrades were out on top of the breastworks, blazing away furiously at the enemy. Every inch of their bodies were exposed to the fire of the Yankee soldiers. In the meantime, the man whose courage had weakened at the critical moment was behind the breastworks in a state of frenzied alarm. He did not have the strength to venture out and take part in the fight. In some way he managed to stick about one-half of the fore-finger of the right hand above the

breastworks line, so that this much of his anatomy was exposed to the enemy's attack. No sooner had this much of his finger been exposed than a bullet came clipping along from a Yankee gun, and all the exposed portion of the finger was cut off. It seems to have been the coward's fate. The brave men who had exposed every muscle, fibre and member of their being by taking unprotected positions on the breastworks escaped without a scratch of the hide. You can't tell about these things. The man who lost his finger is a good man, and a good citizen, but he simply can't keep his courage when you put the gaff to him, and his case has taught me to deal at least pityingly with the man who has the "yellow streak" in his make up."—New Orleans Times-

comes from Atlanta that thousands of dollars have been secured from the blacks of that section of Georgia, and also of Florida, by a Northern negro who claimed that he had been employed by Senator Mark Hanna to collect money to be used in passing the Ohio Senator's bill to pension the ex-slaves of the South. The negroes, tempted by the prospects of a pension, gave readily to him, some of them turning over the savings of years. Last week he left, saying he was going to see Hanna. One negro, E. B. Wilson, who had given \$50, grew suspicious and wrote Senator Hanna. Wilson received a letter from the Senator denouncing the negro as a fraud, and warning the negroes not to trust him. It is estimated that he secured \$6,000 during his campaign of duplicity.

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.

The Making of a Man.

The story really begins with a woman, a beautiful Southerner. Coming North, she met the beau of a New England village, a man who lived on the family fortune and made himself more or less useful as a squire of dames at parties, picnics and balls. They fell in love with each other and were married.

The man would have been quite willing to continue to share his mother's bounty. The wife would not consent. "Don't be dependent!" she said. "Go to work!" The spark of manhood flamed in him at that, and he tried his best, but people who knew him only laughed at his application for employment. "What can you do?" they asked. He had to admit that he did not know how to do anything well. It seemed to him that he had no excuse for existing at all.

"Then," said the wife at length, "I will get work for you and you must take what I can get." The only place that her only acquaintance, a mill owner, could promise was one that belonged to a boy who was to be promoted to something better. It was boys' work at boys' wages, but the man took it.

Now the wife showed her quality in another way. She insisted that they must live on her husband's earnings, such as they were, and the pair moved into one room near the mill. The former belle wore cheap gowns and did her own housework. Probably she as well as her husband learned something by the experience. And how he worked! Promotions came to him, for he more than earned them. Now he is one of the proprietors of the mill in which he started as a thirty-five year old boy, and his wife is the idol of his family and the admiration of the village.

This story is vouched for as true in every detail. It should have special interest for girls who long for a "career," for it suggests that, if no public way opens, they can have one at home. The world moves only as individuals advance, and the forward impulse is best aided by those who stand nearest.—Youth's Companion.

Brain Leaks.

Sourness is not sanctification.

The man who whistles at his work seldom slights it.

The man who forgets easiest has the clearest conscience.

Only fools envy the man who is the slave of his money.

Clean politics will come when clean men get into it and stay in.

When money talks it seldom has any trouble in finding a listener.

Honestly now, did you ever have a really good time at a "church social?"

A man usually has to work doubly hard for two weeks after a vacation in order to get rested up.

Some men look upon home as being merely a place where they can rest up for the next day's work.

The boy who never had a grandmother is going to miss

some precious recollections when he is a man.

There is plenty of room at the top. The trouble is in the awful jam around the bottom of the ladder.

If the average man could do as much work as he thinks he can there would be little demand for labor-saving machinery.

The trouble with the "trustees of providence" is that they want to claim all their success as their own and blame their failures on providence.

If you receive a copy of this paper, consider it an invitation to subscribe and hand in your subscription.

The Mail and Dallas News \$1.50.

Hereafter the price of The Mail and Dallas News, both for one year, will be only \$1.50, either to new subscribers or renewals. This gives you 156 papers a year at less than 1c a copy.

Take advantage of this offer now.

Work And Live Long.

John Clemens, who is 97 years old, says that work is the greatest promoter of long life. He is still hale and hearty and looks back over a life well sprinkled with misfortunes with satisfaction and contentment.

He lives in South St. Louis, near where his former home was before the cyclone tore it down.

He still works and says he hopes to work for a good many years more. His rules for long life are simple, and as explained by him are as follows:

Work is the key to a long life.
Work is natural exercise.
Work creates a natural appetite.
Work brings restful sleep.
Work fortifies against disease.
Work brings happiness and prosperity.

Eat with moderation.

Eat whenever you are hungry.

Eat wholesome food.

Eat seasonable vegetables.

Drink whatever you wish, moderately.

Never drink to excess.

Avoid excitement and late hours.

Use tobacco, but not in cigarettes.

Mr. Clemens is of Corsican parentage, although he was born on board ship on the way to France.

His youth was spent on the sea, and after he came to the United States he worked in every capacity on the Mississippi steamboats.

He has been shipwrecked and shot and otherwise wounded, but says his simple rules for living have kept him alive and well.—St. Louis Republic.

Pure Neatsfoot harness oil—the best—at Hudson's.

Jas. Baker of Trent has returned from a visit to relatives in Coleman county.

Prompt, active, and reliable attention to the affairs of all our customers has builded our business on a firm foundation. ¶¶ Are you a customer of this bank? ¶¶

Warnick's Bank,
Merkel, Texas,

\$100 IN PREMIUMS!

For Three First Bales 1903-4 Cotton Sold and Ginned in Merkel.

The business men of Merkel have subscribed \$100 in cash as premiums for the three first bales of cotton sold and ginned in Merkel, divided as follows: \$50 for the first bale, \$30 for the second, and \$20 for the third. In addition to this, the Merkel gins will gin and wrap the premium bales free of charge. We have three gins with a daily capacity of 200 bales. Note the following conditions.

CONDITIONS:

- (1) Each of the three bales must be ginned and sold in Merkel, but may be brought in from this or adjoining counties.
- (2) Each of the three bales must be gathered from an individual crop. No premium will be given to two or more parties who "splice" together to make a bale.
- (3) The first bale sold on the streets of Merkel after being ginned by a Merkel gin will be entitled to first premium of \$50, and in like manner the next two bales.
- (4) Each bale must weigh at least 450 pounds; bales under this weight can not compete for either of the premiums.

The business men are actuated in this move solely by a debt of gratitude they owe the farmers of the Merkel Country. It is their intention to make this the very best cotton market in all this country, and with that purpose in view they invite the support and cooperation of the farmers of this and adjoining counties.

BRING YOUR COTTON to MERKEL.

Weekly Crop Report.

