

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIV.

MERKEL, TEXAS, OCTOBER 15, 1903.

NO. 34.

THE HIGHER LIFE.

Cream of the Pulpit.

RELIGION A BRIGHT ANGEL.

Canon Farrar.

Religion is no haggard or stern monitress waving you from enjoyment; she is a strong angel leading you to noble joy. The Bible is not a book of repressions and prohibitions; it is a book of kindling inspiration.

TALKING TO GOD.

Episcopal Record.

We shall never truly honor God unless we can talk to Him about everything that concerns us, without a cloud of doubt. If only we keep near to him thus, who can tell what depth of teachings such intimacy of communion will open up?

ONE OF MOODY'S SAYINGS.

D. L. Moody.

There is not such a great difference between grace and glory, after all. Grace is glory begun; and glory is grace perfected. It will not come hard to people that are serving God down here to do it when they go up yonder. They will change places, but they won't change employments.

NEAR THE HEART OF GOD.

Charles Beard.

It is on the side of that which is in God most truly infinite and unchangeable that we draw nigh to Him. Wisdom and love and righteousness and patience in us are the same qualities as in Him, only their poor shadow and pale presentment; and we touch Him, if I may say so in all reverence, at the very heart of His being.

A FAMOUS TREE.

Dr. Josiah Strong.

At Reigate, England, in the spacious grounds of the ancient priory, there is a tree which is known as the tree of decision. Under it stood Lady Henry Somerset in the darkest hour of her life; the very foundations seemed to be giving away. She was struggling with an awful question, Is there a God? when there came to her this message: "Live as though I were, and you shall know that I am." The decision was made, and God became real.

LOOKING FOR LIGHT.

E. F. Burr.

If we would gain light either on the theory or the practice of religion, we must sincerely desire the light. We must use the light we already have. We must patiently seek light in the double way of prayer and rational inquiry. Never, as long as the world stands, will any religiously benighted soul thus patiently desire and pray and labor for the break of day without at last seeing the eyelids of the morn unsealed and the painfully dusky east gradually redden into the sun.

NEITHER WORDS NOR DEEDS.

Frederick W. Robertson.

It is the spirit of that life to which we should attain. It is not by saying Christ's words or doing Christ's acts, but it is by breathing His spirit that we become like him.

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

Scissorettes.

A crazy woman fell from a second story window, lit on her head and was cured of insanity. In California a cripple fell down stairs and was cured of his rheumatism. They are both dead now.

A joker on an Iowa paper tells of a man that kicked over a hive of bees for spite and is now suffering with the stings of remorse.

"Thank the good Lord!" exclaims a Georgia philosopher, "the railroad's done cut off dad's left leg, an' the mortgage is took off the mule!"—Atlanta Constitution.

The Cincinnati Inquirer asks: "Do angels eat?" We know one who went through a pint of ice cream, a 20-cent box of chocolates and a quart of peanuts one joyous July night.

The doom of the rural mail carrier is sounded by an item that is going the rounds—a wonderful new machine has been invented. It will deliver the mail to the farmers, throw kisses at the girls along the way, cuss the fellows who do not give the road, read the postal cards, keep posted on the market and bring packages from town. All the farmer has to do is to think right hard about what he wants and this machine will deliver it.

Lamar (Colo.) Sparks—The bachelor editor of the Walden Union relieved himself last week of a column of editorial on the evils of tight lacing. It certainly is disappointing for a young man to get his arm around a girl who is bound so tightly in stays that it feels as though he were trying to squeeze a tubular boiler. There should be a radical change in this barbarous style of woman's dress—especially at the resorts.

An English bishop owned a portable bathtub, which he failed on one occasion to take with him on a pastoral visitation. When he returned he found the housemaid had used the beloved tub. Calling her into his study, he said kindly but firmly: "Mary, I do not so much mind your using

my tub, but what I object to is that you should do behind my back what you will not do before my face."—(Julia I. Patton in Lippincott's.)

"There is an old negro living in Carrollton," relates the Bosworth Star-Sentinel, "who was taken ill several days ago and called in a physician of his race to prescribe for him. But the old man did not seem to be getting any better, and finally a white physician was called. Soon after arriving, Dr. S— felt the darky's pulse for a moment and then examined his tongue.

"Did your other doctor take your temperature?" he asked, "I don't know sah," he answered feebly. "I hain't missed anything but my watch as yit, boss."

Two Kisses And One Dollar.

On the Kronprinz Wilhelm, one moonlight May night, a young man and a girl, were discovered making love. The news of this discovery spread among the passengers, and many a joke was cracked. But Senator N. B. Scott of West Virginia, said in the smoking room:

"There is nothing to laugh at here. Innocent love-making is natural in the young. This fact was well brought out by an adventure that happened to a friend of mine several years ago in the mountains of West Virginia.

"The young man was hunting. He came to a lonely cabin, and being thirsty, he knocked at the door for a drink. The drink was handed to him by a girl so charming that, with a smile, he said:

"Would you be angry if I should offer you a dollar for a kiss?"

"No, sir," the girl answered, with a little blush.

"So my friend took the kiss and then he gave the maiden the dollar. She balanced it in her hand a moment. She knitted her pretty brows in perplexity.

"What," she asked, shall I do with all this money?"

"Why, anything you please, my dear," said my friend.

"Then," she murmured, "I

think I'll give it back to you and take another kiss."

Deep Plowing-Shallow Cultivation.

Deep plowing and frequent shallow cultivation has to a large extent redeemed the arid West. This is the soul of the Campbell system which has in almost innumerable instances produced good crops of corn without a drop of rain from the time the plants came up till the harvest. If deep plowing and frequent shallow cultivation can make corn without rain, is it not certain that heavy crops can be made by the same means under the severest drouth we ever have in the southwest? New ideas in farming spread slowly. Some years ago they did not spread at all. In this we have an advantage over the ancients of forty

or fifty years ago. This deep preparation and shallow and frequent cultivation, to store and retain water in the soil, should spread far beyond the borders of the arid areas, for there is hardly a farm anywhere where the crops do not suffer occasionally for want of water. They are sure to grow if they have sufficient moisture at times, and waier long stored in the soil carries more plant food than that which has recently fallen from the clouds. Plants get all their food from water.—Farm & Ranch.

Hope and Wisdom

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

See Burroughs & Mann for Pure Drugs, Medicines and Toilet Articles.



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.

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.

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 Oct. 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

Chappel, J. H.
Jack, Fred.
Sloan, Dr. C. E.
Woolens, J. N.
Maderama, Abeline.
Lopez, Victorian.
Ortez, Maria Lenora.
Rivera, Nicola.

A Just Sentence.

During the late street fair at Fort Worth a young man was arrested on the charge of making himself abnoxious to the ladies, taking advantage of the jam to take liberties which are, to say the least, very distasteful. He was arraigned and plead guilty, asking the leniency of the court. This is what Judge Milam said to him and the fine he imposed:

"Yes, I'll have mercy on you," said Judge Milam, "I shall impose a fine of \$1,000 upon you in each of the two cases, and sentence you to two years imprisonment in each. That is the maximum allowed by the statute, and it is a matter of regret to me that I cannot make it stronger. I think the four years in jail will give you an opportunity to think about this thing, and that when you come out you will be prepared to take your hat off to a woman and will keep your hands in your pocket."

A just sentence, and it will no doubt have a salutary effect upon such gentry.

In Fisher County.

Roby Banner.

Roby and surrounding country is just reaping the fruits of drinking bad water for several months past. Slow fever seems to be the order of the day. We are told that there about twenty cases, and new ones coming to light every day. So far it is not fatal though some of them are very sick. Others are walking and eating, and taking medicine and getting well without ever being confined to the bed.

Sheriff Viser returned Saturday from Comanche county with Joe and Milam Tow, who are charged with the theft of a mare from W. A. Chapman in the Round Mountain community.

Money to loan on your farm. 8 per cent interest, 1 per cent commission.

2t Bynum & Muir, Abilene.

R. M. Davenport and Miss Cattie Leslie of the Canyon were granted married license last week. They have many friends with whom The Mail joins in congratulations.

Saves Two From Death.

"Our little daughter had almost a fatal attack of whooping cough and bronchitis," writes Mrs. W. K. Haviland, of Armonk, N. Y., "but, when all other remedies failed, we saved her life with Dr. King's New Discovery. Our niece, who had consumption in an advanced stage, also used this wonderful medicine and today is perfectly well." Desperate throat and lung diseases yield to Dr. King's New Discovery as to no other medicine on earth. Infallible for coughs and colds. 50c and \$1.00 bottles guaranteed by Rust & Pittard. Trial bottles free.

Read this—We value the best land in Taylor and Jones counties at \$20 per acre, and loan 50 per cent of the valuation. 1 per cent commission for getting the loan.

2t Bynum & Muir, Abilene.

Thirsty Suckers Plentiful.

In anticipation of a big crowd of thirsty souls, that would hail with joy the finding of a mecca in this great desert of local opinion, and being unmindful that suckers are born in great litters and at frequent intervals, Sam Huff, an enterprising youth of the city, secured the old Diamond saloon building for show day and early in the morning was ready for business. He cut a hole in the wall and wrote over it, "Ginger Tea, \$1.25 per quart." That was enough for, verily, they came, deposited the coin, grabbed a bottle and hid themselves hastily to some secluded spot and sampled the goods, only to find it just as represented, genuine home-made ginger tea.

