

# THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIV.

MERKEL, TEXAS, SEPTEMBER 24, 1903.

NO. 31.

## THE HIGHER LIFE.

Cream of the Pulpit.

THE SABBATH.

Rev. Henry, Congregationalist.  
Sabbath is to be a permanent institution; not national nor racial, but universal. It is designed to teach men their proper relation to divinity; that they are dependent upon God as author of all created good, and benefactor of all that he has created. The Sabbath is not designed as attributive to God's glory; the glory cannot be enhanced; but to build up man, whose duty it is to glorify God. The Sabbath must be spent not in labor, nor yet in frolicking, but in holy resting all that day.

A SELFISH WORLD.

Rev. Hall, Methodist.

Be yourself and forget yourself is the secret of true eloquence. It is also the secret of true living. Catchy music and jingling poetry do not last long. Ragtime ideals are not lasting. A world where all seek the things of their own and not of Christ, is a selfish world, but a world where everyone seeks the things of Christ and not his own is an ideal world. It is heaven.

DELUSION.

Rev. Greenwood, Baptist.

The common conception of life is false. The vast majority of people are laboring under a delusion. You stand where the tide of humanity rolls swift and strong—you see men accumulating colossal fortunes at a bound and living in dazzling splendor; you notice the sleek, fat and pleasure-loving epicureans at the club houses; the coarse, amorous Falstaffs at the social functions; the Cleopatras, the Salomes and society queens, whose studded grace and wine-flushed cheeks entrance but to destroy and you say, "This is life—life at high noon and high midnight of the twentieth century."

CAUSE AND RESULTS.

Rev. Miller, Episcopalian.

If we harmonize our lives here with the material things around us we shall endear these things to ourselves, but we will dwarf the spiritual things and lessen our capability of grasping them. We shall have only the ability to grasp the carnal things, but those things shall vanish away and we will have nothing. The life which gives itself only to pleasure and unholy ambition can not expect to reap the fruit of righteousness and holiness in the world to come.

GOOD MEN IN OFFICE.

Rev. Miller, Presbyterian.

Exalt to office the best men—men who are lovers of justice and fair play, who impartially administer the affairs in their charge without a single thought of the man's condition in life; to whom the rich and the poor, the high and the low, may each and all come and find impartial justice. Such men will not be just merely; they will be righteous in the divine sense of that word.

## 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.

#### Nature Adorns herself.

In riding over the barren wastes of Western Texas, one is delighted and greatly interested in Nature's efforts to adorn herself. Scattered over this arid section he will find hardy plants bearing the richest colored flowers, principally among which are the different species of cacti. Each plant is well guarded against friend and foe with an array of poisonous thorns that make them well high inaccessible. It is most difficult to capture a flower, but the fruit sheds off when it is ripe. There is one kind especially attractive. It grows in tall slender shrubs, on rugged mountain cliffs, many prongs coming from one root. It is densely covered with a small green leaf in summer, underneath which are innumerable short thorns, all surmounted by a long plume of the most brilliant red flowers. The wood is very tough and the plant attains a height of ten feet.

Then what is known as the "Spanish Dagger," named from the long, stiff needle-pointed blade with which it is covered, bears a tuft of flowers every two years that would ornament any flower garden. They are as delicate as the finest velvet and have the appearance of being made of wax. The fruit bears a close resemblance to the banana and the Mexicans eat it.

But perhaps the most remarkable growth in this arid region is the scrubby mesquite bush. It attains to the semblance of a tree if given water and not interfered with. But its flowers and fruit are the most interesting features of it. The blooms are possessed of a delightful fragrance, and the

fruit appears as a long, slender bean that lends beauty to the bush from the beginning of its growth. When ripe it hangs in large clusters of variegated colors from red to gold and gives the tree a most charming and graceful appearance. These beans furnish the very finest forage for all kind of stock, and containing a large amount of saccharine matter, they are frequently eaten by the Mexicans. They produce in the most lavish abundance, but, for some reason, they are not a sure crop. From our observation, it seems they produce best during dry years. They grow on the smallest bushes with the same freedom that they do on the largest.

The miniature cyclone so common here is another interesting spectacle. If the track of the cyclonelet be along a sandy way, it will furnish a most interesting sight. Moving with a rapid rotary motion, it at once assumes the form of a gigantic column of the most symmetrical proportions. Near the bottom it takes on the form of the old-fashioned smokestack of the locomotive. At the point of contact with the ground it is some 20 to 50 feet in diameter. It spreads out gradually from the ground with a large swell, until it reaches an altitude of some 50 feet. Then it assumes the same dimensions as at the bottom. It reaches an enormous height, frequently burying its summit in the blue depths of the skies beyond the reach of the unaided vision, the column all while swaying to and fro in the most graceful manner imaginable. The center of these columns of sand is always hollow.

Sometimes during damp or rainy weather, when a great herd of cattle get to "milling," balls of electric fire may be seen on the tips of the horns of every brute, or on the ears. This produces a tremor of fear in the hearts of the superstitious and makes the new comer wish he was at home.

But perhaps the most interesting of all the phenomena met with in the west is the mirage. By its illusions, one is enabled to see around a corner, over a mountain into the valley beyond, and on an early morning, when everything is favorable, the landscape changes with remarkable kaleidoscopic beauty and wonder. The beholder may see the mountain fade away into nothingness, the valley disappear, and the plain assume a vast waste ap-

pearance, with nothing to beautify. Sometimes a distant ranch or town is brought into plain vision as if near at hand. An antelope standing on the horizon in the distance, appears as a mammoth of astonishing size. Then, again, the hazy atmosphere modifies and the object near at hand appears away in the dim distance. The railroad leaves the ground and plunges into the skies, the rim of the mountain range is pitched high in the air, and a great stretch of sky forms between that and the earth. These dismembered parts form most beautiful and interesting and fantastic shapes and the illusion is bewildering.

These are some of the features that make the arid wastes of America interesting places of habitation.—Pecos Valley News.



## 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.

# Clothing That Is Well Made!

And cut to fit is the cheapest Clothing made. Our new stock of Men's, Boys' and Children's Suits are now in, and they are the product of the best workmanship that can be put in Clothing. If you like Quality, Fit and Style, buy your suit from us.