Washington, Aug. 18. — The Weather Bureau weekly summary of crop conditions is as follows:

Cotton has made rapid growth throughout the cotton belt. In portions of the central and western districts and Eastern North Carolina complaint of too rapid growth is quite general, rust and shedding being reported in the central and eastern districts, while heavy rains have caused injury in portions of North Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana and Arkansas. Boll weevils are increasing in the southwest and south central cotton counties of Texas and boll worms are appearing in North Texas, but as yet the latter have caused little damage.

Mrs. Pence (nee Miss May Williams) remits \$1.00 from Napton, Mo., to keep the "weekly letter" coming. The Mail sends greetings from her friends here.

The Mail and Dallas News one year only \$1.50. Subscribe now.

First Bale Premiums.

Following are the subscriptions for the first bale premiums:

J P Sharp & Co.	\$5.00
Dennis Bros. and Ustick.	4.00
Maxwell & Sons	1.00
Rust & Pittard	2.00
Chenault & Hand	1.00
R. L. Hudson	3.50
J W Woodard	1.00
Hill & Provine	1.00
Burton-Lingo Co.	7.50
G F West	7.50
J C Hamm	5.00
Browning & Co.	3.00
J H Warnick	15.00
J T Warren	10.00
Merkel Mail 3 yearly subs.	
D C Hutcheson	2.00
Watson & Bacon	5.00
Merkel Merc. Co.	10.00
Burroughs & Mann	2.00
Basham, Shepherd & Co.	1.00
W H Dickson	5.00
J H Hughes & Co.	1.00
First National Bank	20.00
Elliott & Miller	2.00
Racket Store	1.00
I N Williamson	.50
T B Story	1.00
C E Davis	1.00
J W Little	1.00

A SURPRISE . . .

Is in store for all who store their money in our store. This is not a stor(y), but a continued offering of good values.

We are not much on the talk, but when it comes to doing things, we are right there with the goods every time.

We would appreciate your drug trade, and think enough of it to ask you for it. Our stock is FRESH.

GOOD GOODS RIGHT PRICES

Drop in and see us when in Merkel. We sell everything usually carried in first class drug stores.

Burroughs & Mann.

Don't Become Discouraged,

But use Simmon's Liver Purifier [tin box.] Many imitations of the original, so be careful and see that it's "purifier" and manufactured by the A. C. Simmons Jr. Medicine Co.

For Sale—One high grade carriage. Will take a good note. Call at First National Bank. 2t

Merkel public school will start out this fall with the brightest prospects in its history. Already there are promises of a very large attendance, many people from a distance having signified their intention of moving here to take advantage of the splendid inducements, and rent houses are already in demand. No school in this country has a more efficient corps of teachers, nor one which is better skilled in school management and discipline. This insures a very prosperous school year.

Hymn Saved His Life.

The power of a song is something wonderful at times. This is well illustrated by a story, and a true one, told long ago.

Two Americans were crossing the Atlantic met in the cabin on Sunday night to sing hymns. As they sang the last hymn, "Jesus Lover of My Soul," one of them heard an exceedingly rich and beautiful voice behind him. He looked around, and, although he did not know the face, he thought that he knew the voice. So, when the music ceased, he turned and asked the man if he had been in the Civil War. The man replied that he had been a Confederate soldier.

"Were you at such a place on such a night?" asked the first.

"Yes," he replied, "and a curious thing happened that night which this hymn has recalled to my mind. I was posted on sentry duty near the edge of a wood. It was a dark night and very cold, and I was a little frightened because the enemy was supposed to be very near. About midnight, when everything was very still, and I was feeling homesick and miserable and weary, I thought that I would comfort myself by praying and singing a hymn. I remember singing this hymn:

"All my trust on Thee is stayed,
All my help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
With the shadow of Thy wing.

"After singing that a strange peace came down upon me, and through the long night I felt no more fear."

"Now," said the other, "listen to my story. I was a Union soldier and was in the woods that night with a party of scouts. I saw you standing, although I did not see your face. My men had their rifles focused upon you, waiting the word to fire, but when you sang out:

"Cover my defenseless head
With the shadow of Thy wing.
I said: "Boys, lower your rifles; we will go home."—Pittsburg Gazette.

Grasshoppers in Montana.

Red Lodge, Mont., Aug. 17.—Grasshoppers are so thick in this section that they are plastered each day on the locomotives on trains so that the wheels are so slippery that when the locomotives stop it is difficult to start them again. They have eaten the range bare.

Merkel Pays Better Prices for Cotton Than Any Market, and The Star Store Booms the Price to the very Top Notch



We sell the best shoe on earth; try a pair and be convinced. None better than "Our Family" line for men, women and children.

CLOTHING! CLOTHING!

We carry the best selection in Merkel and our prices are always right. Our fall sample book is here. Come in and give us your order for a tailor made suit.

STAR BRAND SHOES ARE BETTER



Our fall stock is beginning to arrive, and by Sept. 1, we will have the best selected stock in the west. Be sure to see us when in the market for Groceries; we carry a well selected stock and sell at Low Prices.

And remember we are in the market for your cotton.

You will think we have it for Less

THE STAR STORE
MERKEL MERCANTILE CO. PROPS.

Measures taken for the We Guarantee International Tailoring Co., Chi International Tailoring

You will think we have it for Less

Huge Mormon Family.

Lorin Farr of Salt Lake City and one of the pillars of the Mormon Church, hale and vigorous in his eighty-first year, is the father of 326 children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and when recently there was a family gathering in which his brothers, Aaron and Winslow, took part, with their respective families, there was a great assemblage. A local wit said it was by Farr and away the most notable domestic foregathering of modern times, for all in all there were 555 persons, including Lorin Farr's two surviving wives.

Of Mr. Farr's thirty-nine children, thirty are living—eighteen sons and twelve daughters. All are strong, healthy and vigorous. They are prosperous farmers, merchants, lawyers and doctors. The girls have married into every station, and all have large families. Every profession and trade is represented by Mr. Farr's descendants. Mr. Farr's brothers, Aaron and Winslow, are 85 and 70 years old, respectively.

Although Mr. Farr is now an octogenarian, he moves, looks, acts and talks like a man twenty years younger. He attends to his varied business interests.

W. A. Cozart is stepping quite spry, his wife having returned Tuesday from her visit to relatives at Muskogee, I. T. Mrs. Cozart reports a very pleasant stay, and really returned sooner than expected, owing to the restlessness of W. A., who had threatened to go after her.

Miss Florence Collins, who has been visiting her cousin, Miss Birdie Collins, left Tuesday for her home at Clarksville.

Whips! Robes! Blankets!

They are the kind that give satisfaction, and the best of it is the prices are right. Just try them one time.

R. L. Hudson.

A Ridiculous Optimist.

There once was a man who smiled
Because the day was bright;
Because he slept at night;
Because God gave him sight
To gaze upon his child!
Because his little one
Could leap, laugh and run;
Because the distant sun
Smiled on the earth, he smiled.