In most cases those who swallowed the tempting bait, smashed their purchase against a wall, swore a few "lines," then silently went away, sadder but wiser in the ways of the wicked world, but some "squealed" to the sheriff's department, and while not subject to the law, the investigation exploded the scheme and put the young man out of business. His cash sales for the brief time were highly gratifying, however.—Greenville Messenger.

The Wickedest Girl and a Cause.

New York has discovered the wickedest girl. She carries a pistol, swears, fights with her fists, steals, belongs to a juvenile robber gang, and she is only 15.

Driga Coloma's picture has been in the papers. She has been written up, and she doesn't care a hang for the law or for notoriety.

New York is astonished and says: "Such depravity!" People who think are sorry for Driga Coloma, but they do not stop with her. They look for a cause, and they do not have to look far.

The girl ran wild, just as thousands of children have done. Her parents' idea of responsibility ended with enough for her to eat—clothing to cover her body. They were ignorant. Worse than ignorant, they were careless, and the streets of a great city reached out and swallowed her in their blackness.

Depravity is contagious. The human being who hears a story full of smut isn't satisfied until it has been spread broadcast. The depraved child seeks companionship—converts. One of the dangers that menaces society today is the ease with which bad girls induce other girls to be equally as bad.

And the cure must begin at the beginning. How can you expect children to grow up into good

men and women if home influences are not right?

We have in mind a girl whose only chance of meeting young men is at the home of a neighbor. She is barred from social intercourse in her own home. Her father, proud of his own boorishness, asserts that if he finds any young men around his house he will boot them out. He means it. The home is like a cemetery. The children do not laugh, the mother is sad-eyed and depressed. At the head of affairs is a tyrant, who doesn't understand his family or realize that his girl can find company in the streets, a welcome that is denied in her own home.

It is just one instance. The thing comes up in a thousand forms. Original sin is more often parental carelessness.

Children in the slums or in the cultured are nearly always as good as environment and conditions permit.—K. C. World.

Cause of Lockjaw.

Lockjaw, or tetanus, is caused by a bacillus or germ which exists plentifully in street dirt. It is inactive so long as exposed to the air, but when carried beneath the skin as in the wounds caused by percussion caps or by rusty nails, and when the air is excluded the germ is roused to activity and produces the most virulent poison known. These germs may be destroyed and all danger of lockjaw avoided by applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm freely as soon as the injury is received. Pain Balm is an antiseptic and causes cuts, bruises and like injuries to heal without maturation and in one third the time required by the usual treatment. It is for sale by Burroughs & Mann.

A Mexican Heroine.

Laredo Times.

There are yet women in the world who rise with sublime courage in times that try even men's souls, and do heroic things. Miss Manuela Flores of Linares, Mex., is a heroine. Since the terrible scourge of yellow fever struck that city every member of the city government has died, including her father, who was mayor. Miss Flores was the private secretary of her father and assumed control of the city. She has heroically stood by her post through all the horrors of the fever and administered the government with a success that has aroused the admiration of all Mexico. President Diaz has commended her action and the Mexican congress is expected to vote her a medal for bravery. Her name should live in the history with Joan of Arc and the Maid of Zaragoza.

Her Work.

A mother once said to a popular teacher, who had been adored by her pupils for a score of years: "What a wide and beneficial influence you have exerted, while I have been cooped up at home, managing servants, dosing the mumps and measles, and patching and darning! How narrow my life looks beside yours."

"Narrow!" cried her friend. "Think how you have sent forth into the world every morning your husband and your boys and girls, full of health and cheer! What a model home you have created for all your friends to see? It is I who have lived a narrow life rather than you. What is the slight touch which I may have given to a thousand or more lives compared with the deep, determining influence

We Make Them

Saddles
Harness
Lines
Bridles
Strap Goods

Also carry a full line of Harness, Chains, Collars, Whips, Blankets and Robes; in fact I carry a full line of everything kept in an up-to-date saddle shop. See me when in need of anything in my line.

Yours for Business,

R. L. Hudson

which you have wielded over the half dozen in your home?"—Selected.

Frank Pettus of Sweetwater passed through this morning en route to Albany where his brother, Neil, who died at Kerns this week, will be buried. Prof. Pettus was principal of the Kerns school and was a talented young man. The Mail joins in sympathy to the family.

See us for 8 per cent money. 1 per cent commission for getting the loan.

Bynum & Muir, Abilene.

Sixteen cars of cotton of 25 bales each were shipped out Tuesday. About 150 bales were ginned and the wagon receipts were not far from this number. Only two towns between Fort Worth and El Paso have passed Merkel in cotton shipments, and both of them have compresses.

"Uncle Tom" Richards marketed a 9c bale of cotton here Tuesday. Although nearing the ripe old age of three score and ten, Uncle Tom makes a full hand in the field and picks around 100 pounds of cotton every day.

H. S. Terry, contracting freight agent of the K. C. S. R'y, with headquarters at Dallas, was here yesterday in the interest of his road.

E. N. Brown of Cleburne is here today.

We value land higher and loan more per acre than any company doing business in the country. 1 per cent commission for getting the loan. See us.

Bynum & Muir, Abilene.

T. P. Gibson brought in his 12th bale of cotton yesterday noon. He has 65 acres and will make one-fourth of a bale to the acre. The Mail rejoices in his prosperity.

The Patterson murder trial was called in District Court at Abilene Thursday, a special venire and witnesses numbering probably 200 being in attendance, but the case was dismissed for want of evidence.

Self Explanatory.

Galveston, Tex., Oct. 10, 1903. Mr. W. W. Wheeler, Esq., Merkel, Texas.

Dear Sir:—We are in receipt of yours of 7th inst., enclosing bank exchange on Houston, Texas, for \$—, net amount from sale of land.

We thank you for your prompt and efficient manner of dispatching business.

Yours truly,
P. J. Willis & Bro.

A Delaware farmer fell into a fortune and the joy broke his heart. The same week a Texas man while quarreling with his finance fell out of a second story window and broke his engagement.—Ex.

A boy—a match—
A strong cigar—
A period of bliss—Then gloom.
A doctor—a nurse—
A coffin—a hearse—
A mound—and then a tomb.
—Lippincott's.

Joe Garland was here from Snyder yesterday.

Installation ceremonies were held at K. of P. hall Monday night when the recently elected officers of the lodge were installed.

IT IS NOT WHAT YOU GIVE so much as what you get when you want photos made. Where there is beauty we take it, and where there is none we make it.

AT BARNHILL'S GALLERY.

In order to close out our clocks we will make you the lowest price ever made for a short time.

Burroughs & Mann.

The Mail gives all the news.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Everything, especially if The Star Brand is on the shoes you buy. It means Perfection in Style, Quality, and Workmanship.



Our Patriot Shoes for men and Mayflower for women are as good as can be made at the price. Our family line for men, boys, women, misses and children are noted for solid comfort and hard wear. Give these shoes a trial and you will always wear them. We are the exclusive agents in Merkel for this brand of shoes. Remember Star Brand Shoes are Better.

THE STAR STORE

Gambling the Worst Vice.

Of all the vices to which men are addicted, gambling is undoubtedly the worst.

Gambling has a worse effect on the mind and conscience even than drink.

The inveterate gambler cannot remain honest, he does not remain honest.

We talk earnestly to the young man with the gambling habit, because many such young men are strong in ability and character and would render good service to the world if they could use their energies properly.

The gambling instinct is a perverted form of ambition, the most dangerous of human perversions.

Each young man who has genuine strength should think about gambling from his own point of view, and his own pride should give him reasons for stopping.

If you want success in life you should want it as a result of your own efforts, not as the result of any accident.

If you want to be prosperous you should have the ambition to be prosperous because you have worked hard, not because some poor horse, lashed and spurred and overdriven, has happened to win when you bet on it.

The gambling instinct is weak as well as vicious. It is self-indulgent and contemptible, it represents the desire to get something for nothing.—New York Journal.

B. I. Lowe, the untortured and unvincible democrat of Trent, who made a breeze in the county democratic convention last year, and who makes his presence felt in every body of which he is a member, came in this morning to look over the exhibits at the fair and renew acquaintance with his many friends. We were glad to see him and to note that Time continues to deal gently with him.—Reporter.

T. H. Hawkins, an old man who has been making his home in Sweetwater for the past few months, was arrested Wednesday morning on a charge of burglary. It is alleged that Haw-

kins entered a small building used by E. Cranfill for a whiskey store house, by prising off the locks on two occasions and appropriating several bottles of "fire water" to his own benefit. A lead pencil played quite an important part in the case and first caused suspicion to be fastened upon Hawkins. The pencil was picked up near the door of the store house on the morning after the building had been entered the second time, and identified as his property, and this led to a search of his room where several empty bottles were found concealed bearing the brands of the goods taken from the store room. At the examining trial defendant's bond was fixed at \$250 to await the action of the grand jury and in default of which he was remanded to jail.—Sweetwater Reporter.