A full line of youths suits at 3.50, 4.00, 5.00, 6.50, 7.50 and 10.00  
We have the best word pant to be found anywhere at 1.00

Mens brown mixed suit, new pattern, very dressy, at 15.00

Mens black Beaver suit, best quality, a very fine wearer at 15.00

Mens dark brown Melton, best grade, one of the best values we have 10.00

Mens dark grey mixed suit, new pattern 10.00

Mens black corkscrew, one of best values shown in this country for 10.00

Young mens mixed grey and brown suit, made extra well, fine fitter, 10.00

Mens dark mixed suits, all wool, well made, at 5.00

Mens and boys overalls and jumpers at 25, 50 and 1.00

Mens and boys heavy covert work coats at 1.50 and 1.25

Boys two piece suits, all sizes, from 5 to 16, at 1.00

Boys two piece suits, all sizes and assorted colors, at 1.75 and 1.50

Small boys Reefer suits, assorted colors, sizes 3 to 9, good quality, at 4.00, 3.50, 3.00, 2.50 and 2.00

Boys two piece suits extra fine quality at 6.50

Boys blue and black serge will not fade, all sizes, at 5.00

Boys two piece suits, all colors and sizes, at 1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 2.75, 3.00 and 3.50

Big line boys knee pants, all sizes from 4 to 16, at 25, 50, 65, 75 and 1.00



# WATSON & BACON.

## 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.

### A Remarkable Record.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has a remarkable record. It has been in use for over thirty years, during which time many million bottles have been sold and used. It has long been the standard and main reliance in the treatment of croup in thousands of homes, yet during all this time no case has ever been reported to the manufacturers in which it failed to effect a cure. When given as soon as the child becomes hoarse or even as soon as the croupy cough appears, it will prevent the attack. It is pleasant to take, many children like it. It contains no opium or other harmful substance and may be given as confidently to a baby as to an adult. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

### Fight Near Roby.

Roby, Sept. 20.—On Thursday evening, at Fisher, four miles north of Roby, a difficulty occurred between W. H. League and his eldest son on one side and J. F. Boren on the other side, in which pistols and a knife were used. No one was injured, but young League's horse was shot. All the parties had an examining trial here yesterday and each was required to give bond to await the action of the grand jury. Bonds were made by all.

### A Boy's Wild Ride For Life.

With family around expecting him to die, and a son riding for life, 18 miles, to get Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, W. H. Brown, of Leesville, Ind., endured death's agonies from asthma; but this wonderful medicine gave him instant relief and soon cured him. He writes: "I now sleep soundly every night." Like marvelous cures of Consumption, Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds and Grip prove its matchless merit for all Throat and Lung troubles. Guaranteed bottles 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Rust & Pittard's drug store.

### A Hero in Rags.

Kansas City World.  
He was a Mexican. He was a laborer. He wore ragged clothes. He was also a hero. Philip Ortiz was employed as a section hand on the San Francisco branch of

The increase in the volume of business of this Bank has been most satisfactory. Its growth is steadily forward. The reason is, we strive to merit the patronage of the public. Give us a trial.

**Warnick's Bank,**  
Merkel, Texas.

the Sante Fe railroad. After working on a piece of the track one of the gang of men had forgotten to remove from beneath the rails a heavy jack. The heavy "limited" came thundering along. Ortiz saw that if the jack remained on the track there would be a great disaster. Without considering his own danger he leaped fearlessly on the track, jerked the jack from its position and hurled it aside. The next instant he was struck by the engine and cut to pieces. The train swept on heedless of the mangled form that lay by the side of the track. On board the limited the passengers chatted and lolled and ate and smoked, all regardless of the laborer's life that had been given for theirs. Only a "Greaser!" but there's more of it. Down in a little village in Mexico this man had a wife and children. Although a peon he was unusually intelligent and industrious. He was constantly writing and receiving letters from them. He had saved up quite a sum of money. In a few days he was going back to the village to engage in business in a small way. He was—. If you can't see the pathos of it, why tell more, or picture the grief in the little Mexican hut? And if your heart is big enough to understand that God hath made of one blood all the nations of the earth, then you can take off your hat to the bloody bundle of rags by the side of the track and understand that under the cut and mangled bronze skin of that little Mexican once beat the true heart of one of God's heroes.

### A Poet's Mother.

Youth's Companion.  
Robert Buchanan has one deep enthusiasm, his mother. She

was always young in her appearance, but he regarded her, to the end of her life, as abounding in girlish charms. He could never realize that she was growing old. In looking at her, even when she was close upon eighty, he saw the soft blue eyes and golden hair which he had loved long ago.

"I cannot imagine my mother as old," he said again and again, the day after she died. "I do not feel that she is dead, for I cannot imagine the world without her."

When, a youth of eighteen, he went up to London, "to take the world by the storm," he was a miserably homesick lad. He sat in the corner of the railway carriage, his heart aching, his eyes dim with tears.

"I realized," he said, "that I was for the first time quite friendless and alone. I thought of my dear old mother praying for me at home, and I longed to turn back and ask her forgiveness for any pain I had caused her. Even now, I never take a railway journey at night without recalling the dismal heartaches of that midnight journey to London."

Almost daily, during this early struggle, did he receive a letter from her, always full of loving instruction for his guidance. His answers were overflowing with heart and hope. Mother and son were constant in this tender service. From first to last, they were the best and most intimate of friends.

### Don't Do That.

Some men spend all their time loafing around waiting for a soft job with a big salary attachment to strike them. Don't do that. The honey bee spends the sum-

mer working to make honey for man to steal honey from him. But the bee knows, no better. The miser hoards his money through privation and distress for some heir to squander. Don't do that.

There are some people who want so badly to appear "swell" they lock up the front part of the house and live in a back room upstairs all summer in order to have people think they were at the seashore. Don't do that.

We know men so constituted that all the time they are not currying their favorite horses they are scolding their children. Don't do that.

He is not yet obsolete—we mean the fresh young doctor who tries to make believe that he is busy by whipping his horse on the dead run through the village street. There are some men in other lines of business who try the same business, but they deceive no one. Don't do that.

We never see a young man who thinks it is smart to pretend that he is "half-seas over" without desiring to walk up to him and say, "Don't do that."

The biggest boor on earth is the old man who tries to act like a boy when there are a lot of young women around. Don't do that.

The foolish man wastes his morning hours in dreaming about what he intends doing during the afternoon. Don't do that.

It is possible for a man to build such a fine house that it can never seem like a house. Don't do that.

There are those who spend so much time in trying to ape the ways of great men that they never have time to achieve greatness themselves. Don't do that.—Ex.