He smiled because the sky
Was high above his head;
Because the rose was red;
Because the past was dead!
He never wondered why
The Lord had blundered so,
That all things have to go
The wrong way here below
That everlasting sky.

He toiled and still was glad
Because the air was free;
Because her love and she
That claimed his love, and he
Shared all the joys they had!
Because the grasses grew;
Because the sweet winds blew
Because that he could hew
And hammer he was glad.

Because he lived and smiled,
And did not look ahead
With bitterness or dread
But nightly sought his bed
As calmly as a child,
And people called him mad
For being always glad
With such things as he had,
And shook their heads and
smiled.—Unknown.

Boll Worm Remedy.

Cooper, Tex., Aug. 18.—A few of the farmers are trying a remedy for the boll worm that is cheap and simple. The plan is to take a large quantity of old rags or cloth and place these in a box with a large amount of sulphur mixed all through the rags, and set this afire, and with these burning rags and sulphur they fumigate their cotton fields by dragging the box along the middle of every fourth row of cotton.

A few days ago a farmer came in and bought a large amount of sulphur and said that he was going to use it in fumigating his cotton, and further that a year or two ago, when the boll worms were so bad, he fumigated his cotton by dragging a box of burning rags and sulphur along every fourth row of his cotton, and where he did this he made a bale of cotton to the acre, and where he did not fumigate he made scarcely anything. The remedy is cheap and easily applied, and several other farmers are trying the plan, and believe that it will kill the boll worm and drive away the fly, and prevent the further propagation of the worm.

R. H. Collins returned from New Orleans Sunday, where he accompanied a shipment of cattle.

A prohibition election will be held in Medina county Sept. 10. Both sides claim the election.

Hope and Wisdom

Both are contained in Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tablets. Try them. 25cts. No cure—no pay.

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.

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.

Everything Comes

To those that wait, even now; and then aches and pains, Rheumatism, Catarrh, Neuralgia, and everything that hurts. Hunt's Lightning Oil keeps off everything except old age and death. Try it. 25 and 50cts. Satisfaction or money refunded.

To The Public.

Following is a list of the stockholders of the Farmers and Merchants Gin Company of Merkel:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G W Cox | W W Johnson |
| W L Diltz | John Sears |
| A C Browning | D J Gibson |
| B H Marsh | F E Maxwell |
| W A Cozart | H W Derstine |
| T J Parton | W M Clark |
| J C Calvert | Merkel Mer. Co |
| J T Warren | G W Moore |
| J R Curb | W A Campbell |
| J J Stallings | T L Stevens |
| T O Lackey | W W Wheeler |
| W D Smith | John Elliott |
| S P Martin | Boyce Bros |
| Oliver Boden | Buck Moore |
| W H Dickson | G D Richie |
| H B Chambless | W A Sheppard |
| T P Gibson | S S Smith |
| D Reidenbach | J M Tipton |
| H L Propst | J W Jennings |
| Walter Cox | J O Hamilton |
| J P Sharp & Co | Geo S Berry |
| G B Brown | Watson & Bacon |
| | B I Lowe |

The State of Texas, }
County of Taylor. }

I, Geo. S. Berry, of said State and County, do swear that I am a stockholder and director and am secretary and treasurer of The Farmers and Merchants Gin Company of Merkel, Texas; that I of my own knowledge know that the capital stock of said corporation, to-wit: \$6,000.00, has been subscribed, and that the entire capital stock of said corporation, to-wit: \$6,000.00, has been paid in.

Witness my hand this 8th day of August, A. D. 1903.

Geo. S. Berry.

The above and foregoing instrument was subscribed and sworn to by Geo. S. Berry before me this 8th day of August, A. D. 1903.

[L. S.] T. A. Johnson,
Notary Public, Taylor Co., Tex.

I have given the agency to the Weatherford Steam Laundry to Nisbett & Rose, and they will be glad to secure your patronage. All work guaranteed and prices right. Next door to Star Store. Will Leeman.

J. W. Childress of Abilene, who was a candidate for Mayor at the recent municipal election and was defeated by a close margin, has filed papers of contest, and is trying to oust Mayor Roberts.

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.

THE FARMERS' DEPARTMENT. 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 experience of farmers here at home who have turned over the soil.

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

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

Dr. King's New Discovery

For CONSUMPTION, COUGHS and COLDS. Price 50c & \$1.00

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



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

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

Best Passenger Service

...IN...

TEXAS



"No Trouble to Answer Questions."

DINING CARS

BETWEEN

FORT WORTH and SAINT LOUIS

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

The 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 months50
Three months25
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 where 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.

MERKEL AS A MARKET.

The fall season will soon be here, and the farmers will want to market their products and buy their fall and winter supplies where they can do the best. They can do no better than to come to Merkel. Our merchants will be prepared to buy their cotton at top prices, and to sell them goods at the lowest prices consistent with good, honest merchandise.

Our merchants have been in business here a long time, and are the farmers' friends. They appreciate your patronage, and this year, as in the past, they intend to make this the best cotton market in all this country. Already a purse has been raised and the first three bales to be ginned and sold here will earn \$100 in premiums.

Bring your cotton to Merkel, do your trading here, and you will have no reason to regret it.

The following item is going the rounds of the press, and it is worthy of a place in these columns: "Many banks in the State are beginning what might be justly termed an educational work, and are doing considerable advertising in the newspapers, urging farmers and others to open saving accounts, however small the beginning may be. A little laid aside each week becomes quite a sum in the course of a few years. In some instances the banks have used for several weeks a page of space in which they presented in an intelligent way the question of saving money. Teaching people to save and to put their savings where they will be safe, is a great work; an educational undertaking."

Judge Brewer asserts that uncertainty of the law in dealing with criminals is very often the cause of mob violence. He offers as a remedy the prohibition of appeals. He thinks justice could be done without allowing criminal cases to be taken into higher courts. Judge Brewer's head is level on this proposition, however much he may be off in his diagnosis of the "injunction craze." The whipsawing of cases through two or three courts has done much to bring the criminal statutes into disrepute.

The Mail acknowledges the receipt of a lead pencil from the Dallas Fair management. Accompanying the pencil was the following: "If you will examine the dates on this pencil, you will see that it is not carried over stock. We do not send it to you to curry favor or to get an ad, but because we know it to be the very best editor's pencil we have

ever seen, and we think it is our duty to patronize the Texas institution that sells it. Texas State Fair, Sept. 26-Oct. 11, 1903."

Kentucky has partly redeemed herself through the conviction of the assassins of Judge Marcum, who were given life sentences. A motion for a new trial has been overruled and the case will be appealed. The outcome of the case is a decided victory for the commonwealth, and shows, at least, that the state is not as bad as pictured.

Editor Hearst for President is coming to the front at a good pace, and Judge Parker's prospects are waning. The Democratic party has few leaders who could poll a larger vote than Hearst.

Hundreds of remedies have been offered in the \$50,000 boll weevil contest inaugurated by the Texas Legislature, and the end is not yet. "Money makes the mare go," but the boll weevil—nit.