A Mother's Constancy.

A sad sight was to be seen at the depot Tuesday night. An aged mother and a boyish looking, deformed man forty years of age, with mental faculties totally undeveloped, were there to take the train for an eastern point. It was an example of a mother's unflinching attachment to her offspring. She sat by the side of her helpless son whose mind has not risen above the state of a six months old babe, and who has to have the attention of a baby, holding his hand in a caressing manner that would lead a stranger to suppose the unfortunate one had only been in that condition a short time. But no, for forty years this good mother has cared for her child, seeing the many years go by without any change, and there has also been no change in her faithfulness. Such a monument to a mother's love! Such an example of her constancy!—Roscoe Herald.

Judge Dulaney showed us six monster beets which will be exhibited at the fair next week. They were headed by one measuring 25 inches in circumference and weighing 23½ pounds, and were grown by J. C. Brown on Salt Branch.—Reporter.

"It Goes Right to the Spot"

When pain or irritation exists on any part of the body, the application of Ballard's Snow Liniment will give prompt relief. "It goes right to the spot," said an old man who was rubbing it in, to cure rheumatism. C. R. Smith, Prop. Smith House, Tenaha, Texas, writes: "I have used Ballard's Snow Liniment in my family for several years, and have found it to be a fine remedy for all aches and pains, and I recommend it for pains in the throat and chest." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Burroughs & Mann's.

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.

Say!

Remember the fourth Saturday in each month is a big day in Merkel for buying, selling and trading in good horses, mules and cattle. Buying and selling will begin at 10 a. m. and close at 4 p. m., followed up by expert broncho riding from 4 to 6. If you have a real bad outlaw that has never been stayed with bring him in. A rider will be on hand. Headquarters at 4t STORY'S WAGON YARD.

Scarcity of Negro Labor.

Victoria Advocate. It is quite true that in certain parts of the south there is a scarcity of negro labor, but this is due to two causes. In the first place for a number of years negro labor has been steadily growing more trifling and unreliable, and in the second place there has been a movement of negroes into the northern states and to the largest cities of the south, where they think there is an opportunity to make a living by doing easy work. The places of these negroes, however, are gradually being filled by white labor, which is coming into the south in greater numbers than has been the case in years. This is due to the efforts of immigration associations, and the fact that the wonderful development and progress

of the south is attracting the attention of the whole country.

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

Hindoo Boy's Stenuous Life.

When he is four years old the Hindoo boy's time of idleness and happy freedom is over. His father then consults an astrologer as to which would be the luckiest day to send the son to school. When the date has arrived he is given a bath, his very best clothes are put on him, and he is taken to pay a visit to the temple and to offer up sacrifice to the god of learning, praying that in his school life he may become learned and industrious. Then he is taken to school and a period of right discipline begins. If he is the first boy to arrive in the morning he is given one stroke of the cane across the back and each boy as he comes gets an added stroke, the last boy received an abundance. If a child is very late he is made to stand on one leg for an hour or hold his arms straight out before him or hold a brick high in the air. For every new lesson he learns he must give the master a present.—New York Evening News.

From Eating Loco Weed.

In Montana it is estimated that fully \$100,000 worth of stock are lost every year from eating the loco weed. In Texas the loss is not so heavy, but the plant is so abundant that in many Panhandle pastures the ranchmen employ a force of men to dig it up and destroy it.—Colorado Stockman.

Masonic Notice.

The officers and members of Merkel lodge No. 710, A. F. & A. M., are hereby notified that a meeting of said lodge will be held in Merkel on Saturday, Oct. 17, 7:30 p. m., under dispensation from Grand lodge of Texas. By order of W. M.

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

Worms are said to be doing considerable damage to cotton on the river, north of Abilene.

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.

DR. J. W. LITTLE,
Resident Dentist.

EXAMINATIONS FREE — OFFICE IN
FERRIER BUILDING.

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.

has helped many. It is not the theory of THE FARMERS' DEPARTMENT... farming written by college professors and others up North on conditions that don't fit Texas. It is the actual experiences of farmers here at home who have turned over the soil.

If you are not taking THE SPECIAL MERKEL MAIL you should be 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
AND 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.

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. 25c and 50c. Satisfaction or money refunded.

Try reading The Mail.

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.

OUR "TALE OF WOE."

The Mail has never made it a point to dun people through the columns of the paper, nor will we do so now. However, there are times when the steer must be taken by the horns, and this is one of them. We have several hundred dollars due on subscription and to send out statements to all of them would entail quite an expense. We consider a majority of these accounts good. Therefore a request to pay them promptly is all that is necessary. The Mail is heavily encumbered with debt and we MUST collect what is due the paper.

Will you not send in what you are due? If possible, pay your subscription a year in advance and earn the lasting thanks of THE PUBLISHER.

A maxium for next year: Plant hogs and raise hominy.

The sins of the average office holder are great, glaring and gorgeous.

Politics in many countries may be likened to the sizzling of the grease before the batter is poured in.

Gov. Hogg's speech should open the eyes of the people to the iniquities of the free pass system.

There is no comparison between East and West Texas. West Texas is to the good by a large majority.

Abate the free pass system and you do away with the most fruitful source of corporate greed and corruption.

Farmers of this country need but to take a trip east to come in contact with the evils of the mortgage system. If West Texas is to retain its preset prosperity we must fight shy of the mortgage.

Gov. Hogg's contention that nearly all State and county officers are beneficiaries under the free pass system is an exact summary of the situation. It tells the story in a few words. In the more populous counties even the county commissioners ride on free passes. The free pass system is a growing evil which should be abated.

It was Walter Wiltiams, of the Columbia (Mo.) Herald, who, in addressing his Sunday school class (the largest in the state), said: "Fame has taken men from the forge, the plow and the carpenter's bench, but she was never known to reach over a picket fence and snatch a dude out of a

hammock." Champ Clark pronounces it the finest epigram uttered in America recently.

East Texas papers are agitating the system of double primaries. The people are taking up the cry and there can be no doubt but that it will be adopted. The clicks and clans have run politics long enough and it is high time a halt was called. Under the double primary system the candidate who receives a majority of the votes cast is declared the nominee, but if no candidate receives a majority vote the race in the second primary is limited to two candidates receiving the largest vote in the first and the winner is declared the nominee. Liquor interests have dominated politics in many of the counties by pooling on one candidate. Where there are five or six in the race they have no trouble in landing their man, and the pity of it is they always manage to have a full field. Double primaries are not now needed in this country, but the time is coming when the system will have to be adopted in self-defense.

A Mr. Wood, representative to the Alabama Legislature from the county in which Booker T. Washington's school is located, has no kind words for Washington's school or students. In a recent speech before the legislators he denounced the school and its methods as follows:

"The Rev. Sam Jones has been told by Washington, and has printed the statement, that none of his (Washington's) students had been in the penitentiary. A bigger lie than that has never been told. The only two legal hangings in my county were of students of his school, and they were charged with criminal assault. Washington himself has prosecuted some of his students in the courts of my city. The records of the courts will show that some of his students have been convicted of every crime known, and that there is not a student of Washington's school living in my county that is now earning an honest living. I am opposed to giving money to educate the negro along industrial lines."

Why He Didn't Kick.

A farmer in town during the rain was as jubilant as the ordinary citizen on the brightest day—so cheerful indeed as to excite comment. Asked the whyness, he replied: "I guess I'd get as blue as anybody if I knew when my crop was getting hurt by the weather, but I've had cotton ruined by what I thought was good weather, and I've had cotton made by what I thought was bad weather. With these experiences I've concluded that I don't know cotton weather when I see it, hence I might make myself ridiculous by kicking when I don't know why I kick."

The philosophy of this gentleman's experience and conclusions is pretty hard to argue around.—Bonham Favorite.

Progress of the Negro.

Forty years ago the negro had not a foot of land nor a roof over his head. Now there are 130,000 farms owned by negroes, valued at \$350,000,000; 150,000 homes outside the farm ownership valued at \$265,000,000 and personal property valued at \$185,000,000. So, starting from nothing, here is an accumulation of nearly \$800,000,000. When the work begun not one per cent of the negro adults of the South could

read or write. Today 40 per cent can do so. Fifty per cent of the children are attending school, and with more facilities more would attend. There are 800 colored physicians in practice, 300 lawyers and 30,000 school teachers. There are 300,000 books in the homes of colored people, and they own and publish 450 newspapers and magazines.—New York World.

A TRIP EAST.

Some Observations by the Editor Along the Way.

There are, as a general rule, but few pessimists in this country. To those thus inclined, whether by nature or habit, life is more of a burden than a pleasure, but a trip east is sufficient to dispel the gloom from their brows.

The editor and family have just returned from a trip to Honey Grove and Bonham, in each of which places we spent a couple of days. Our trip was a pleasant one. The few hours spent with relatives, the hearty hand-clasps, the many acts of devotion, and the words of cheer and encouragement—these made our stay indeed pleasant and will ever remain hallowed memories.