# Even if you're not from Missouri, we would like to show you our fall goods!

In Dress Goods we are showing a large assortment of Gingham, Madras, Percalé and Outing; a very pretty line of Zibelines, Coverts, Broadcloth and Mohair. Ask to see our Oxford waist patterns, new style ladies' Belts, waist sets and Neckwear. In dress trimmings we are showing the greatest variety we have ever shown. Have you seen our line of men's Neckwear? They are beauties; we offer the best values in \$10 suits ever sold in Merkel. A few prices on staples are quoted below:

22 yds good quality LL domestic for \$1.00.  
 22 yds round check, fast color, cotton checks for \$1.00.  
 Bed ticking 5 to 8 1/2 c yard.  
 Best quality A-C-A feather tick at 12 1/2 c.  
 Bleach domestic 5 to 10 c yd.  
 Extra heavy, good width cotton flannel 8 c yd.  
 Standard brands fast color calico 4 and 5 c yd.

### Spot Cash Prices on Groceries.

10 pkgs coffee for \$1.00.  
 18 lbs best granulated sugar \$1.  
 High patent flour, per sack \$1.00.  
 4 pkgs soda for 25c.

Figure with us on your fall bill. We guarantee to give you your money's worth every time.

# The Star Store.

We want your cotton

Chenault & Provine is the name of the new firm. You want to see them before buying your dry goods and groceries.

### FOR ONE-HALF.

You can complete a thorough, practical, extensive course in bookkeeping, shorthand and typewriting at Tyler College, Tyler, Texas, at one-half the cost of any other school.

Why? That's easy. No theory work in bookkeeping, no copying each set two to four times, but actual face-to-face business from the start, learning by doing.

1903 methods, not those of 1850. No 500 rules, 500 exceptions, 3000 logograms in shorthand, but 13 rules and 9 logograms. 1903 shorthand, not that of 1877.

Typewriting new, too—a simple invention that forces the pupil to use the touch method.

The above systems are theirs; the author one of them. The College one of the largest, with 750 students last session. Will enroll 900 to 1000 this year. Has enrolled students from 8 states during the past two weeks.

Write for their large 1903-04 catalogue. 1t

### Jury Again Excused.

Elsewhere in this issue it is stated that the Patterson case is on trial at Abilene today, but this is an error. The case was called for today, but, according to the Reporter, has been continued until Monday, the 28th.

Will Buckley and a woman by the name of Mrs. Della Kelley were found dead in a house at Fort Worth Tuesday, death resulting from strychnine poisoning administered by the former in a plate of chili. Buckley formerly lived at Abilene where he is prominently connected.

R. A. Miller yesterday contracted for the 17-acre block of land in the northeast part of town, the consideration being \$375. Mr. Miller has faith in the town and is not slow to pick up snaps like this.

The weather has been cloudy the past week and small showers have fallen during the time. A slow, gentle rain would be of benefit to the country.

The stores of Hill & Provine and Chenault & Hand have consolidated, and the firm name is now Chenault & Provine. The new firm invites your careful inspection of their goods and prices.

The engine and boiler for the new gin are expected this evening, and it is hoped to have the gin in running order by Monday.

A car of corn to arrive at Boyce's. All that want INSIDE PRICES make arrangements to take same on arrival.

Manager Allen of the local telephone system has just completed a line to Stith. It will be in operation by tomorrow night.

C. E. Weir's house caught on fire Friday from a defective flue, but was extinguished with only a slight damage to the paper.

J. H. Campbell renews his seventh annual subscription to The Mail and Dallas News. He is a stayer, which we appreciate very much.

The Mail is glad to welcome S. T. Howell of Trent to its list of faithfuls. He is a good man and the backing of such men is what makes a good paper. J. M. Brown of Nubia is not a new subscriber, and has always been one of its best friends. He pushed his subscription forward another notch.

**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 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  
 OF THROAT 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**



"No Trouble to Answer Questions."

**DINING CARS**  
 BETWEEN  
**FORT WORTH and SAINT LOUIS**

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

### Swapping Lies

Is practiced, but don't swap off Hunt's Lightning Oil for a worthless article. Ask your druggist or merchant for a free sample bottle.

### LAND FOR SALE.

640 acres out of the H. T. Buse survey, 100 acres under fence and in cultivation; about 8 miles south of Merkel and near Nubia postoffice. Title perfect. Will sell cheap and on good terms. Write to Wallace & Camp, Rockdale, Texas, for prices and terms.

The attention of the Texas boll weevil reward commission has been called to the demonstrated fact that the cultivation of the castor bean in cotton rows is a certain preventative of the cotton boll weevil. The experiment was tried by a farmer living near Merriltown, Travis County, this season on a forty-acre tract of cotton. Not a weevil or other insect can be found in the whole field, while the cotton on the adjacent farms has been ruined by the pest. The cotton in this field will produce an immense yield, it is said. It has long been known that the castor bean plant will drive away mosquitoes and flies.

A. A. Hatchell of Granger, Williamson County, was here yesterday prospecting and called on The Mail. Mr. Hatchell says the cotton crop is almost a total failure in his county this year. There are a few acres, he says, that will probably average a half of a bale, while other crops will not make a bale to ten acres. Boll weevils have literally eaten the cotton up. Mr. Hatchell left last night for Midland.

Try reading The Mail.

### 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.**

### Can You Beat This?

In my jewelry store will be found a choice selection of Cut Glass, Silverware, flat and hollow, Fountain Pens, Plain and set Rings, Manicure Sets, Silver Knives, Forks and Spoons, Stag handle Carving Sets, Silk Umbrellas, gold and silver filled, Spectacles from 25c up, Infant Toilet Sets, Ladies' Brooches, Watches, Clocks, Chains, Link and plain Cuff Buttons, Ladies' and misses Locketts and neck Chains, Emblem Pins, And a miscellaneous collection of jewelry novelties. When you want jewelry go to an exclusive jewelry store, where standard goods are sold. No shoddy goods here. Every article guaranteed. And prices are right.  
 R. B. USTICK.

Rev. T. N. Lowrey received a telegram from his wife, who was called to Aquilla, near Waco, two weeks ago, announcing the death of her sister-in-law, Mrs. J. M. Anderson. The Mail joins with friends of the family in sympathy over their loss.

G. B. Brown spent Sunday in Abilene.

### Open Again.

Barnhill's Photo Gallery is open again for work on Fridays and Saturdays in each week. Everything in the photo line done at prices to suit the times.

I will have a nice display of street hats for your inspection Sept. 21. Wait for them.  
 Mrs. F. B. Hoople.

See Chenault & Provine before buying your dry goods and groceries.