The Albany News man has weeds on the brain. And it is a pity he can't inject his weedology into the craniums of his subjects. Perseverance is a good antidote for the malady, Mr. News.

Boll weevils have appeared in parts of Dallas, Kaufman and Van Zandt counties and much alarm is felt for the safety of the crop.

An enlightened community keeps its school to the foreground. Merkel is willing to be judged from this standard.

How to Win Trade.

Merkel Mail: If Merkel is to hold the immense trade she has always enjoyed and secure other trade that of rights belongs to her the business men will have to get up and hustle. It will take hustling and lots of it to accomplish this much desired result, and the sooner the better.

The advice of the Mail to its merchants can be applied to every merchant in the State. This is the day of hustle, and the merchant or town which does not do it is bound to be left high and dry. The contest between towns was never as sharp before. The reason of it is plain. In the first place, diversification has enabled the farmer to go to that town which will give him the best and most goods for his cash money. In past years he went to that town whose merchants would "carry" him. Another reason is that railroads and better roads have made towns, hitherto inaccessible to them, accessible. Here and there can be heard the plaintive appeal from some place to the Railroad Commission to protect it. But, as a rule, the people are beginning to know that they must help themselves. Those communities which will not do it are bound to lose in the fight. Nearly every town is preparing to fight for the fall trade. —Dallas News.

Merkel Wants Your Cotton.

We have no scalpers or people making a living by buying your cotton under its value. Our buyers are all merchants and directly interested in bringing all the cotton to our town possible. Therefore, we assure the highest market prices at all times.

Our weigher is accommodating and never discriminates between the buyer and the seller.

Our ginners are old and tried men, with their machinery in good condition.

Bring your cotton to Merkel.

Prohibition Matters.

The following counties will hold prohibition elections on the dates named:

Rowie county, Aug. 27.
Palo Pinto county, Sept. 5.
Brown county, Sept. 5.
Upshur county, Aug. 29.
Russell county, Sept. 10.
Kaufman county, Sept. 5.
Henderson county, Sept. 6.

The county commissioners refused to order an election for Brazos county.

The Cost of Gambling.

The proprietor of one local gambling house is reported to have said that since he opened up he has cleared over all expenses an average of between five and six thousand dollars a month, \$60,000 to \$70,000 a year. Where does the money come from? How many wrecked lives does it represent? How many ruined homes? How many thieving employes? How much in higher prices and higher rents to the honest workman or merchant? How does the community gain any honest benefit from this "industry"? Suppose that money had not been gambled away, would it have been stored away in stockings and teapots by the clerks and wage earners and visitors who dropped it on the green table, or would it have gone into the channels of legitimate trade through having been spent for food, clothing and other necessities and luxuries? Was this money, thus gambled away, well spent? Was this money, taken by gamblers from workmen, honestly gained? Does El Paso depend, as so many seem to believe, on this sort of "industry" for its success? Are the 600 or 700 professional gamblers who are living on this community like ticks on a steer,—are they producing anything that adds to our collective wealth? In fine, does it pay?—El Paso Herald.

What He Will Make.

The boy who is always running around town smoking cigarettes and using profane language will make a man who will stand on the street corners with a group of loafers and make remarks about the best men of the town; about the men who have built the town and enlightened its inhabitants. He will make a man who will make damaging remarks about the ladies of the town; he will make a foulmouthed man who will slander somebody's loving sister or daughter; he will make a man who will be pleased to drag the purest to a level with himself, and to make grief for happy homes. When you are lightly jesting about the character of some poor girl, do you stop to think that someone else may talk just so about your sister if you do not respect theirs?—Ex.

Sam Jones on the Negro Question.

"I have lived among negroes all my life and know them pretty well, and in my mind there is not much in the excitement about them. Now this lynching business is no anarchy. If a mad dog or a wild beast runs through the streets and bites some one, the thing to do is to kill it before it does any more harm. There is not much difference between a wild beast and a negro who will attack white women. Why, in the South the respectable blacks help the whites lynch the brutes. Of the 11,000,000 negroes in the south, the great mass are law-abiding citizens. Since we have gotten rid of the Yankee scoundwags, who were stirring them up, we don't have much trouble with

Saddles! Saddles! Saddles!

Come and see them.

The largest stock ever shown in Merkel. Prices ranging from \$15 to \$50. If we do not have what you want give us your order and will make it as you wish. We have the best leather and a man that knows how to cut it.

R. L. Hudson.

them. They know their place, and they keep it, just as the convicts at Joliet know their place and keep it.

"There may be a thousand bad negroes in the south, and they are the ones who make the trouble first. In Georgia we have not disfranchised them. They can vote at the general elections; but they can not vote at the primaries. We have white primaries, and as a nomination is equivalent to an election, the black vote does not interfere. Education is doing a great deal for the blacks. The only education that I think is useful to them is manual training. Booker T. Washington is doing the most for them. He is dignifying labor, and teaching them to work."

There are comparatively few people in this part of the county who do not read The Mail, but we want to fill in the gaps this fall and place the paper in every home. There are but few better country papers, and the people should be proud of it. Our friends can assist very materially in increasing the circulation of the paper by showing their neighbors a copy and asking them to subscribe. A subscriber can be secured in this way with very little trouble. The merchants will further their own interests by speaking a good word for it. Let all assist in making the home paper prosperous, for it will rebound to the good of the town.

The Right Ring.

The following card to the prohibitionists has the right ring about it. It is from the pen of Hon. C. H. Jenkins, who is campaign manager, and if his advice is followed the strife and dissension will be eliminated from the campaign. It is as follows:
"As I have been appointed

manager of the prohibition campaign in Brown county, I will to some extent be held responsible for the conduct of the campaign; I therefore take the liberty of giving a few words of advice to the prohibitionists of Brown county.

"Be earnest, be active, be diligent, but don't be intolerant.

"As you love your home and fellowmen, talk to your neighbors, but do not fall out with him if he differs with you.

"Try to persuade all men, but do not try to drive anyone. In love and not in anger show the evils of intemperance and its fruitful cause—the liquor traffic, but do not let the heat of controversy lead you into saying unkind things of the men who are the victims of the one, or who are engaged in the other.

"Be fearless, conscious that you are armed with the truth; be zealous as an advocate of a righteous cause should ever be, but be kind and tolerant as becomes one who is actuated by the love of humanity."

Cured Paralysis.

W. S. Baily, P. O. True, Texas, writes: "My wife had been suffering five years with paralysis in her arm, when I was persuaded to use Ballard's Snow Liniment, which cured her alright. I have also used it for old sores, frost bites, and skin eruptions. It does the work." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 bottle at Burroughs & Mann's.

Monday was the hottest day felt so far this year. The thermometer registered somewhere near the top and some of the short kind "biled" over.