From Merkel to Weatherford we had a night run and the country was hid from view. But at the latter place the panorama of God's vast universe was spread before the vision by the refulgent rays of the rising sun, and the glistening dew drops sparkled like myriads of diamonds on nature's cloak. Between Cisco and Fort Worth are the best crops on the route. After leaving Fort Worth the fields are bare and we saw hundreds of acres of cotton that will not produce a bale to ten acres, and on many farms no effort will be made to gather the scattering locks. Around Bonham the cotton is some better and with a late frost the yield will be fairly good. In the Honey Grove country, however, the crop is very unsatisfactory. Up to Saturday night of last week less than 1000 bales of the fleecy staple had been received in either of the towns, and when you consider that last year at this time the receipts were in the thousands, you will have some idea of the effect it is having on the merchants.

At Honey Grove business men are very blue. In many of the stores the gross sales will not pay the running expenses. Think of this, you Merkel merchants who kick at dull days. This has been the case here all summer, and the merchants say a very late frost is their only salvation. This is a credit town strictly. The merchants have a "mortgage on the mule," but it will take many "mules" to ease the situation, especially when not a few of them have sold from \$15,000 to \$100,000 worth of goods on time. Banks are loaded to the guard, they have practically shut down on the people, and business is at a standstill.

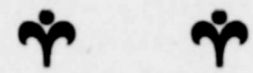
Bonham is in better shape. Here you will find many sources of revenue. Farmers practice diversification and the town shows the effects, and business is picking up, though even here it is not what it should be at this time.

While here we had the pleasure of going through the \$175,000 cotton mill. It is a wonder. Over one hundred looms run day and night and thousands of yards of domestic are turned out. The daily pay roll is upwards of \$300.

We Make Them

Saddles
Harness
Lines
Bridles
Strap Goods

Also carry a full line of Harness, Chains, Collars, Whips, Blankets and Robes; in fact I carry a full line of everything kept in an up-to-date saddle shop. See me when in need of anything in my line.



Yours for Business,

R. L. Hudson

The Carlton Dry Goods Co. of St. Louis have contracted for the entire output of the mill, and when a merchant of the town wants a bolt of the goods he phones his order to the mill, it is delivered to him and he pays for it in St. Louis. Funny, isn't it? Texas needs more cotton mills.

At Bonham you will find the festive cotton-tail doing duty as a money-maker. Ribbon cane here is raised from seed which grow on the stalk and you do not now have to plant the entire stalk as formerly. Molasses is a money crop. This product is made from sorghum and ribbon cane chiefly, but it has branched out and a good quality of syrup is made from milo maize which

tastes very much like the old-time sorghum molasses. The finest molasses we have yet tasted, however, is made from juice of the water melon.

This little recreation has done us a world of good. It is the first "day off" we've had in a "coon's age." Patrons of the paper, we hope, will look over its shortcomings this and last week.

IT IS NOT WHAT YOU GIVE so much as what you get when you want photos made. Where there is beauty we take it, and where there is none we make it. AT BARNHILL'S GALLERY.

In order to close out our clocks we will make you the lowest price ever made for a short time.

Burroughs & Mann.

For Perfect Baking

Charter Oak & Garland Stoves

Surpass ALL Others

When you get one of these stoves PERFECT BAKING is guaranteed, DURABILITY is guaranteed, CONVENIENCE is guaranteed, ECONOMY of FUEL is guaranteed, in fine, PERFECTION in a stove is guaranteed. Remember, Charter Oak and Garland Stoves bake perfectly and last a lifetime. It is just as easy to own one of these makes as any other kind, and they give twice the satisfaction. We are waiting to supply you with one.

Ed S. Hughes & Co.,

Abilene, Texas.

& BACON ash Merchants

Extra values
in ladies cor-
sets, all sha-
pes and sty-
les and very
cheap at 50,
65, 75c and
\$1.00



Our boys suits
at 1.50, 2.50,
3.00 and 3.50,
are the best for
the money.



We have the
best wool filled
work pant ever
sold for
\$1.00

Come to Buy Goods HERE FOR BARGAINS!

themselves. They talk louder than we
quality we sell and prices we make. Give
anyway.

-- :: ::

the family this winter from our Brown
Star Five Star line and see how you
will be delighted with the result. Here
are a few SPECIAL GOOD NUMBERS:

- Ladies vici kid, a nice dress shoe, the best in the world for 1.50
- Ladies fine vici kid dress shoes with heavy and light soles, a perfect fitter, at 2.50
- Ladies fine vici dress shoes, extra good and our best seller, at 2.00
- Ladies dongola dress shoe, worth 1.25, special price 75c
- Ladies heavy everyday wear shoes, solid leather, at 1.00
- Ladies heavy everyday wear shoes, every pair guaranteed, at 1.50 and 1.65
- Mens heavy weight calf dress shoe, the best we ever saw, for 1.50
- Mens box calf and vici dress shoes, all shapes, lace and congress, at 2.00 and 2.50
- Mens heavy work shoes, congress, lace and buckle, extra good wearers, cheap at 1.50 and 1.25
- Childrens shoes, sizes 2 to 5, at 35 and 45c
- Childs shoe in all sizes, black, red, and blue, at 90, 85, 75 and 50c
- Childs extra fine dress shoes at 1.25 and 1.00
- Misses and boys school shoes, solid leather, 1.00 and 75c
- Misses and boys extra good school shoes, will last all the winter, at 1.50 and 1.75
- Misses fine dress shoes, all sizes and shapes, at 1.00, 1.25, 1.50 and 1.75
- Try a pair of Brown's White House shoes for men and women; they are the best made at only 3.00 and 3.50

Whatever we do we advertise, and whatever we advertise we'll do, we do do.
We advertise the goods you want, and not a lot of trash you wouldn't have.

Ladies' and Children's Hats

At about one-third off of the usual prices.
You have not seen a more attractive and up-to-date line of millinery than we are showing this season. We have an immense stock to select from and every hat is brand new, both in material and style. You will be delighted to see what a nice hat you can get for such a small price.

Fine pattern hat, made of velvet, trimmed with feathers and plumes, black, castor, grey, red and blue, worth \$3.50 and \$4, our Special price 3, 2.95, 2.65 and \$2.45

Fine velvet pattern hats, elegantly trimmed with braids, feathers and plumes. The regular 4, 5 and 6 grade, our price 3.25, 3.50 and \$4.50

Ladies' street hats, all styles and colors, at 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2 and \$2.50

Misses and childrens trimmed hats, all colors, at 3, 2.50, 1.75, 1.50 and \$1.00

Miscellaneous Articles.

- Wool blankets, white gray and red, at 3, 3.50, 4, 4.50, 5 and \$6.00
- Cotton blankets, all colors, 50c, 75c, 85c \$1.00 and \$1.25
- White Counterpanes, plain and fringed, at 2.75, 2, 1.50 and \$1.00
- Comforts at 1.00 \$1.50
- Fine plush lap robes at 3, 4, 5, 6 and \$8.00
- Big line of mens and boys gloves from 25c to \$1.50
- Mens heavy overshirts, extra good wearers at 65c to \$1.50
- Mens wool overshirts at 2, 1.50, 1.25 and \$1.00
- Mens fine dress shirts at 50c, 75c, 1, 1.25 and \$1.50
- Ladies belts at 25c, 50c and .75
- Ladies kid gloves, all sizes and colors, at 50c, 75c and \$1.00
- We carry an immense line of embroidery, laces and dress trimmings
- Facinators at 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c and \$1.00
- We carry a big line of trunks at 2, 2.50, 3, 4, 5, 6 and \$10.00

We carry a full line of groceries and we don't allow any concern to undersell us. Ask for prices.

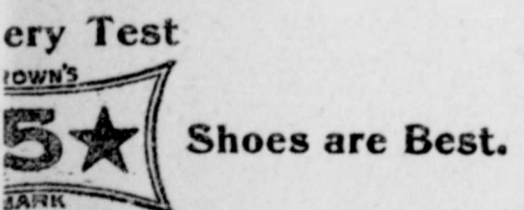


eral foundation of proper attire.

BROWN'S \$2.50 SHOE

excellence in a shoe — style, fit,
ice-giving qualities.

N SHOE CO., St. Louis.



Our Hobby

es, and so do you. Our
and to wear. We guar-
sell to be solid leather
ion for the price. Shoe

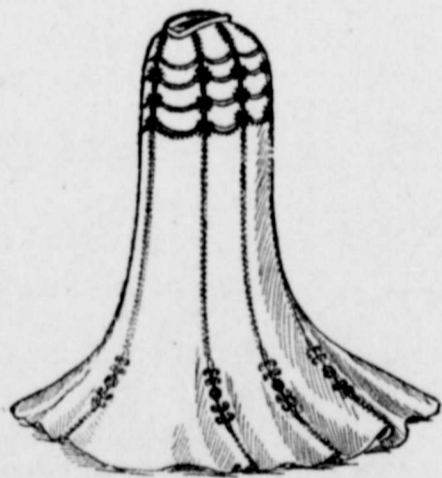


You have found out that a Cash Store carries a better stock and sells goods cheaper, for they depend upon the merits of their goods and reasonableness of price for support. Our prices are absolutely the same to everybody, and you can buy your first bill from us as cheap as though you had been our customer for ten years.