### Magnanimous Boys.

Horace Mann says: "You are made to be kind, boys; generous, magnanimous. If there is a boy in school who has a clubfoot, don't let him know you ever saw it. If there is a boy with ragged clothes, don't talk about rags within hearing. If there is a hungry one, give him part of your dinner. If there is a dull one, help him to get his lessons. If there is a bright one, be not envious of him; for if one boy is proud of his talents, and another boy is envious of them, there are two great wrongs, and no more talent than before. If a larger or stronger boy has injured you and is sorry for it, forgive him."

### Rye at Boyce's.

A. D. Rosson of near Trent is a new subscriber to The Mail and Dallas News. Mr. Rosson located there last March, but made fairly good crops this year.

# The Merkel Mail

ED J. LEEMAN, Editor and Prop'r.

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

## Subscription Rates:

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

ADVERTISING RATES per month  
One inch space ..... \$ .50  
Two inch space ..... 1.00  
Quarter column (4 1-2 inches) ..... 2.50  
Half column (9 inches) ..... 4.00  
One column (18 inches) ..... 7.50  
Four issues constitute a month. All advertisements run and charged for until ordered out, unless limit is specified when insertion is made. Special prices on time contracts.  
Local notices, 5 cents per line, each insertion.

## SPECIAL NOTICES.

Communications to insure publication must bear the signature of the writer, as well as the name of the place under which they write. This is required merely as a guarantee of good faith. Obituaries, Cards of Thanks, etc., are inserted at one-half the regular advertising rates. Positively no deviation from this rule.

## WOMEN AND PROHIBITION.

The women of Brownwood were very active in the prohibition campaign in Brown County, and on the day of the election served free lunches, waved prohibition banners and pinned white badges on the voters. For their pains they were dubbed the prohibition party by the antis. But to cap it all, the naughty men painted a huge banner on which were the words, "The Prohibitionists Should Wear"—and below this was the picture of a pair of pants. This banner was stretched near the polls, where the women were the most conspicuous, and while it was no doubt meant in a spirit of levity, the women were nevertheless subjected to a great amount of ridicule and banter. The women, God bless 'em, are at the head of every move which has for its object the betterment of the human race. Their work for prohibition is a work of love, because it perpetuates the home and home life and destroys the wrecker of home ties. We would not deny them this privilege, for it tells its own pathetic tale in unmistakable terms. May their banners continue to wave, and may their efforts in this good work be fruitful of continued good results.

There may be some mistake, but if this insult to womanly modesty and chastity went unchallenged, it shows that the old-time Southern chivalry is indeed scarce in Brownwood. A prohibition election generally invites strife and dissension, but this is the first instance wherein lovely womanhood was made the victim of inuendoes and cruel banterings. If Brownwood is not guilty she should clear her skirts of the grave charge: if she is guilty she should bow her head in shame.

School boards in various parts of the country have adopted regulations excluding newly married women, or those who marry while teaching, from holding places in the schools. No reasons have been given for this move, but it is understood that a young married teacher is too "abstracted" to give satisfactory service and uses too much "honey" and "sugar" in addressing pupils. This is a cruel old world, some think, but not more cruel than it should be. All the world loves a lover, but when lovers "splice," the business end of the obligation should assume the responsibilities for marital prosperity.

The rise and fall of the erstwhile steel magnate, Mr. Charles M. Schwab, who was at one time the most talked about young man in America, should show to all aspiring youths that while a meteor-like ascent may bring a man to the front rank, it re-

quires more than the average amount of ballast, physically, mentally and morally, to keep him there. Mr. Schwab's princely living, both at home and abroad, should be held up as a warning to all young. This is one of the greatest pitfalls in the lives of the young men of today, and one which should be assiduously avoided.

The alarming spread of the pension craze goes merrily on. And when one pensioner dies there are a dozen to take his place. Even now the annual payments to a few men and a lot of hoodlums who took part in the Spanish-American imbroglio amounts to nearly three million dollars, with 45,000 applications for pensions pending. The Civil War pensioners number nearly one million souls. A nation of pensioners? Very nearly. And the end is not yet.

Who paid the president's expenses during his recent princely tour of the country? It has been asserted that the railroads footed the bills, and only one administration paper has the courage to deny the charge. Right here it might be pertinent to ask, "If it is wrong for congressmen to ride on free passes, is it not wrong for the president to do the same thing?" But the public will never be any wiser in regard to who "paid the freight."

Up to Saturday night more cotton had been marketed in Merkel than in any other town in this section. Over 500 bales was the number. The Abilene News reported about 250 bales up to Friday, and on the same date Sweetwater had received 43 bales, according to the Reporter. Merkel sets the pace, and gets the cotton.

A government expert, who was sent out to investigate the condition of the cotton crop in this State, has reported that in 96 counties the crop is almost a total failure. Coming in the face of those "paid reports" of a bumper crop, this conclusion is calculated to prove of benefit to the seller.

The Salvation Army has invaded the feud districts of Kentucky and will try Christianity as a process of civilization. The Salvationists can preach in the dark just about as accurately as the feudists can shoot in the dark. This measuring of lances will be eagerly watched from a distance.

The daily papers reported a snow at Stamford last week, but the local papers claim the report is a pure fabrication. Stamford is a breezy little burg, but she is not quite so far ahead of other West Texas towns as to pull off a real live snow in mid-summer or thereabouts.

It costs as much to raise a poor colt or calf as it does a good one, hence it should be apparent to all that breeding anything but the best is doubtful economy. Grade up your horses and your cattle. It pays.

Stump Ashby and Cyclone Davis have come to a parting of the ways. They are wofully split on prohibition after having worked in double harness for lo, these many years.

WANTED, at once—500 cotton pickers by farmers of the Merkel Country.

The ground is in fine shape for wheat sowing.

Merkel is getting cotton from a larger territory this year than ever before, which is the best proof of the fact that she is the banner market of this section.

Has Mary Jane Cox a prohibition jug (or jag) on tap? At least he has a sympathizer in Will Sargent of Terrell.

Nature was lavish when she patterned the Merkel Country and partial when she peopled its rich valleys.

Republican prosperity and the "full dinner pails" have struck the Texas coal fields full in the face.

A better place than Merkel to move and educate your children would be hard to find.

## Prohibition Matters.

Comanche County went dry last week by a majority of 340. Last year the county went wet by 24 majority.

The fourth publication of the election results in Bell County was stopped by an injunction on the usual trumped up charge.

The publishers in Cooke County ignored an injunction to stop the publication of the result of the election, and the antis are crying "foul." The point of law has been raised that by ignoring this injunction the two statutes conflict and the law is therefore inoperative. A legal battle is on and the outcome will be eagerly looked for. In the meantime the saloons are doing business at the old stands.