J. W. Daniel and Harry Hamm each shipped a car of cattle to the East St. Louis market Monday.

RACINE BUGGIES

The most satisfactory vehicles in the West. Surpass all others for

GENUINE COMFORT AND DURABILITY

Ride easy and last long. Their thousands of users in West Texas stand ready and willing to attest to these facts.

We invite you to call at our buggy repository.

We have the largest and best assorted stock of vehicles in the West.

You can get a 1903 Racine catalog by dropping us a postal.

ED S. HUGHES & CO.,

Distributors, Abilene, Texas.

The Death Penalty.

A little thing sometimes results in death. Thus a mere scratch, insignificant cuts or puny boils have paid the death penalty. It is wise to have Bucklen's Arnica Salve ever handy. It's the best Salve on earth and will prevent fatality, when Burns, Sores, Ulcers and Piles threaten. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's Drug Store.

Some Chickens.

W. T. Stewart, the chicken man, has finished his work here and left Monday for his home at El Paso. During the three weeks he was here Mr. Stewart shipped out over 200 dozen chickens, or to be correct, 2,600. For these chickens he paid out over \$600, which has found its way into the channels of trade. Some chickens, don't you think?

Mrs. J. P. C. Hunt came in from Comanche, I. T., Monday on a visit to her parents. She was accompanied by her sister, Miss Georgia Comegys, who had been visiting her.

Prof. Lawrence of Arlington is here with his stereopticon and is giving some entertaining lectures throughout the country from his choice subjects. He is a brother-in-law of H. C. Burroughs.

R. A. Miller was able to ride up town Saturday, but is still very sore and suffers a great deal from his injuries. He is thankful, however, that he is in the land of the living. A fall of 25 feet on a hard floor is not at all conducive to longevity.

A union protracted meeting began at the Tabernacle last night which is participated in by all denominations. Big preparations have been made for the meeting, the people are enthused, and great good will no doubt be accomplished.

Prohibition Violators in Hoc.

Dock McCullough's bond in the six cases filed against him for violating the local option law in Taylor County was fixed at \$1,500—\$250 in each case. Witnesses are being summoned to appear in these cases Monday.—Saturday's Daily Reporter.

Edgar W. Bounds, county attorney of Mitchell county, tendered his resignation Tuesday to the county commissioner's court and the same was promptly accepted. We suppose this is the same county officer the local option violators alleged induced them to come there and sell whiskey, guaranteeing them immunity from prosecution. If so, good riddance.—Abilene News.

Miss Eva Wilson, who has been visiting Miss Birdie Collins, left last week for her home at Detroit.

Big Cotton Yield.

Conservative estimates place the increased acreage of cotton to be over 25 per cent, and the prospects for a good yield are splendid.

Last year Merkel handled some less than 5,000 bales. This year her pegs are set at 8,000 bales, and if the country is blessed with a general rain during the next two weeks the receipts here will not be far from 10,000 bales. So far no insects have made their appearance.

Col. G. M. Bowie, a prominent lumberman and banker of Weatherford, was here Friday visiting his son, Don, and was the guest of Geo. S. Berry while here. We understand Col. Bowie is thinking of putting in a big lumber yard at Merkel.

COTTON

One Hundred Dollars

BALE

Hamilton-Brown Shoes

You can't be too careful about selecting shoes. You want the shape right as well as the quality of material and workmanship. Hamilton & Brown are the biggest shoe makers in the world. We will have a complete stock of these shoes in men's women's and children's. A great line of school shoes. You can save money on your shoe bill by making it with us.

Clothing

We sell the "Majestic," and will show one of the biggest stocks of ready-to-put-on suits and overcoats at easy-to-pay prices that has ever been shown in Merkel. If you buy a Majestic suit you will be well dressed and get your money's worth.

Hats

We carry the THOROUGHbred, STATESMAN and GLOBE in all the latest shapes. These hats have been thoroughly tested, and you buy no experiment in buying them. We have the genuine Stetson also.

Including the \$50 premium, ginning and wrapping, the first bale of 1903-4 cotton ginned and sold in Merkel will probably bring \$100. This is something every farmer within reach of Merkel should know. It seems as if the question of price for this crop of cotton is settled; that is, that the whole crop will bring satisfactory prices.

The next question of great importance to you is to decide where you will make your fall purchases; you could not select a better place than with Warren at Merkel. We handle the best lines to be had, goods that are recognized all over this country as standard. Your purchases will be backed by buyers of 15 years' experience. We will be prepared to supply your wants with such goods as are herein mentioned.

Jane Hopkins Boys Clothing

Mothers, if you never tried one of the Mrs. Jane Hopkins make of boys' suits you should try one this fall. They save you money. As every mother knows, it's the sewing that counts, as well as the material, in boys' clothing. We have an elegant line of boys' knee pants to select from. The seams are taped throughout. Don't miss seeing this line, for it will take your eye.

Skirts and Jackets

Buy the S. & J. brand. None equal them in fabric, fit and finish for the price. If you buy here you will get the correct style. We have the new things. Can show you quite an assortment of children's jackets, also, and they, too, will please you.

Groceries

We give 16 ounces to the pound in this department. Can supply your wants with most anything usually found in a grocery store. We are exclusive agents in Merkel for Peacemaker Flour and Chase & Sanborn's Teas and Coffees.

J. T. WARREN,

CORNER STORE

MERKEL, TEXAS.

Not Over-Wise.

There is an old allegorical picture of a girl scared at a grasshopper, but in the act of heedlessly treading on a snake. This is paralleled by the man who spends a large sum of money building a cyclone cellar, but neglects to provide his family with a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy as a safeguard against bowel complaints, whose victims outnumber those of the cyclone a hundred to one. This remedy is everywhere recognized as the most prompt and reliable medicine in use for these diseases. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

Bynum & Muir of Abilene are agents for the Guadalupe county lands which are being cut up into tracts of 200 acres and up to suit the purchaser. Terms, 20 years at 7 per cent, with 15 per cent cash payment. 2t

Austin Fitts has discarded his outward blueness and is all smiles again. Mrs. Fitts returned Saturday from a visit to Arlington.

The State school apportionment for Merkel the coming session is \$1,430.

Agent W. H. McCord is laid up with erysipelas of the leg from which he is suffering much pain. The Mail hopes he will soon recover.

Puts an End to it All.

A grievous wail oftentimes comes as a result of unbearable pain from over taxed organs. Dizziness, Backache, Liver complaint and Constipation. But thanks to Dr. King's New Life Pills they put an end to it all. They are gentle but thorough. Try them. Only 25c. Guaranteed by Rust & Pittard.

To The Public.

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

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.

Mr. Holt of Bluff Dale and Mrs. Brown of Cisco, who had been visiting their sister, Mrs. J. H. Counts, left Monday for their homes.

Will Hamilton was up from Abilene Sunday.

J. T. Warren and W. L. Harkrider left Sunday morning for the eastern markets. Mrs. Warren and the children accompanied them as far as El Paso, Ark., where they will visit relatives.

Physician and Druggists.