Ready-Made Garments



- Ladies part wool skirts in black only at **1.00**
- Ladies all wool skirt, grey and black, worth 3.25, at **2.75**
- Ladies all wool skirts, handsomely made grey and black and very cheap at **3.50**
- Ladies extra fine skirts, grey and black, latest, at **5.00**
- Our line of ladies black mercerized sateen underskirts are the best for the money that we have ever had, at 2.50, 2.00, 1.75, 1.50, 1.25 and **1.00**
- Large line misses and childrens jackets, all colors and sizes, at 4.00, 3.50, 2.50, 1.75, 1.50 and **1.00**
- Ladies wool flannelwaist, all colors, at 2.50, 2.00, 1.50 and **1.25**
- Ladies jackets, black and castor, worth 3.50 at only **3.00**
- Ladies jackets in blue, castor and black, extra cheap 3.50, 4.50 and **5.00**
- Ladies extra fine jacket, latest style, handsomely made and trimmed, special price 6.00, 8.00, 10.00 and **12.50**
- Ladies plush capes at only **1.00**



We sell the kind of merchandise that give you satisfaction. Any time you are dissatisfied you can get your money back.

We give a new fashion plate free to every lady who buys a dress pattern from us.

We are selling a ladies heavy ribbed hose for 15c that is absolutely worth 25c.

The Store that Bi

We have gathered together this fall one of the grandest stocks of

DEPENDABLE M

ly desirable. The prices are so low, consider ACTUALLY CREATE IN THE MINDS OF Yet back of every article we sell is our GUARANTEED HIGHEST SATISFACTION. Your buying with a store that carries a large stock and FOR CASH the year round and the same tr

You will find below a few of the goods understand the situation better if you do n store and see for yourself OUR OFFERING

Our Line of Underwear.

Ladies ribbed vest, worth 35c, our price

25c

Fine ribbed underwear, worth 1.00, at

75c

Ladies union suits, all sizes, at 50 and

75c

Ladies fine marine wool vest at

\$1.25

Mens extra heavy fleece underwear, best grade, at

50c

Childrens union suits, extra good values at 35 and

25c

Clothes th



GET USED TO WEARING FINE CLOTHES

It's a pleasure to you, a suit that is right on the shoulders and is right in the style and nary tailor-made \$2.00 to \$3.00 a cheaper man Mens black w worth 5.00, or Mens dark gr worth 6.50, or Mens fine bla 12.50, our pri Mens tailormen & work Mens fine tail all sizes, work price only 15. Youths all work and sizes Youths chevi ed colors, spe

- Boys knee pant suits, all cotton, 50c
- Boys wool filled knee pant suits, 5 to 16, extra good for the price, 1.00
- Boys knee pant suits, all wool, all colors and sizes, extra good for price 3.50, 3.00, 2.75, 2.50, 2.00, 1.50
- Tremendous line of boys knee pants in fine cashmere and worsted, sizes 4 to 16, extra cheap at 25, 50, 75 and 1.00

Watson C

Bids for Your Trade

MERCHANDISE

ever brought to Merkel. This merchandise is new, worthy, and high-considering the high standard of quality, as to OF MANY A FEELING OF SKEPTICISM. GUARANTEE, which insures the purchaser ing will be made much easier by trading and a general assortment, and that SELLS ne treatment and prices to every one alike. ods we carry briefly described. But you'll do not rely on what we say, but visit our INGS.

Clothes that Fit the Season and You.

It's a pleasure to have a suit of clothes that fit a suit that is made right, that will wear right is right. Our coats are all padded in the lders and retain their shape until worn out. style and workmanship is better than the ordi- tailor-made garment. Our prices are from to \$3.00 cheaper than our competitors get for paper made garment.

- black wool filled suit, all sizes, \$5.00, our price **3.50**
- dark grey mixed suit, all wool, \$6.50, our price **5.00**
- fine black all wool suits, worth \$10.00, our price **10.00**
- tailormade suits, cheviotts, mel- & worsteds, extra good, special, at **10.00**
- fine tailor made suits in the new mixtures, sizes, worth 16.50 and 18.00, our price only 15.00 and **12.50**
- all wool cheviott suits, all col- and sizes 13 to 19, a bargain at **5.00**
- cheviott suits, all sizes, assort- colors, special price **3.50**
- 50c Fine beaver overcoat sold everywhere for 10.00, but our price is only **9.00**
- 1.00 Fine melton overcoats, a splendid value, usually sells for 3.50, our price only **6.50**

This is the biggest ad by the big- best store in Merkel.

Our Line of Underwear.

Misses and boys heavy ribbed union suits, all sizes, at 35 and

50c

Mens heavy ribbed un- derwear, the best wearer ever sold at

50c

Ladies heavy ribbed vest in bleach and brown, at 25, 40 and

50c

Mens wool underwear, assorted weights and col- ors, 75c, 1.00, 1.25 and

\$1.50

Boys heavy fleece seper- able undershirts and drawers, a fine wearer, at

35c

FASHIONS FAVORITES IN DRESS GOODS & SILKS



Right Things in Dress Goods AND ACCESSORIES.

If you will come and look over our showing in Dress Goods you will be delighted at the great variety of Styles, Beautiful Patterns, and Reasonable-ness of Price of our offerings.

- All wool Henrietta, brown, black, blue, red, green, cream; 35c everywhere, our price **25c**
- Fancy all wool dress goods, small figures, all colors, fine for children, at **35c**
- Large variety of novelty wool dress goods in all the new mix- ures, special value 60 and **50c**
- Fine line of the popular Zibilines in the choice colors, special prices 60, 85, 90, 1.00 and **1.25**
- Broadcloth in black, green, dark blue, castor, red; usually sells at 1.25, our price **1.00**
- All wool suitings, venitians and meltons, fine for skirts and heavy dresses, at **50c**
- 36 inch Taffeta silk, extra good for the money, at **1.00**
- Wynne fleece waistings, beautiful assortment colors, worth 12 1/2c, our price **10c**
- Oporto Oxfords for waist and dress, all colors, worth 25c, our price **15c**
- Mercerized cheviott, white ground with colored figures, one of very best materials at **15c**
- Durban cloth, dark colors better than dress duck, at **10c**
- Fancy cotton suitings fine for childrens dresses, at **12 1/2c**
- Matador waistings is the best value ever shown for the price; blue, tan, red, green, at **15c**
- Wool cashmere, blue, red, purple and black, worth 18c, our price only **15c**

Remember, the goods we handle are alway worth the money, and a little more. We can't afford to sell our customers worthless goods; therefore, no matter how low the price, the right quality is there.



@ Bacon



We have the best
3.50, 5.00, 5.50, 7.50
jackets in west Tex.



"THIS IS THE TICKET."

There are no work pants and
overall that equal the

CARHART

We are sole agents in Merkel
for them.



Don't fail to see our line
of baby caps at 20, 25, 35,
50, 75c and 1.00.

WATSON

The Spot Co

Now Is the Time

COME TO THIS STORE

STAPLES.

Standard calico, 1 to 10 yard lengths, fast colors,
at 4c
Mill remnants gingham, checks and stripes, worth
8½ at 5c
Mill remnants gingham, 2 to 10 yard lengths, worth
10 and 8½ at 7½c
Mill remnants outings, assorted colors, 6 to 15 yard
lengths, worth 10 at 8½c
Mill remnants outings, extra heavy, mostly solid
colors, worth 12½ at 10c
Outing, assorted colors, for childrens wear, worth
7½ at 6½c
Extra heavy outing, fine assorted colors, extra
outing at 8½ and 10c
Heavy LL wide brown domestic worth 6½ at 5c
Yard wide bleaching that others get 7½ for our
price 5c
White, red and blue wool flannel at 17½, 20, 25
and 30c
Solid colors outing, blue, white, red and pink, reg-
ular 15 grade, our price 12½c
Yard wide bleaching, no starch, soft finish, sold
everywhere at 10, our price 8½c
Canton flannel, fine values, 10, 8½, 7½, 6½ and 5c
Jeans, shirtings, cotton checks, hickory, tickings,
madras cloth, etc., at lowest prices.



Misses & boys heavy ribbed hose, bargain at 12½ & 8½c
Boys very heavy bicycle hose, the kind that sell every-
where for 55c, our price only. 15c

3,600 pair of hosiery in one
shipment, bought direct
from the mill in case lots.
We offer them to you as
cheap as our competitors
buy them.

Ladies heavy grey hose,
never sold for less than 10c,
our price 5c

Ladies fine heavy ribbed
hose, worth 12½c, our price
only 8½c

Ladies extra heavy ribbed
hose, cheap enough at 25c,
our price 15c

We let the Dry Goods we sell speak for
can. We want to be judged by the qual-
ity of our goods. After that you will come and

The Man and His Hat.

A Frenchman once said that if a
man's hat is right the rest of his ward-
robe doesn't much matter. Of course
that's exaggeration but the fact re-
mains that the wrong hat can mar an
otherwise faultless appearance. Get
the hat you look best in--that's the
most sensible style. Easy to do that
here. Easy on your pocket book, too.