The prohibitionists gained a magnificent victory in Kaufman County Saturday, winning out by some 1,500 majority.

## Should Fight Shy of Politics.

Speaking of Governor Hogg's proposed farmers' organization, the Jacksboro Gazette says:

"There was a time not many years ago when the farmers were wild with the political organization idea. They organized and organized, and held political meetings galore, but after all they, or many of them, acknowledged that political organization by classes was not beneficial and was not what they needed, but organization to develop better agricultural and industrial methods, and in these lines they are succeeding well. Illustrations are had in the numerous district institutes that are being held for the broader education of farmers and the recent great State convention of farmers which proved so beneficial and enjoyable. Farmers should not allow any demagogic or prejudicial influence to be exerted over them in the future to turn them aside from the present plans for higher development and broader education."

## Just a Printer.

Tom Lacy, a faithful employe of the Herald for the past five weeks, as well as the writer in years gone by, left Monday to visit his old home at Comanche, Texas. His was just the case of a printer, a young man, a little wild, as the world goes, going back to the old homestead to spend a few days with an aged father and mother. But when Tom drew his final check Saturday night and while he was gathering together a small bundle of belongings, the writer's imagination could not keep from wandering off to a meeting which took place at a modest little cottage down in the Texas town. A tall, angular and ungainly man folds in his arms a little bit of a piece of humanity, while he kisses

## 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.

## West Texas Fair,

ABILENE, TEXAS,

OCTOBER 13 TO 17, 1903

BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER BEFORE.

TUESDAY, Opening Day.

WEDNESDAY, Cattle Roping Contest.

THURSDAY, Confederate and Woodmen Day.

FRIDAY, School Children's Day and Cattle Roping.

SATURDAY, Cattle Sales Day.

There will be three Balloon Ascensions during the entertainment. The horse racing each afternoon will be the best ever witnessed in the west. The Ferris wheel, merry-go-round and many other attractions have been secured. The farm, orchard, and garden exhibits will excel any former efforts, and the ladies' department will be attractive as usual. In fact, the management is pleased to announce that the prospects are bright for the best and largest fair ever held in Abilene.

Special trains will be run from the east and west and low rates will be given. Ask your nearest ticket agent for particulars.

MAX R. ANDREWS, Sec.

again and again a face hardened and wrinkled by labor and age, and which the world would not call pretty, but which to him is the most beautiful object in the world. At the same time a big, raw-boned man of three score and ten stands off to one side watching the scene, and when it is over comes forward brushing tears of joy from his cheeks with his left hand while he extends his right hand and greets his only son in a husky voice.

Tom has not been at that little home before since three years ago when he was mustered out of the army on his return from the Philippines, but every week he remembered that mother with a letter, no matter how short, and that father with a check saved from a salary which some might

think none too large for their own use. Would not the world be better off if more boys remembered the old folks in this manner?—Portales (N. M.) Herald.

## Brain Leaks.

Maupin.

We wouldn't blame some women for thinking that heaven is a place where there no no dishes to wash.

We wouldn't give a snap for a dog without a tail. The worth of a dog lies in its ability to wag its welcome.

As a rule just when a man gets hold of enough money to enable him to do an immense amount of good he loses all desire to do it.

Some people spend so much time asking God for what they want that they have no time to thank Him for giving them what they need.

## GIVEN AWAY

at the West Texas Fair for best display farm products

## A MITCHELL WAGON!

The MITCHELL is the recognized standard of the world, and for over SIXTY-FIVE years has held the title of . . . . .

## THE MONARCH OF THE ROAD!

It is an established fact that the MITCHELL has given better satisfaction than any wagon ever sold in the West—has run better and lasts longer. Get the MITCHELL for satisfaction and durability. . .

## ED S. HUGHES & CO.,

Distributors, Abilene, Texas.

#### Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

Has world-wide fame for marvellous cures. It surpasses any other salve, lotion, ointment or balms for Cuts, Corns, Burns, Boils, Sores, Felons, Ulcers, Tetter, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Chapped Hands, Skin Eruptions; Infallible for Piles. Cure Guaranteed. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

I am overstocked on wagons. If you need one now is the time to get a good one cheap.

W. H. Dickson.

T. P. Gibson has fully ten bates of cotton open in the field and so far has failed to find pickers. He will make about a quarter of a bale to the acre.

J. A. Boyce learns from Geo. Brown at Merkel that the late rains and winds destroyed about 500 bales of cotton that would have been marketed there.—Daily Reporter.

Yes; but it made hundreds of bales, besides thousands of dollars worth of feed stuff. It was a benefit, rather than a disaster.

R. F. Kirkland is a new and appreciated subscriber to The Mail. We are glad to add the names of such men to our list.

C. H. Winfrey pays for The Mail and Dallas News. Mr. Winfrey has lived northwest of town two years, but has moved to the Anderson old ranch near Eskota.

E. C. Richard of Noodle comes forward with his annual dues for The Mail.

For good wagons cheap, see Dickson. He is overstocked and is making a special price on the celebrated Lansing Wagon.

G. W. Wilson of Inkum, this county, was around settling up with The Mail Monday. He has just passed through a great affliction, his son, John, aged 26 years, having died on the 12th. The Mail is pained to hear of his sore bereavement and tenders deepest sympathy.

W. M. Snow and J. P. Richie, both of the Canyon, were among The Mail's good friends who paid cash on subscription this week. Both are good men and substantial farmers, and we are proud of their loyalty.

#### An Early Frost.

The unusual occurrence of a frost in September is the experience to add to the peculiarities of the year 1903. In the Canyon last Thursday morning the early risers were treated to a view of the hoary monster, which was very much in evidence around the wood pile. Of course the formation was light and did no damage, but if it presages an early killing frost its welcome will be of the strenuous kind.

Light frost is reported from many places in the State.

#### A Certain Thing.

Our grain drills are giving satisfaction. We are selling them all the time, and have yet met with no failures, nothing but flattering reports from all sides. Let us sell you a grain drill that will give satisfaction and bring the results.

ED S. HUGHES & Co.

Mr. Mayberry, north of town, left Monday for Weatherford with his wife where they will locate.

#### TO MERCHANTS:

I have two 50 gallon oil tanks good as new for \$3.50 each. Answer quick.