Ford & Sturgeon, a prominent drug firm at Rocky Hill Station, Ky., write: "We are requested by Dr. G. B. Snigley to send for Herbine for the benefit of our customers. We ordered three dozen in December, and we are glad to say, Herbine has given such great satisfaction that we have duplicated this order three times, and today we gave your salesman another order. We beg to say Dr. G. B. Snigley takes pleasure in recommending Herbine." 50c bottle at Burroughs & Mann's.

The Guadalupe county lands are now on the market in tracts of 200 acres and up. Terms, 20 years at 7 per cent interest, with 15 per cent cash payment. Write to

Bynum & Muir,
Abilene, Texas.

Claud Bigham came in Monday from New Orleans.

Read Here.

See Ben Nisbett for up-to-date tonsorial work. Hair cutting a specialty. Everything nice and clean. Next to Star Store.

Miss Laura Herring returned from Abilene Saturday.

Miss Maggie Hatten has returned from a month's visit to relatives at Whitewright and other places.

End of Bitter Fight.

"Two physicians had a long stubborn fight with an abscess on my right lung," writes J. F. Hughes of DuPont, Ga., "and gave me up. Everybody thought my time had come. As a last resort I tried Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. The benefit I received was striking and I was on my feet in a few days. Now I've entirely regained health." It conquers all Coughs, Colds and Throat and Lung troubles. Guaranteed by Rust & Pittard. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

Mrs. Rufe Christopher of Abilene was the guest of Mrs. Browning Sunday.

Pads! Pads! Pads!

Collar pads, knee pads—pads of all kinds at Hudson's.

LOST—One gold watch charm, small diamond in center, with monogram G. S. B. on one side and Elks head on other side. Return to Geo. S. Berry and receive reward.

John Sears shipped a car of mules Monday to Bells, Texas. Time was when that country raised nearly all the mules used in the State, but now "westward civilization wends its way," and we are raising mules for the east.

J. J. Pettus of Sweetwater passed through Saturday en route to the eastern markets.

The First National Bank

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits \$65,000.00

Stockholders' Responsibilities over \$1,000,000.00

Something about an institution that has been worth much to the Merkel Country. Its Hopes and Aims for the future, and its laudable efforts to promote trade for the town. Merkel as a cotton market and trade center and the inducements held out for trade, are truthfully portrayed. Those who run may read. Read between the lines and pass the proposition up to your neighbor for earnest consideration. . . .

The First National Bank.

One year ago, just after this institution had passed its first mile post, one of its friends wrote about it as follows:

"The First National Bank of Merkel is one of the soundest financial institutions in Northwest Texas. The growth of the bank during its 12 months of existence has been truly marvelous, until now it ranks second to no bank in this country. Its stockholders and directors comprise the financial backbone of the Merkel Country, being all leading business men, stockmen and farmers. This bank has patrons and large depositors within a large territory; it has unlimited credit, is as sound as a silver dollar, and as flourishing as a green bay tree."

What was true of the bank then is doubly true now. We appreciate the confidence and esteem of our friends, and while we take no credit to ourselves, we are nevertheless always found battling for our own interests and the interests of our patrons.

It is our ambition to serve the people faithfully and well. No bank in this country has been more liberal with its patrons, and we have let money out to the people of not only this, but other counties, when their own banks refused them aid. We have made over

1,000 LOANS,

aggregating \$250,000, to the farmers of this country this year, which shows how we stay with the people.

We want the people to call this their bank—"our bank." It shall be our most earnest endeavor to merit a continuance of the very liberal patronage which is now coming our way, and it is our intention to double the bank's business during the next few months. To this end we solicit your banking business, whether great or small.

Call on us when in town. Make our bank your stopping place. Write your letters here, and consult us on any point of business with which you are unacquainted. In the future, as in the past, we expect to extend very liberal accommodations to our patrons. So if you are not now doing business with us, give us a trial, and we feel sure our relations will be mutually pleasant and profitable.

J. T. WARREN, President.
G. F. WEST, Vice-President.
GEO. S. BERRY, Cashier.
T. A. JOHNSON, Asst. Cash.

Cotton Market at Merkel

If you have never tried Merkel as a cotton market and trade center, do so this fall, for it will profit you.

A cotton market is just what the merchants see fit to make it. Wherever you see wide-a-wake merchants you will also see a good cotton market. In this particular Merkel is peculiarly blessed, having for years held on to its record as the best cotton market in all this country. It is a familiar saying that "we are paying as much for cotton as Merkel," or "we will duplicate Merkel's prices on goods." Merkel sets the pace and other towns try to follow. If you are from Missouri and have to be "shown," come and investigate.

Merkel merchants offer the farmers of Taylor and adjoining counties a cotton and produce market that can not be excelled, and many other inducements worthy of their careful consideration. No stuffed or false reports are sent out as to what cotton is bringing here.

\$100 Premiums

With characteristic enterprise, the business men of Merkel have pledged \$100 as premiums for the three first bales of cotton ginned and sold in Merkel, divided as follows: \$50 for first bale, \$30 for second, and \$20 for third. The only conditions are that the cotton must be gathered from an individual crop, that it must be ginned and sold in Merkel, and that the bales must not weigh less than 450 lbs. each. The gins here will gin and wrap the premium bales free of

charge. Now we have three gins here with a daily capacity of 200 bales. The farmers and merchants have recently formed a stock company, capitalized at \$6,000, for the purpose of increasing the ginning facilities of the town, and have put in a four 80-saw gin system. This insures the best possible service in ginning your cotton.

In the past the cotton market here has been the best in all this country, and the record will be maintained. The merchants here do not buy for profit: hence can pay more for cotton than the regular cotton buyer who is dependent upon it for a living. In the face of these facts, don't you think it will pay you to bring your cotton to Merkel?

Bring your cotton to Merkel and get the highest market price. Buy your fall goods from Merkel merchants and get satisfaction.



★ ★

The First National Bank,

Merkel, - - - - Texas.

Harness! Harness! Harness!

We have them.
If you don't believe it come in and see for yourself. We make them to order. All kinds, styles and prices. Buggy harness from \$7 up. Wagon harness from \$10 up.

R. L. HUDSON.

ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

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

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

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

For Sale by BURROUGHS & MANN, Merkel, Tex.

Watch For a Chill.

However slight at this time of year, and in this climate, it is the forerunner of malaria. A disposition to yawn, and an all tired out feeling even comes before the chill. Herbine, by its prompt stimulative action on the liver, drives the malaria germs out of the system, purifies the blood, tones up the system and restores health. 50c at Burroughs & Mann's.

Mrs. W. H. McCord left this morning for Ranger in answer to a telegram announcing the serious illness of her mother. We hope she will find her much improved upon her arrival.

Hurt in a Runaway.

Miss Bera Stalling was painfully hurt in a runaway Tuesday evening while on her way home, the horse which she was driving to the buggy taking fright and throwing her out of the vehicle. A long gash was cut on her face, and she also received painful body bruises. The buggy was damaged considerably.