Fine fur hats for men, all colors, every hat guaran-
teed, at 1.50, 2.50 and 3.00
Boys fur hats, black and white, at 1.20, 1.55, 1.00,
75, 50 and 25c
John B. Stetson hats, white and black, in 2½, 3½,
4 and 5 inch brim, best grade at 4.50, 5, 6 and 8.75
Mens and boys caps, all sizes, at 25, 35 and 50c



Drummers sample hats; special price given elsewhere.



A
WELL
DRESSED
LADY

knows that the shoe is the life

STAR-FIVE-STAR

possesses every point of ex-
cellence, comfort and wonderful service.
Made by THE BROWN

By Eye

Star-Five-Star

Good Shoes

We like good shoes
and we like shoes that are made to fit
and to give satisfaction. We guarantee every shoe we sell

Broke Into His House.

S. Le Quinn of Cavendish, Vt., was robbed of his customary health by invasion of chronic constipation. When Dr. King's New Life Pills broke into his house, his trouble was arrested and now he's entirely cured. They're guaranteed to cure. 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.

Just arrived, a new line of winter laprobes—all styles and prices. See me before buying.

R. L. Hudson.

Mrs. J. C. Brown of Salt Branch returned Monday from a visit to Dallas.

J. L. Mann returned Saturday from a visit to his mother at Sulphur Springs.

Overmarketing Cotton.

It is evident that raisers of cotton in some sections are rushing their crops to market as rapidly as possible and from Texas comes the statement that the railways are being hustled to hurry consignments to port. In the light of the practical certainty that the yield of the crop will fall largely below the estimates of a few weeks ago and the supply to meet the sure spinning and export demands will not be adequate, it seems unbusiness like for any cotton raiser to rush his crops to market in such haste, if he is able to hold it, or a part of it, in his control. Present prices at points of delivery may be tempting. There is a natural dread on the part of the producer that prices will fall. The pessimism of the class is proverbial. But conditions ought not to be ignored and the status of visible supply to calculable demand is such even now as to give every promise that prices will advance rather than decline whenever the approximate crop is known. The Constitution does not believe it is wise for any farmer to sell cotton now that his actual necessities do not compel him to part with. Every pound of cotton will be needed and will be bought later on at prices the farmers who own it will make and not the takers. Don't rush!—Atlanta Constitution.

To Kill Corn Weevils.

The following remedy for exterminating the corn weevil also destroys all pests usually found around a corn crib. Try it on your milo maize. The receipt is as follows:

"Corn should be gathered just as soon as it will keep. When the crib is half full get three or four pieces of inch iron pipe and put them one end down at different places in the crib. Finish filling the crib and let the upper end of the pipe stand two or three inches above the corn and once a month for about six months put a teaspoonful of bisulphide of carbon in each pipe and cork the pipe up. This treatment will kill rats, mice and weevil. Be sure to keep the carbon away from fire."

Burroughs & Mann keep a good line Hair, Tooth and Clothe Brushes at hard times prices.

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

FOR SALE.

A good 4-year-old horse, about 16 hands high, work any where and broke to ride; stout and able to do good service.

2t

J. H. Warnick.

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.



A Love Letter.

Would not interest you if you're looking for a guaranteed salve for sores, burns or piles. Otto Dodd, of Ponder, Mo., writes: "I suffered with an ugly sore for a year, but a box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured me." It's the best salve on earth. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Read Here.

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

W. R. Bigham shipped two cars of cattle to New Orleans, John Elliott accompanying them. T. J. Coggin and Jinks Clark also made shipments.

Local Option Violators Sent Up.

In United States District Court at Abilene Saturday J. R. Burnham and J. Y. Dinger were sentenced to one year and one day each in the penitentiary, with a fine of \$100 attached, for selling whiskey without U. S. license. James Exline received the same sentence for violating the postal laws.

Judge Meeks says that local option violators need expect no mercy at his hands, but that they will be given the extreme penalty of the law.

Oscar Wilson of Caps is in the city.

J. A. LEEMAN...

PHYSICIAN and SURGEON

Office, Burroughs & Mann's Drug Store, Merkel.

Mothers

Who would keep their children in good health, should watch for the first symptoms of worms, and remove them with White's Cream Vermifuge. It is the children's best tonic. It gets digestion at work so that their food does them good, and they grow up healthy and strong. 25c at Burroughs & Mann's.

J. M. Bryson and wife returned Tuesday from a visit to Cedar Hill, Dallas county.

Mrs. J. A. Leeman left Sunday for Waco to attend the grand chapter order Eastern Star.

Robt. M. Webb, manager of the T. & P. Telephone Co., was in the city Saturday and paid The Mail a substantial visit.

Mrs. H. C. Burroughs returned from Eastland County Friday. Her father is much improved in health, we are glad to note.

Mrs. R. A. Martin has returned from a visit to relatives at Dallas and Ennis.

Will Hamilton was up from Abilene Sunday.

Chas. Mann got his hand pretty badly smashed in the gin Friday, but the injury will not prove serious.

Beautiful Complexions

Are spoiled by using any kind of preparation that fills the pores of the skin. The best way to clear a complexion, free from sallowness, pimples, blotches, etc., is to keep the liver in good order. An occasional dose of Herbine will cleanse the bowels, regulate the liver, and so establish a clear, healthy complexion. 50c at Burroughs & Mann's drug store.

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.

G. W. Boyce's

New Grain House three doors west Watkins' Meat Market.

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

To The Public.

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

Remember, there are great bargains on Maxwell's Bargain Counter. See them. It

Mrs. Warren, Mrs. Warnick and Mrs. Alex Harris visited in Abilene Friday.

Miss Prudence Allyn has returned from a visit to her sister, Mrs. Wallace, at Midland.

Confessions of a Priest.

Rev. Jno. S. Cox, of Wake, Ark., writes, "For 12 years I suffered from yellow jaundice. I consulted a number of physicians and tried all sorts of medicines, but got no relief. Then I began the use of Electric Bitters and feel that I am now cured of a disease that had me in its grasp for twelve years." If you want a reliable medicine for liver and kidney troubles, stomach disorder or general debility, get Electric Bitters. It's guaranteed by Rust & Pittard. Only 50c.

A Full House!

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

IRON BEDS, ROCKERS, TABLES, SIDEBORDS, 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.

Unprejudiced Remarks.

People most careful of not stepping on other people's toes oftenest have their own trampled upon.

It is a trite saying that the rolling stone gathers no moss. It is equally true that the one which is always stationary gathers little else.

Laughter is good medicine, but some people so overdo the matter of following the prescription that he who hears them has a doubt as to the truth of the old adage.

Some men who wrap themselves in the cloak of self-righteousness have scanty covering.

He who hugs a sorrow to his heart crowds out of his life just so much of God's light and cheer.

Don't waste too much time in bewailing the sins of others until you are sure you are rid of your own worst faults.

I have seen some shaggy dogs that were awfully ugly, but they were friendly and I liked them. The most beautiful people in this world are not always the most companionable and pleasant.

Men who wait for some tide of popularity to carry them into public favor usually make shipwreck of their lives before they reach any comfortable haven.—Detroit Free Press.

Opening Day a Success.

Abilene, Tex., Oct. 13.—The West Texas Fair opened today with a good attendance and the finest exhibit of live stock ever shown here. The poultry and hog departments are well represented and show that much interest has been taken since last Fair in these lines. The agricultural exhibit, while not as large as last year, shows very fine specimens. The attractions are excellent and immense crowds

are expected tomorrow, which is roping day. The racing feature is good with every race filled for the week.

Faith Cure Ruling.

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 13.—Especially interest attaches to the decision handed down today by the Court of Appeals in the case of the people vs. Pierson, declaring dependence of faith healing in the case of sickness to be criminal negligence. Pierson lives at White Plains and early in 1901 was sentenced to \$500 or 500 days imprisonment for criminal neglect in failing to provide a licensed physician to attend his 16-months old adopted daughter in a case of bronchial pneumonia, which afterwards proved fatal. The conviction was secured under the penal code.

Buy your hats from Mrs. F. B. Hoople and get a chance at that fine hat.

ISAAC N. TAYLOR,
—LAWYER AND NOTARY PUBLIC—
Office in First Nat'l Bank.

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

WANTED—FAITHFUL PERSON TO TRAVEL and supervise force of salespeople and make collections for manufacturing house. Straight salary \$20 a week and expenses. Salary paid weekly and expense money advanced. Previous experience unnecessary. Local territory. Business successful. Position permanent. Enclose self-addressed envelope. Superintendent, 321 Dearborn street, Chicago.

Mrs. Hoople has an elegant trimmed hat worth \$15 which she is going to give away. Every purchase to the amount of \$1.00 entitles the purchaser to a ticket, and the one holding the lucky number will get the hat free of charge. Those who have already purchased hats are entitled to tickets. Call and see the hat, which is now on exhibition.

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.

E. D. Coats.

Don't Become Discouraged

But use Simmons' 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.

Two good horses.
The Star Store.

We have as nice line of Box Stationery, tablets and envelopes as has ever been in Merkel. Inspect it.

Burroughs & Mann.

Lunch baskets—all sizes and prices—at Browning's. Just the thing for school children.

To the Ladies of Merkel and Surrounding Country.

We have moved to the Woodard building, just across the street from First Nat. Bank, and have fitted up a toilet room for the accommodation of the ladies who come to Merkel to trade.