J. T. Warren.

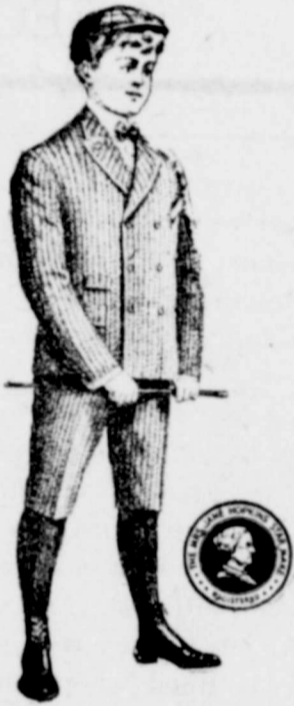
# Why Not Have

Your pick from the best stock of Clothing ever offered in Merkel

## It's the MAJESTIC

If you are open for a suit, you will find something here that will interest you. ∴

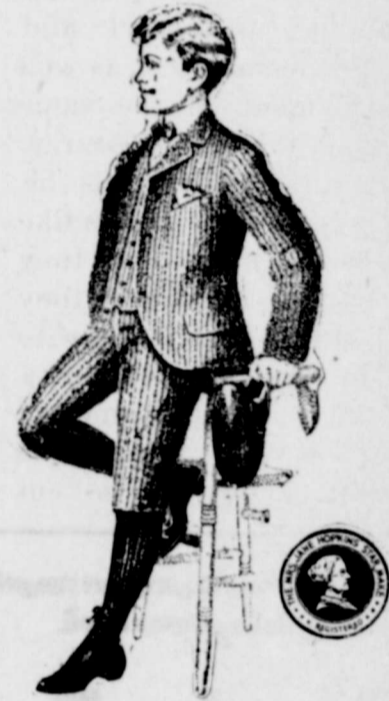
## J. T. Warren.



Our line of Boys' Clothing should be of interest to every mother in our territory. We have the

♥ Mrs. Jane Hopkins ♥

make. Put us to the trouble of showing you.



#### Devoured by Worms.

Children often cry, not from pain, but from hunger, although fed abundantly. The entire trouble arises from inanition, their food is not assimilated, but devoured by worms. A few doses of White's Cream Vermifuge will cause them to cease crying and begin to thrive at once, very much to the surprise and joy of the mother. 25c at Burroughs & Mann's.

#### Read Here.

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

Mrs. S. A. Ennis, who has been two years with her daughter, Mrs. W. F. Hatchell, in Morelia, Mexico, came in Saturday and is visiting her daughter here, Mrs. R. A. Miller. Mrs. Hatchell (nee Miss Jessie Ennis), who is quite well known here, stopped off in Baird for a few days' visit.

The Patterson murder case is on trial in District Court today. Many witnesses from this end of the county are in attendance.

Miss Valley Hill spent Saturday in Abilene.

F. O. Allen, the railroad man who had his foot crushed by a fall from a car here last April, had the injured member amputated at Big Springs last week.

#### 21 Years A Dyspeptic.

R. H. Foster, 318 S. 2d St., Salt Lake City, writes: "I have been bothered with dyspepsia or indigestion for 21 years; tried many doctors without relief; recently I got a bottle of Herbine. One bottle cured me, I am now tapering off on the second. I have recommended it to my friends; it is curing them, too." 50c at Burroughs & Mann's.

#### To The Public.

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



You will find my make of Boys' Clothing at J. T. Warren's, Merkel.

Faithfully Yours  
Mrs. Jane Hopkins

Miss Belle Adcock returned from Dallas Sunday.

#### Aunt Lucindy

Always carries Hunt's Lightning Oil around with her, says it's fine for swellings, toothache, colic, weak back and backache, cuts, burns, neuralgia, catarrh. Aunt Lucindy has sixty-nine grandchildren and ought to know what she is talking about.

#### A Corn Mill.

I will grind your corn at reasonable prices; also have installed a turning lathe and can turn out anything in wood. See me.

R. L. Parker.

Our grain drills are giving satisfaction. No failures, no dissatisfaction. Let us supply you with the right kind.

ED S. HUGHES & Co.

John Camp was here from near Eskota with cotton Monday. He reports good rains in his community.

Comer Clay visited friends (?) in Abilene Sunday.

Will Hamilton came up and spent the day with home folks Sunday.

Tyree Compton and Hiram Phillips stopped the press long enough last press day to shove forward their subscriptions.

W. A. Hall will move to town and put his grand-children in school.

Miss Julian visited in Abilene Sunday.

#### What is Life?

In the last analysis nobody knows, but we do know that it is under strict law. Abuse that law even slightly, pain results. Irregular living means derangement of the organs, resulting in Constipation, Headache or Liver trouble. Dr. King's New Life Pills quickly re-adjusts this. It's gentle, yet thorough. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's Drug Store.

#### G. W. Boyce's

New Grain House three doors west Watkins' Meat Market.

## A Full House!

We have just unloaded a full car of Furniture, direct from the factory. It contained

**IRON BEDS, ROCKERS, TABLES, SIDEBOARDS, ETC., ETC.**

This gives us one of the largest and best stocks of Furniture in this country, and the very low prices we are making ought to move it out. Drop in and let us show you.

**W. P. Browning & Co.**

A full line of carpets.

**The Liar.**

Bryan Eagle.

If the liar could only realize what a puny, pitably little clod of clay he is, and what a powerful, omniscient force he flies in the face of when he tackles the Truth and with his cowardly methods attempts to crush it, there would be precious few of the species in the world. God may hate a coward, but some liars, the things that find their best bent to be that of the backbiter and slanderer, are too contemptibly small to merit even God's hatred. Nor does the Devil love them, tho' he is the Prince of Liars, for this species does his cause great harm. They serve as a sort of overdose that sickens, and drive many a likely victim from their course to an exalted integrity by the very stench of their nauseous falseness. In this life they are outcasts, sometimes tolerated but always held in contempt by self-respecting people, and hereafter they'll find no home in either Heaven or Hell, for, devoid of souls they are only a delayed feast for the worms. Vultures, they are, nourished on the carion of murdered reputations while living, and carion, and carion only, they will be when dead.

Happy are the men or women who have the faculty of making a pleasure out of their work and thus getting their support as well as their enjoyment at the same time and from the same source. Unhappy, on the contrary, is he or she who go to their tasks like galley slaves, sorry when they commence, glad only when they end. (Skill to, is knowing how to do things in the best way is a very valuable accomplishment.) Many people do their work in the wrong way. They try to cut

grain with dull tools, "pull off more than they can chew" in the way of land to be tilled, fail to keep things clean around the barns and house, fail to "grease the wheels" and otherwise make their work doubly hard. As it is only the well oiled machinery runs smoothly, so the friction of life may be greatly lessened by doing all things at the right time and in the right way.—American Farmer.