The Mail is glad, however, that her injuries are not more serious, and hopes no bad effects will result from the accident.

Died in El Paso.

Relatives of the family were advised of the death of Gracie, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Vaughan, which occurred at El Paso Monday. The remains arrived here Tuesday night and interment was made from the Merkel cemetery yesterday morning.

The family have many friends and relatives here who join The Mail in extending sympathy to them. Mrs. Vaughan is a daughter of W. W. Russell, and they formerly made their home here.

Claud Bigham will open up a meat market at the Sheppard & Hoople old stand Saturday. What Claud don't know about the butcher business is very little, and we predict for him a large patronage.

SUPPORT

SCOTT'S EMULSION serves as a bridge to carry the weakened and starved system along until it can find firm support in ordinary food.

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

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 fellow surface to wear away, but a hard wood surface instead; no steam and water soaked fellows to shrink away and loosen the tire; no burnt paint to replace. It gives just the amount of dish required; no over-dishing; 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.

Nice stamp mounts at only 10c per dozen at Photo Car.

Boy Cured of Colic After Physician's Treatment Had Failed.

My boy when four years old was taken with colic and cramps in his stomach. I sent for the doctor and he injected morphine, but the child kept getting worse. I then gave him half a teaspoonful of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, and in half an hour he was sleeping and soon recovered.—F. L. Wilkins, Shell Lake, Wis. Mr. Wilkins is book-keeper for the Shell Lake Lumber Co. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

Ask to see our stamp mounts, Photo Car.

C. P. Warren was up from Abilene a part of the week, starting the thresher at his ranch Monday.

Mrs. Tippett of Abilene is visiting her daughter, Mrs. W. L. Harkrider.

District Judge Barrett of Gainesville has refused to grant an injunction to restrain the publication of the election results in Cooke county, and the law will go into effect.

September 1st.

Is the limit to our cheap work. All who want a dozen of the best \$4 photos for only \$1 had better come at once to the Photo Car.

Clarence Osburn.

J. C. Watkins is convalescing and hopes to be at his place of business by Saturday.

We have two good second hand organs that we will trade for wood, cattle or good horse.

Basham, Shepherd & Co.

League Program.

Leader—Miss Annie King.
Bible Lesson—2 Tim. 1,6-8; 2 Cor. xi, 23-28.
Reference Reading.
Capital for Christian Labor—Miss Laura Herring.
How to Stir Up the Gift Within Us—Arthur Rose.
How to Make Our Lives Count Like Paul's—Miss Clara Browning.
Usefulness and Uselessness—Mr. Stallings.
Reflections—Miss Edith Freeman.

A New Market.

I have bought the Sheppard meat market and take this method of asking the patronage of the people. There is a great deal in knowing how to cut meat; I understand the business and can please the best epicure. Give me a trial.

4t C. V. Bigham.

Have those \$4 cabinet photos made for \$1 before Sept. 1st. Photo Car.

Laugh and the World

Laughs with you, have chills and you chill alone. Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tablets cures, gives an appetite and strength. Most convenient chill Tonic on earth. Can carry in the vest pocket.

Bale to Twenty Acres.

Luling, Tex., Aug. 17.—A cotton stalk was displayed on the streets here this morning that was six feet in height. On this stalk there were four small bolls and each boll was punctured by a boll weevil.

The general belief is that there will not be a bale to twenty acres in this section, and the people in general are very blue.

Prof. and Mrs. C. E. Evans returned from Austin Tuesday, where Mr. Evans officiated as a member of the board of normal examiners. Prof. Evans reports a very pleasant and profitable stay in the capital city. While there he mixed and mingled with hundreds of teachers, from all parts of the State, who were present as interested parties before the text book board. We are glad to have him back, though his vacation will be short, owing to the fact that the school room will soon call him to duty.

THE FORD'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. The Ford'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 The Ford'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 The Ford'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 The Ford'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.

MERKEL HIGH SCHOOL.

First Session Begins Sept. 14, and Continues 9 Months—Outlook Very Bright.

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

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.

Dysentery Cured Without the Aid of a Doctor.

"I am just up from a hard spell of the flux" (dysentery) says Mr. T. A. Pinner, a well known merchant of Drummond, Tenn. "I used one small bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and was cured without having a doctor. I consider it the best cholera medicine in the world." There is no need of employing a doctor when this remedy is used, for no doctor can prescribe a better medicine for bowel complaint in any form for either children or adults. It never fails and is pleasant to take. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

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.

Wagon for sale, cash or fall time.

J. H. Warnick.

HOUSE COLD TIRE SETTER

A Machine That Does the Work.

We are just in receipt of one of the House Cold Tire Setters, one of the best machines to be found. It will do the work claimed for other machines, and do it better. Come in and let us show it to you.

Moon & Hargroves.

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.

Suicide Prevented.

The startling announcement that a preventive of suicide had been discovered will interest many. A run down system, or despondency invariably precede suicide and something has been found that will prevent that condition which makes suicide likely. At the first thought of self destruction take Electric Bitters. It being a great tonic and nerve will strengthen the nerves and build up the system. It's also a great Stomach, Liver and Kidney regulator. Only 50c. Satisfaction guaranteed by Rust & Pittard, 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 Aug. 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

Beavers, W L
Buach, G T
Blackwell, Mrs Lula
Curry, Katie
Hall, J C
Henderson, Mrs Esther
Hawkins, Tom
Hawkins, Miss Jessie
Horton, T G
Lewis, R W
Lowe, G M
Moore, Mrs Binnia
Owen, L H
Ray, Mrs N
Smith, Stephen J
Sowder, J G
Stoneham, Curtis
Turner, L K

What's the Trouble

with your back, old man? Rheumatism? Too bad, too bad. I advise you to try Hunt's Lightning Oil. It is said to be a wonderful remedy.

ISAAC N. TAYLOR,

—LAWYER AND NOTARY PUBLIC—
Office in First Nat'l Bank.

Pretty Tough to Scratch.

For a living and relief also. Hunt's Cure will cure you of Itch, Tetter, Ringworm, Itching Piles, Eczema. Guaranteed by all dealers.

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.

Is Money Any Object to You?

You like to save money, no matter whether you are worth ten dollars or ten thousand. We have inaugurated a scheme that will make money saving easy for all who take advantage of it. The scheme is this: All Dry Goods, Shoes, Hats, Pants, Shirts, etc., will be sold during August at a **HEAVY DISCOUNT!**

Come examine the goods, note the prices, and you are sure to buy. These prices are for **CASH ONLY.**

J. O. HAMILTON

Best \$3.50 shoe made at \$3.00
 Best 3.00 shoe made at 2.50
 Best 1.50 shoe made at 1.25
 From 25c to \$1.00 per pair
 off on all slippers.
 What lawns and waist goods
 we have will have the profits
 cut off.
 Everything else in propor-
 tion.

The Farmer's Column.