Will leave for market Sept. 8. Will have a nice line of street hats on display Sept. 21.

Come and see us; make yourselves at home, and get our prices on all millinery goods.
Mrs. F. B. Hoople.

Pretty Tough to Scratch

For a living and relief also. Hunt's cure will cure you of itch, tetler, ringworm, itching piles, eczema. Guaranteed by all dealers.

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.

U. S. Court Adjourned.

The U. S. District Court adjourned Saturday night after concluding the case of Moore vs. the T. & P. Ry., suit for damages on personal injuries received in a wreck five miles west of Abilene early in the year of 1902.

The jury brought in a verdict for \$3,400.

The previous trial in which J. L. Lindsey of Baird sued the T. & P. for \$15,000 came to an end by the court ordering a verdict for defendant. The case will be appealed, we are informed.—Reporter.

See those nice pattern and street hats on display at Mrs. Hoople's. For quality, style and price they can not be excelled.

Does Him Little Good.

San Antonio Express.

A man who was convicted of purloining a large sum of money from a corporation by which he was employed has just been released from custody after serving a term in the penitentiary. The corporation which secured his conviction obtained a judgment against the man for the full amount alleged to have been stolen and now holds the judgment over the ex-convict, who will be continually shadowed by detectives until the missing money is received or until the pursuit is abandoned. Now the question arises, what does ill-gotten money profit a man if he can neither own nor use it?

High Priced Kissing.

A California young woman sells kisses for \$125 each. Where the victim has no cash, this excellent business woman sells on credit; takes a note for the amount and delivers the kiss. Now a kiss like this might be amiss, to a fellow with money to burn, but to buy it on tick would be a mean trick, unless we paid kisses in return.—Kerrville Mountain Sun.

Well, we don't care a sou how the thing looks to you, and we don't care at all for the price;

but a kiss to mean heaven must freely be given, a kiss that is purchased ain't nice! You may haggle and howl and put up a growl at the price of this wild western smack; when she sells you a kiss and it doesn't bring bliss return it to her! Kiss her back!—Lewis in Houston Post.

A Success.

Five years ago a man, a complete stranger, came to Gatesville and opened up a small stock of Racket goods, put his advertisement in the papers and commenced to do business—on a small scale, of course. Some people thought he would, like many peripatetic adventurers, run as long as he could pay rent, and then, like an Arab, fold his tent and silently steal away. But by judicious advertising and close attention to business, by honorable methods and fair dealings, he built up instead of drying up, as some expected. Today he stands at the head of one of the most flourishing business institutions of the town. Instead of not being able to pay rent, he owns one of the best business houses in the city; that house is full of goods and clerks—all of them busy—and the place is a veritable bee hive.—Star-Forum.

To the Public.

Patosi, Tex., Oct. 9, 1903—By authority of the Taylor County Singing Convention, which met in regular session at Patosi on the 8th day of August, 1903, I hereby call a meeting of that body to meet at Salt Branch school house, four miles northeast of Merkel, at 2 o'clock on Saturday evening before the third Sunday in November, 1903. All singing classes enrolled in the Taylor County Convention take notice and meet at the above named place.

R. S. Bright, Pres.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Johnson left this week for Roumania, where Mr. J. will take charge of the section.

Advertising Must be Continuous.

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

Percale 7 1/2, 8 1/2 and	10c
Momie cloth	12 1/2c
Zibeline Fancies	15c
Covert cloth	10c
American calicoes	5c
J. J. Clark's thread 8 spools for	25c

SHOES

\$2.00 ladies shoes, for	\$1.75
1.75 and 1.50 ladies shoes for	1.35
4.00 mens shoes for	3.75
3.00 mens shoes for	2.75
1.75 and 2.00 mens shoes for	1.50

CLOTHING

\$15 suits for	\$12.50
Absolutely all wool suits at	10.00
Good all wool fitted	6.50
Boys and youths suits from	
1.75 to	7.50

GROCERIES

Tennessee sorghum, per bucket	45c
Cooks Pride Soda, per pound	5c
2 bottles Dental Snuff for	45c
10 pounds XXXX, Lion or	
Arbuckle Coffee	\$1.00
Come and price other goods.	

Yours for Business,

J. P. Sharp & Co.

"The Price Setters," : Merkel, Tex.

Cures Headache
Cures Backache
Cures Colds
Cures Grippe
Relieves Toothache
Relieves Fever
Relieves Pain
Relieves Rheumatism

3363
3363
3363

25c 50c \$1

Sold by all
DRUGGISTS.

BASS BROS. DRUG CO. Abilene.

Burton-Lingo Co., Lumber Dealers.

A full and complete line of Lumber, Shingles, Sash, Doors, Blinds, Brick, Lime, Cement, etc. We can save you money on any size bill.

J. S. BARNES, M'n'g'r.

ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

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

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

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

For Sale by BURROUGHS & MANN, : : Merkel, Tex.

District Court.

Tuesday the court refused a motion for a rehearing in the case of the state vs. Dennis Green, and his attorney, Harry Tom King, will appeal the case.

The indictment against Will Chrane under a charge of cattle theft was quashed.

The jury was dismissed for the week and the non-jury docket was taken up.

Fair week is not a good time for court.—Reporter.

T. & P. Train Changes.

Fort Worth, Tex., Oct. 13.—The following changes in the trains and schedule will go into effect on the Texas and Pacific on Oct. 18: Hereafter the through trains between Ft. Worth and El Paso will be numbered 3 and 4 instead of 5 and 6, as heretofore run, but will not run farther west than Colorado City. Train No 3 will leave Fort Worth at 9:45 a. m. and arrive at El Paso 8:45 the following morning. Train No 4 will leave El Paso at 7:50 p. m. and arrive at Fort Worth at 7 p. m. the next day. There will be no change of time in the arrival and departure of Nos. 5 and 6, the schedule remaining as at present.

J. W. Hndry sold his tenth bale of cotton here yesterday. His crop is turning out well, although he lost four or five bales in the storm of a few weeks ago.

E. B. Bynum, the Abilene land and loan agent, was here yesterday.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

No one who is acquainted with its good qualities can be surprised at the great popularity of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It not only cures colds and grip effectually and permanently, but prevents these diseases from resulting in pneumonia. It is also a certain cure for croup. Whooping cough is not dangerous when this remedy is given. It contains no opium or other harmful substance and may be given as confidently to a baby as to an adult. It is also pleasant to take. When all of these facts are taken into consideration it is not surprising that the people in foreign lands, as well as at home, esteem this remedy very highly and very few are willing to take any other after having once used it. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

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.

J. A. Peacock who has conducted a small stock farm of 950 acres near this city has closed the sale of his holdings to a Taylor county man at \$7.50 per acre.—Colorado Stockman.

J. J. Eubank of Abilene remits a dollar for The Mail with the admonition, "Don't let her stop."

Best Remedy for Constipation.

"The finest remedy for constipation I ever used is Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets," says Mr. Eli Butler, of Frankville, N. Y. "They act gently and without any unpleasant effect, and leave the bowels in a perfectly natural condition." Sold by Burroughs & Mann.

List of Immortals.

Following is a list of The Mail's friends who have remembered it in a substantial way since last report. Note what good men they are:

W. H. Norris, Merkel.
D. J. Gibson, "
W. L. Diltz, "
O. W. Williams, "
T. P. Gibson, "
J. W. Hardy, "
C. A. Higgins, "
J. J. Eubank, Abilene.
A. Criswell, Noodle.
R. M. Webb, Colorado.
J. V. West, Nubia.
Sam Newberry, Trent.
J. C. Gibson, Dodd City.
by T. P. Gibson.

How to Produce Colors.

Brown—Made with red and black.
Bright brown—Carmine, yellow and black.
Rose—Lake and white.
Chestnut—White and brown.
Cream—White, yellow and Venetian red.
Purple—Carmine and blue.
Lead color—White and black.
Pearl—Blue and lead color.
Pearl gray—White, blue and black.
Silver gray—Indigo and black.
Pink—White and Carmine.
Chocolate—Black and Venetian red.
French white—Purple and white.
Green—Blue and yellow.
Pea green—Green and white.
Dark Green—Green and black.
Bright green—White and green.
Orange—Red and yellow.
Flesh color—White, lake and vermilion.
Olive—Red, blue, black and yellow.
Buff—Yellow, white and red.
Vermillion—Carmine and yellow.
Straw color—White and yellow.
Lavender—Carmine, ultramarine and white.
Sky blue—White and ultramarine.
Umber—White, yellow, red and black.
Drab—Umber, white and Venetian red.
Use white to produce light tints and black to produce dark.—Somerville Journal.

Trains Carelessly Handled.

Wednesday morning the west bound-passenger train was three hours late, which brought it here about 8:00 o'clock.

The train had orders to meet an east bound freight train here, and instead of waiting the prescribed five minutes to materialize, the conductor gave the signal to the engineer to go ahead about two minutes before 8:00, and the passenger train pulled out. As the passenger train was crossing the river bridge the shrill whistle of the freight was heard just beyond the cut, and in a minute, the freight rounded the cut and a collision seemed inevitable. Both engineers saw the situation at a glance, reversed their engines and applied the air brakes. The trains were stopped in a short distance of each other, and it was a narrow escape for the hundreds of people that crowded the passenger train.—Colorado Clipper.