**How to Get Rich.**

Everybody wants to be rich. Here is a plan which will make you wealthy if you faithfully carry it out. Money makes money. No one is so poor that he cannot rake up a penny to start on. Now, upon the first day of the month deposit a cent in a bank, and on each of the succeeding thirty days of the month double your deposit. Follow this program faithfully, and at the end of the month you will be surprised to find that your account will show the sum of ten million, seven hundred and thirty-seven thousand, four hundred and eighteen dollars and twenty-three cents to your credit. With that amount all you have to do is to retire and let the other fellows hustle. If you don't believe this statement, do a little sum in arithmetic and be convinced. In the face of such a plain and simple financial problem, who is there that cannot grow rich in a month and forever and afterwards snap his fingers at poverty and labor?—Ex.

Business men should remember that The Mail practically covers this trade territory and is reaching out to other points. No paper in this country can boast of a larger list of local subscribers and patrons.

**NOTICE!**

All parties who are indebted to the late firms of either Hill & Martin or Hill & Provine are requested to call and settle at once, as I intend to leave as soon as I can straighten out my affairs. Make settlement with myself or T. C. Weir. 2t

R. M. Hill.

**This Means You.**

I will expect those who owe me, either by notes or open accounts, to come in promptly and make settlement. I have waited long enough and must have my money. This means you and not the other fellow. Notes and accounts have been placed with the First National Bank for collection. 4t

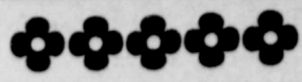
E. D. Coats.

**Chickamauga**

Saturday and Sunday forty years ago were days never to be forgotten by those who were at the battle above named, where the hell of thunder and blaze and shot belched forth from daylight until midnight for two days on Saturday and Sunday Sept. 19th and 20th, 1863.

Thousands of brave souls took their departure from earth those two days and tens of thousands of hearts bled because loved ones failed to return. The sun of Saturday and Sunday Sept. 19th and 20th 1903 looked down upon hearts still burdened with grief from the cruelty of that battle and that grief will never end until hearts are united beyond the River which separates this world from the land where anger, envy, war, bloodshed and grief can not enter. We are reminded of this anniversary by Captain Leake, who, with many other present citizens of Taylor County took part in that awful conflict. Among these are C. W. Leake,

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' Responsibility over ONE MILLION DOLLARS

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, Cashier.

J. H. Parramore, J. M. Steel, C. M. Pearre, Dr. Bouldin, C. M. Bradshaw, C. P. Warren and J. F. Alexander. There may be others but we did not learn their names.

What a contrast is the anniversary to those awful days!

We are glad to say that these noble men who have lived forty years since that battle are all respected citizens, and in good health, and are well situated, are in no need of pensions and would not have them if offered. They risked their lives for love of their states and for what they believed to be their duty, and we lift our hat to do them honor.

Where can you find eight better men?

May our eight fellow citizens live many more years and when the sunset of their day comes may it be unmarred by cloud or storm and be but a presage of the glorious unending day that shall dawn on the morrow.—Reporter.

**Concerning Great Men.**

What makes the great lawyer? Winning cases for his clients regardless of methods.

What makes the great banker? Making 100 per cent a year for the stockholders.

What makes the great railroad president? Piling up a tremendous surplus for the directors to spend in "betterments" while the stockholders wait.

What makes the great politician? A lack of statesmanship. An honest politician is the rarest work of God.

What makes the great philosopher? An insured income for life.

What makes the great general? The failure of other generals.

What makes the great admiral? The men behind the guns.

What makes this great doctor? Our fear of death.—New York Press.

J. C. Haman went up the road yesterday evening to look after the yards of the Roscoe Lumber Co. at Roscoe and Big Springs.

**Cotton Buyers Up a Tree.**

There is no market today. No one can sell cotton in the eastern markets.

The situation is a peculiar one.

Buyers have been selling to parties who hold September contracts, but such sales must guarantee the cotton at a seaport by September 26.

That is but little over three days and the cotton can not be gotten there by that time.

If one buys on October futures one can not pay nearly so much, and now, what is cotton worth in Abilene today?

It is guess work, entirely, and one hates to guess with fifty dollar bills.

All efforts to sell cotton to factors today are failures.—Abilene Reporter, Monday.

The same condition prevailed here, and it has not cleared up since Monday. The wires have been kept busy calling for margins, but the invariable reply coming from the cotton men is, "we have no idea what cotton is worth."

October futures are just about one cent a pound lower than September, and if local buyers buy on this market and keep up present prices they are losers to the tune of five dollars a bale.

It is estimated that the business men of Merkel lost between \$500 and \$1,000 because of this slump in the price of cotton, and Abilene buyers were also hit hard. Up a tree? Well, rather.

Farmers should appreciate the situation and not blame buyers. Playing with fifty dollar bills, as the Reporter says, is an expensive luxury and one which is calculated to result disastrously.

Mack Cordill and wife (nee Miss Matthews), who were married in the Canyon last week, took the train yesterday for Big Springs, where Mr. Cordill holds a position with the Roscoe Lumber Co. The best wishes of their friends, with whom The Mail joins, go with them.

The Mail gives all the news.

**Don't Be Fooled; Buy Right!**

It is not what you pay, but what you get that determines whether you have paid too much for an article. Our policy is to give every purchaser his money's worth, and charge only enough profit to keep in business. Glance over our prices on the following lines and see how much money we can save you:

DRY GOODS		CLOTHING	
Percale 7 1/2, 8 1/2 and	10c	\$15 suits for	\$12.50
Momie cloth	12 1/2c	Absolutely all wool suits at	10.00
Zibeline Fancies	15c	Good all wool filled	6.50
Covert cloth	10c	Boys and youths suits from	
American calicoes	5c	1.75 to	7.50
J. J. Clark's thread 8 spools for	25c		
SHOES		GROCERIES	
\$2.00 ladies shoes, for	\$1.75	Tennessee sorghum, per bucket	45c
1.75 and 1.50 ladies shoes for	1.35	Cooks Pride Soda, per pound	5c
4.00 mens shoes for	3.75	2 bottles Dental Snuff for	45c
3.00 mens shoes for	2.75	10 pounds XXXX, Lion or	
1.75 and 2.00 mens shoes for	1.50	Arbuckle Coffee	\$1.00
		Come and price other goods.	