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

Fine Corn.

W. E. Pyeatt and family of near Neinda were in the city Tuesday visiting relatives. Walter called in to see us and left two large ears of corn of his own raising at our office, which we have on exhibit. They are as fine ears of corn as we ever saw grow in any country; one of them measures over a foot in length and contained over 700 grains. Mr. Pyeatt has several acres of this kind of corn, that he is sure will average 45 or 50 bushels per acre. Who can beat it? Don't tell me that Jones county can't grow corn. There are hundreds of acres of corn in Jones county this year that will average 40 bushels per acre.—Anson Western.

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We would have better fruit and more of it if we would cease discussing how orchards should be cultivated, and give them very shallow cultivation and about the first of July sow cow-peas and plow them in, plowing shallow at this time also. Then let the vines fall and rot on the ground. This will mellow the most refractory soil and add an amount of food for the trees that would take many loads of manure to supply.

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Who has not wished for a good way to kill ants? Procure a large sponge, wash it well and squeeze dry, which will leave the cells open; then sprinkle on it some fine sugar and place where ants are troublesome. They will soon collect on the sponge and take up their abode in the cells. It is only necessary then to dip the sponge in scalding water which will wash them out dead by tens of thousands. Put on more sugar and set the trap for another haul. The process will soon clear the house of every ant.—Ex.

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Reports from the boll weevil districts indicate that though the pest is on hand, but little damage has been done. There is time enough, however, for the weevils to do much work. In some places there is so little cotton, or the cotton is so little that the weevils may become discouraged and quit.

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After all, about the surest way to adorn the festive boll weevil

with a beautiful black eye is to raise plenty of corn and forage crops, grow your own potatoes, beans and peas, and have plenty of hogs; if possible raise fruits and vegetables for home use in season and to preserve for a "rainy day," and have plenty of hogs; arrange to furnish your own poultry and eggs and milk and butter, and have plenty of hogs. If you haven't plenty of hogs, you'll pay more for bacon and lard than for any other necessary of life—and it will cost you more to raise weevil-infested cotton to pay for them than it will to raise the hogs.

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If cattle breeding is a profitable business then cattle feed must be a profitable thing to raise on a farm. But there is a large amount of cattle feed raised that is not profitable. Would not the raising of any crop be unprofitable if the farmer, after planting and cultivating the crop should refuse to gather it, and let it rot in the field? It seems strange that any farmer should do so foolish a thing as permit a valuable crop to rot in the field, and yet the custom of so doing is almost unanimous in the South. With great labor and expense a heavy crop of corn is grown, every part of every stalk grown above ground being a valuable feed product. Then a portion of this crop ten or twelve inches long and less than three inches in diameter is carefully saved, and all the rest is left to rot on the ground—a loss of about half the feeding value of the crop.

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Many farmers complain that they have not enough land and must sell out and buy a larger farm even if they have to go in debt for it. But if you look the farm over, sometimes you will find many acres that are entirely useless for lack of drainage, or gully washes, or it may be that several acres are too poor to make profitable crops. If all these defects were removed the farm would be large enough. Would it be better to spend a few days labor in draining, filling and fertilizing than to sell out and buy again and labor under the weight of a superincumbent mortgage? Another way to increase the size of the farm is to go downward

for additional acres, for beneath every acre cultivated is another acre that can be utilized by deep plowing, fertilizing and careful cultivation. If a farmer has been growing ten bushels of wheat and thirty bushels of corn, the yields may be made thirty bushels of wheat and sixty bushels of corn per acre. To do this is practically to double the area of the corn and wheat land. Much larger yields than these have been made on land that in other hands was "poor."

A Worm Killer.

J. A. J. Montgomery, Puxico, Wayne Co., Mo., writes: "I have little twin girls, who have been bothered with worms all their lives. I tried every thing to relieve them which failed until I used White's Cream Vermifuge; the first two doses brought four worms from one of them, the next two doses, twelve, one of them measuring twelve inches; the other child was only relieved of four worms. It is a most excellent medicine." White's Cream Vermifuge is good for children. It not only destroys worms, it helps the child to perfect growth, wards off sickness. 25c at Burroughs & Mann's.

Gov. Frank R. Lubbock.

The following sketch of Gov. Lubbock, who was married at Abilene last week, is from a history of Texas:

"Frank R. Lubbock was born in South Carolina in 1815. In 1829 his mother was left a widow, with seven children, and he began to support himself. Influential friends secured for him a West Point cadetship, but he nobly refused it, saying his first duty was to his mother. When only nineteen he married, his bride being sixteen. In 1836 he came to Texas in search of a younger brother. A few months later he moved to Houston. In 1837 he was made Comptroller under President Houston. When Lamar became President Lubbock was thrown out of a position. Not finding more congenial work, he at once began farming and woodcutting. Such industry was bound to succeed. He soon became a commission merchant, and continued in that business until he was again made Comptroller by Houston. He was elected District Clerk in 1841, and served until 1857, when he was made Lieutenant governor. At the close of his term, he entered the Confederate army. He was selected by President Jefferson Davis as one of his aides. At the end of the war

Governor Lubbock was imprisoned for seven months. In 1878 he was elected State Treasurer, an office he held until 1890. His cordial manner and sterling character made him universally popular. He now resides in Austin."

A Word to the Boys.

What can a young man promise himself who begins life either as a liar, a lazy do nothing, or a gambler? He may lull his conscience into slumber by pointing around him at kindred spirits and excuse himself on the ground that he is not the only student in the school of crime and vagabondage, but that is poor comfort to those friends and relatives who have watched with loving care from the cradle to manhood, hoping always that in the beginning of maturity a character would be developed that would reward them for years of love and devotion. There is no sadder picture on earth than one presented by the Christian mother whose years of sacrifice have been rewarded by a son who not only has no conception of his

duty, but lacks in every common gratitude and filial respect. The good mother deserves a good son, particularly if he has a bad father.—El Campo News.

Singular Consternation.

Some people hold up their hands and show the white of their eyes when they hear of a case where the people have taken the law into their own hands; and with the next breath they exclaim that if desecration were done to one of their own household, they would shoot the offender down like a dog. Every man is the champion of his own household; and every man, by virtue of his manhood, is the champion of the woman who has no father, brother or husband to espouse her cause. If the law would get a move on itself, lynching would not be so prevalent, but so long as what Shakespeare calls "the laws delay" offers every opportunity for offenders to escape their just deserts, so long will the people occasionally rise in their might and assert that the home shall be sacred and woman secure.—Selected.

A CARNIVAL

of high grade goods and lowest prices at this store. Why not supply the many needs for the home and the farm right here and NOW? ∴ ∴



Furniture, Utensils,
 Studebaker Wagons,
 John Deere Buggies,
 Buck's Stoves and Ranges,

HANCOCK DISC PLOWS
 STANDARD DISC PLOWS
 HARDWARE and TOOLS

GEO. L. PAXTON,
 ABILENE, TEXAS.