Mrs. G. E. Comegys returned Monday from a visit to Aubrey, Texas.

J. H. WARNICK, PRES.
WM. H. DUNNING, CASH.

JOS. H. WARNICK, Banker.

Prosperous Times.

These are fairly prosperous times. And NOW is the fitting time for the farmer to open a Bank account. Start with a small deposit, add to it whenever convenient, and in time of need you will find yourself with a fund to your credit to draw upon. Check it out at any time. ∴ ∴



The Turn in the Lane.

How often we picture the possible day
When fortune will camp on our trail,
When, blest with enough, we can rest from the fray,
Be safe from adversity's gale.
We picture a future of roseate hue,
Fair skies never dampened with rain,
And great is our scheming of what we will do,
When we get to the turn in the lane.

Ah! bright are the dreams as we sit at our ease,
And the leaves of the future unfold,
When our ship comes a-sailing from over the seas
All freighted with coveted gold.
What fancies go dancing on shimmering feet
Through the intricate halls of the brain,
Of joys of existence unspeakably sweet
When we get to the turn in the lane.

We gaze far away through the vistas of time
To the beacon of hope on the hill
And vow to ourselves we will ceaselessly climb
To the summit with resolute will.
With firm resolution we'll do and we'll dare,
Will dare at privations and pain,
Then revel in ease that, awaiting us there
When we get to the turn in the lane.

But fancy is fickle and fortune shy
And leads us a merry old chase;
We grayple at chances and from us they fly
Too devilishly swift for our pace.
Our souls in the sanguine pursuits may be brave,
Our muscles we painfully strain,
Perhaps but to sink with our hopes in the grave
That awaits at the end of the lane.
—James Barton Adams, in Denver Post.

A Homily in Couplets.

One single truth that's lived is worth a thousand preached;
Through acts, not words, the highest excellence is reached.

However weak the man who wields the truth may be,
No armed and bannered host is half so strong as he.

Truth is the prop that firm the universe upholds,
For God is truth, who fills all things, and all enfolds.

Of all things beautiful there is but, forsooth,
Supreme in perfect loveliness, and that is truth.

Who hath the truth upon his side, hath victory, too,
For with resistless force, 'twill bear him safely through.

Eclipsed it may be in the dust and smoke of strife,
Extinguished ne'er, because it hath eternal life.

Crushed down to earth, her triumph full may be deferred,
But all the years of God have been on her conferred.

That man is wise indeed who selleth all he hath
The truth to buy, and steadfast follows in her path.

And none so mean who in the world's greatest market place
The truth doth sell to gain the world's applause and grace.
—Christian Courier.

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

God Does Not Kill.

Fort Worth Register.

God does not kill! Neither by flashing lightning, the whirling wind, the roaring water, nor the relentless storm. God does not kill with poison, pestilence, plague, famine, or flame; God does not kill anybody, anywhere, or at any time! The doctrine that God takes away a child to punish or afflict a parent; takes away a husband to humble the wife, or the wife to humble the husband; that God comes into a family, like a besom of destruction, to kill and afflict and sadden; that God bankrupts or burdens anyone, good or bad—the doctrine of providential affliction and distress and sorrow—this unloving, godless and pitiless doctrine, has its place in the thought of today only because it has had the sanction of hoary ages—not because it is true, or reasonable, or good, or acceptable or helpful, or hopeful not because the Bible, or philosophy, or history, or science would have us believe it; but simply because we have been taught it, and have not the courage to deny it. God pities and helps, and guides and leads, and teaches, and hopes for us. The theologian may have to teach us opposite thought to harmonize his system of so-called truth, but we know better; and in all justice and fairness let us quit accusing Providence of inspiring crime and promoting disease, and encouraging death. If a friend or brother dies, let us look to God for pity and help in our bereavement. Let us not accuse Him of killing the loved one—of “removing from our midst a dear brother.”

Influence of Local Paper.

Devine News.

All the preachers in town might get together and invite all the lawyers to join in with them and all the doctors and school teachers might come in and help and the whole combination couldn't get together as many people as this paper reaches this week. It goes right into their homes and calmly and leisurely talks business and pleasure to every member of the family. It gives suggestions, offers help, delivers sermons to the boys and girls around the fireside. The preacher in the pulpit, or the teacher in the school room, has no such opportunity for moulding character and public opinion as the man who edits a good local newspaper. He ought to be a good man.

Don't Ride Us.

The Henderson County Herald pertinently says:

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

There is a truth in this that cannot be too firmly impressed on the mind of the people. Newspapers to be successful must be run on business principles.

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.

Gems of Thought.

Progress, the highest lesson of statecraft.—Lowell.

Men, at sometimes, are masters of their fate.—Shakespeare.

The simple heart that freely asks in love obtains.—Whittier.

The society woman is the element of good manners.—Goethe.

Better a little chiding than a great deal of heartbreak.—Shakespeare.

A man in earnest finds means, or if he can not find, creates them.—Channing.

Some men weave their sophistry till their own reason is entangled.—Johnson.

Moderation is commonly firm, and firmness is commonly successful.—Johnson.

Oh, how potent is prosperity! How comet-like it threatens while it shines.—Young.

No woman is educated who is not equal to the successful management of a family.—Burnap.

The memory has as many moods as the temper, and shifts its scenery like a diorama.—George Elliott.

There are a few wild beasts more to be dreaded than a talking man having nothing to say.—Swift.

Conceit is vanity driven from all other shifts, and forced to appeal to itself for admiration.—Hazlitt.

I would give nothing for that man's religion, whose very dog and cat are not better for it.—Rowland Hill.

He that knows the world will not be bashful; he that knows himself will not be imprudent.—C. Simmons.

Good taste rejects exceeding nicety; it treats little things as little things, and is not hurt by them.—Fenelon.

Nothing more completely baffles one who is full of trick and duplicity than straight-forward and simple integrity in another.—Colton.

The kindest and happiest pair will find occasion to forebear; find something every day they live to pity, and perhaps forgive.—Cowper.

When a nation gives birth to a man who is able to produce a great thought, another is born who is able to understand and admire it.—Joubert.

Pay According to Size.

Whoever has thought of the matter at all has no doubt wondered why a man who weighs one hundred and ten pounds, or thereabouts, should have to pay as much for a suit of clothes as the one who weighs two hundred and fifty, with all the difference in material and actual work implied. This has, however, been the general rule. The Garment Makers' Union at a meeting in Chicago have decided to right this bit of injustice to the small men of favoritism to the fat one, and have decided to adjust the prices according to the size of the garments. Thus a suit which a small man may secure for ten dollars will cost a larger one fifteen dollars.

Jonah's Bathing Suit.

Does Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, who criticised Mrs. Roosevelt's dress, know anything about the relationship of history and clothes? Does she? Does she know that Josephine, first Empress of the French, spent \$200,000 a year for things to put on and died at last of a broken heart—Josephine who was born in the woods and raised in a warehouse? Does Mrs. Fish recall the fact that Queen Victoria wore a forty-year-old bonnet through her golden jubilee, and died beloved by millions? Joan of Arc wore galls and pants, Mrs. Fish, and yet she was a heroine. Nero was a son-of-a-gun in spite of the laurel wreath he was accustomed to wear on his greasy hair. Mohammed clad in a strip of three-cent domestic conquered half of Asia. Even Jonah, a serious man without affection, wore a whale for a bathing suit.—Clarksville Times.

The Mail gives all the news.

The young man loves the young lady.

That's his business.

The young lady loves the young man,

That's her business.

They get married,

That's their business.

Now they will need groceries, that's our business and we have some special bargains in that line. Call and see. Maxwell & Son.

Do You Want to Yawn?

Feel cold shiverings, achings in the bones, lack of energy, headache, and great depression? Those symptoms may be followed by violent headache, high fever, extreme nervousness, a condition known as malaria. Herbine cures it. Take it before the disease gets a fair hold, though it will work a cure in any stage. J. A. Hopkins, Manchester, Kan., writes: “I have used your great medicine, Herbine, for several years. There is nothing better for malaria, chills and fever, headache, biliousness, and for a blood-purifying tonic, there is nothing as good.” 50c at Burroughs & Mann's.

THE REPUBLIC'S GREAT OFFER

An Exceptional Opportunity for Old and New Subscribers.

Special arrangement has been made by The St. Louis Republic to furnish old or new subscribers with the only official and authorized life of Pope Leo XIII. This is one great volume, bound in elegant cardinal cloth, gilt and ink stamping, with Papal coat of arms, containing nearly 800 pages of text and illustrations. The work was prepared and written by Monsignor O'Reilly, D. D., L. D., D. Lit., official biographer of the Pope.

The regular cash price of this book is \$2.50. Any one remitting \$2.50 will be entitled to eighteen months subscription to The Twice-a-week Republic and a copy of the book. Postage prepaid. This offer is open to old and new subscribers. The book is printed in English, French, and German and is now ready for delivery. Address all orders to The Republic, St. Louis, Mo.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

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.