Yours for Business,

**J. P. Sharp & Co.**

"The Price Setters," : Merkel, Tex.







# Watch for Announcement

Of the arrival of our NEW FALL GOODS. We bought a large stock, and the people will REAP THE BENEFITS. WATCH THIS SPACE.

## J. O. HAMILTON

### Items From Various Sources

The annual announcement of the West Texas Fair, at Abilene, Texas, October 13th to 17th, appears in this issue. The Fair promises to be bigger and better than ever before and the management is using every effort to teat end. The horse racing each afternoon will be the best ever seen in this part of the state. No entry fees on most of the races will be charged and all the races will fill and thus no chance for the owners to do anything but make their horses get up and run will be left to them. Balloon ascensions, roping contests, ferris wheels, and many side attractions have been arranged for, besides the garden, orchard and farm exhibits will be the finest ever shown in Texas. The ladies department will be unusually attractive, and the merchandise exhibits will be large and well displayed. If you spend a few days at the West Texas Fair you will not regret it. Special low rates on the railroad from the east and west and special trains will be run.

#### A Damaging Hail Storm.

Parties coming in from the Union neighborhood report quite a damaging hail storm last Monday afternoon accompanied by considerable wind and rain. The hail done a good deal of damage to growing crops and knocked a good deal of cotton out on the ground. The storm, we are told, didn't cover a very large area of country, hence did not injure many farms, though in the center of one of the best farming districts in the country. Cotton is thought to have suffered the greatest damage. The forage crop, though badly beaten down, will soon recuperate and make a crop in spite of the many drawbacks. People in West Texas have needed rain a long time, but even a drouth doesn't do the damage in three months that one these hail storms can do in a few minutes when they do come.—Colorado Spokesman.

#### Roscoe Country.

Roscoe Herald.

Friday night of last week a good rain fell in Roscoe and Tuesday night of this week another good rain was received. Fine winter grass is assured.

Prof. John Brown of Taylor county is visiting relatives south of town. He is a son-in-law of W. E. Woodard and may locate near Roscoe.

F. M. Cordill and wife of Mul-

berry Canyon, parents of J. S. Cordill, have moved to Roscoe. They will live in the house occupied by J. S. Cordill before he moved to Big Springs.

Mrs. McDaniel and children of Merkel arrived in Poscoe Saturday morning and were met at the train by relatives from Wheat and conveyed to the latter place where they will visit for a few days.

L. B. Cope and family left today (Friday) for Taylor county where they will spend several days visiting relatives. Mr. Cope was in town yesterday and we asked him if he was going to make any cotton and he said "O yes." That's good.

Mack Cordill of Big Springs stopped over in Roscoe last night. He was on his way to Mulberry Canyon where he will wed a Miss Matthis. They will reside in Big Springs where Mr. Cordill is employed in the Roscoe Lumber Company's yard. We wish the young couple a happy life.

#### Fearful Odds Against Him.

Bedridden, alone and destitute. Such, in brief was the condition of an old soldier by name of J. J. Havens, Versailles, O. For years he was troubled with Kidney disease and neither doctors nor medicines gave him relief. At length he tried Electric Bitters. It put him on his feet in short order and now he testifies. "I'm on the road to complete recovery." Best on earth for Liver and Kidney troubles and all forms of Stomach and Bowel Complaints. Only 50c. Guaranteed by Rust & Pittard, Druggists.

#### Attempt to Escape from Jail.

Louis McKinley, who was arrested at Hylton Monday on a charge of theft of cotton and brought to town Monday by Deputy Sheriff Bass and assigned a room in the county jail, made what came near being a successful break for liberty a short while before dark Wednesday evening. Jailer Waldie had gone up stairs to lock the prisoner in his cell for the night, and just as he opened the door to the run-a-round McKinley dashed a lot of ashes and dust in the jailer's face, and as he did so made an attempt to pass. Fortunately the dirt was thrown too high, and failed to blind Mr. Waldie, as was intended. The jailer was quick to see the necessity of immediate action, so he got busy and proceeded to pound the pris-

oner over the head with a large jail key with such force that he was compelled to return to his cell.

McKinley has proven himself to be a desperate young character. He has been an occupant of the jail here several times, and as will be remembered, made his escape once and was later caught at El Paso. The officers will keep their eyes wide open in future dealings with him.—Sweet-water Reporter.

#### Damaged by Storm.

A storm of considerable magnitude passed across the north part of the county Sunday evening, wrecking a number of windmills, destroying one dwelling with contents and picking the cotton from open bolls in its path. No one was hurt so far as learned. Heavy rain accompanied the wind.—Snyder Coming West.

#### It Pays to be Decent.

It has been argued, too often, that facilities for drinking and gambling, and other things that cater to vicious and depraved tastes, are necessary to secure the patronage of the great American public. That this is altogether erroneous is shown conclusively by the great and unbroken success and undiminishing popularity of such resorts as those at Ocean Grove, Ashbury Park, Orchard Beach, Lake Mohonk, Chautauqua, and other points where no drink shops, gambling halls, or other traps for the unwary are allowed to exist, where the Sabbath is observed and a decent regard paid to all the proprieties of a respectable order of life. Yet with all these prohibitions and so-called restrictions upon them, these places have been noted for years for the immense and increasing throngs of people resorting to them for health, recreation and pleasure, and their financial success is beyond question.

It is only the few in any city or town who prefer the things that are vile and shameful, and find their chief enjoyment in the ways of crime, vice and debauchery. Decency pays with the American public as a matter of business policy, and it is certainly the only tenable principle on which to proceed in a civilized government and in respectable society.—Leslie's Weekly.

Applicants for admission to the Abilene epileptic colony are pouring in in advance of its opening, the first coming from Collin county. It is notable that Taylor County has not furnished subjects.

#### In Fisher County.

Boby Banner.

Our jail is empty again. If it was not for the company we have from other counties we would not need our jail very badly.

It has flooded Merkel, it has poured down heavily at Newman and a good rain fell to within six miles south of town, but our Cottonwood creek still refuses to show up. All the rain we had in weeks did not suffice to lay the dust. Still we look for a good season ere long.

At present there is not a case pending for trial on the criminal docket of the District Court. Everything was disposed of at the recent term of court. The grand jury only returned three indictments, two of those were re-indictments, and one against the man Evans from Haskell county. There were fifteen indictments for misdemeanors turned in.

#### Heaven Helps Us

In our troubles, but use Hunt's cure for itch, Tetter, Ring worm, Itching Piles and eczema. Guaranteed.

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