

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIV.

MERKEL, TEXAS, OCTOBER 22, 1903.

NO. 35.

THE HIGHER LIFE.

Cream of the Pulpit.

HOW MANY ARE THERE?

Dr. Kaufman Kohler.

The minister who weaves his feelings and his tears into every joy and grief of his flock, who exults with the happy and weeps with the woe-stricken, while wrestling for them with faith and with doubt until peace has entered the soul, that priest who carries the name of the children of Israel upon his bosom and stands with the holy incense of religion meditating between life and death, between the past and the future, discharges a sacred task in the congregation. He places the name of God upon all to uplift and to fortify them for duty and for holiness, for virtue and righteousness while pointing to God as the foundation of all blessing.

THE MASTERSHIP OF RELIGION.

Horace Bushnell.

What but the mighty mastership of religion has ever led people up through civil wars and revolutions into a regenerated order and liberty? What has planted colonies for a great history but religion? The most august and beautiful structures of the world have been temples of religion, crystalizations, we might say, of worship. The noblest charities, the best fruits of learning, the richest discoveries, the best institutions of law and justice, every greatest thing the world has seen, represents more or less directly the fruitfulness and creativeness of religion.

THE BILL OF "EXTRAS."

From the Canadian Baptist.

Whether this increase is due to its use in manufacturing and arts or as a beverage cannot be discovered, but the consumption this year was 9,615,820 gallons over last in the United States, and that of fermented liquors 2,171,898 barrels. There was a decrease in the tax receipts from tobacco of \$8,423,114. The cigars used, however, reached the tremendous total of 6,786,390,533 an increase of 682,823,268 and cigarettes blown away in smoke were 3,031,893,732 an increase of 388,931,788. These are amazing totals and represent waste, degradation and misery untold.

SERVICE IN THE SUMMER TIME.

Jewish Voice.

God wants your services also during the summer months. Let not the heated season keep you from worshipping Him at least once a week, in the shrine dedicated to His name.

Ways of Pleasantness.

We are taught in scripture that wisdom's ways are "ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace." This is true of individuals, families and nations. Men are blessed if they obey God, and cursed if they disobey him.

The lines of prosperity, thrift, progress, advancement, education and general improvement, may be very closely drawn side by side with the lines that divide between nations and peoples who love God's law and his word, and people who neglect his

counsel and refuse to obey his commands. "That nation and kingdom which will not serve thee shall be utterly wasted;" and the wreck of nations, the ruin of empires, the desolations of cities, and the utter overthrow of peoples who live in ages past, are the solemn comment upon God's awful threatenings.

The word of God coincides with the very nature of things. If we reject his counsel we reject it against ourselves; if we disobey his commands we do it at our peril. The individual, the family, the nation, that tries to escape the influence of God's word, and disobey the words of the Most High, is doomed to suffering, to decay, and to ruin. Those who love the word of God, find life and blessing in it; those who neglect it perish "for lack of knowledge."—The Army.

Insist on Prohibition.

The citizens of Nacogdoches county declared for prohibition by a vote of two to one recently.

Last week an enthusiastic mass meeting was held for the purpose of devising means of carrying out the will of the people in the matter of publishing the required notice to put prohibition in effect, the last publication of which had been enjoined by a Houston judge. A number of the county's best citizens leased the Nacogdoches Sentinel and made the required publication of the election notice regardless of the injunction. Among the lessees are: S. W. Blount, Jno. T. Garrison, W. M. Imboden, June C. Harris, W. S. Beeson and others. Their statement of their position is worthy of reproduction and we give it in full:

"Strike till the last Saloon expires;
Strike for your altars and your fires
Strike for the green graves of your sires;
For God and native land."

"The Sentinel is in the hands of an orderly, organized, mustered-in, armed, officered, ready-for-battle regiment of Nacogdoches county yeomanry.

"The Haltoms have done well; they need rest, recreation, and a good time, and we are giving it to them.

"The Soldiery now in charge of the Sentinel make no apology for the paper nor for their present relation to it. They come from all parts of Nacogdoches county, and there isn't a flunky nor a quitter in their army.

"It's the saloon we are after. 'Tis the saloon we are going to see go from Nacogdoches county.

"The mighty will of the sovereign people by a vote of more than two to one in an election confessedly honest, fair and square so decreed, and by the eternal it shall be so, and that without delay, without hindrance, without halting, without parleying as to the manner of their going. The thing is go, and go they will at the appointed time.

"He who dallies is a dastard; he who doubts is damned.

"This is not a government by injunction; never has been, and never can be.

"While our district court was in session with a just judge, learned in the law, presiding an application for an injunction was made to a Houston judge for a writ to prevent the Haltoms from completing the publication of the proclamation of the county judge of Nacogdoches county, declaring the result of the prohibition election held in this county on the third day of September, which publication was necessary in order that prohibition take effect, and upon learning that the injunction had been granted and that the Haltoms would be enjoined from completing the publication this regiment, through its certain officers and privates proposed to lease from the Messrs. Haltoms for a stated and reasonable consideration the Daily and Weekly Sentinel at so much per week pending the period of the lease, and this offer was accepted by them, hence the Sentinel has been ours since the Saturday issue of the daily.

"If this is treason, make the most of it!

"No whiskey pandering judge in Texas can defeat the will of the Nacogdoches county people by any such arbitrary, revolu-

tionary and ex-parte method as an unjust and uncalled-for writ of injunction! This is our word with the bark on it. All the notices, proclamations, orders and decrees necessary to put local option into effect in Nacogdoches county are going to be published and entered as the law directs, and the saloons are going on schedule time, and prohibition in Nacogdoches county is going to prohibit."

Lincoln's Promise.

While a member of Congress, Abraham Lincoln was once criticized by a friend for his "seeming rudeness in declining to test the rare wines provided by their host." The friend said to him: "There is certainly no danger of a man of your years and habits becoming addicted to the use of

wine."

"I mean no disrespect, John," answered Lincoln; "but I promised my precious mother only a few days before she died that I would never use anything intoxicating as a beverage, and I consider that promise as binding to-day as it was the day I gave it."

"But," the friend continued, "there is a great difference between a child surrounded by a rough class of drinkers and a man in a home of refinement."

"A promise is a promise forever," answered Lincoln; "and when made to a mother, it is doubly binding."—Selected.

The commissioners court has cut off the bounty for wolf scalps.

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

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

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.
Woollems, J. N.
Maderama, Abeline.
Lopez, Victoriana.
Ortez, Maria Lenora.
Rivera, Nicola.

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

2t. Bynum & Muir, Abilene.

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

Burroughs & Mann.

Politic sRuinous.

We have in mind a man who, before he entered politics, was scrupulously honest and good for his debts. During a heated campaign he was run in as a "dark horse" and was elected to a small county office. Nearly every election since then he has been a candidate for some office, but each time has been defeated. And, strange to say, with each defeat he has suffered morally, until now he has sunk almost to a level with the bum and dead-beat. He imagines himself a much abused man, although he is incapacitated for official duties. Politics is ruinous and the young men should fight shy of it. The following from an exchange may be overdrawn, but it is very nearly the truth:

"A citizen of our town, an old man who has spent the best years of his life in this county and who has amassed a comfortable fortune as a result of his frugality and industry, received a letter from his son in the far west stating that he was being solicited to make the race for a county office, and this is the old man's reply: 'Don't do it, my son; it will ruin you. Holding office is like gambling—it grows fascinating and becomes a habit that you can not easily break. No man was ever benefited by holding office and most men are ruined by it. Your own observation will prove this. So don't run for office, my son. If you do, I trust you will be defeated so badly that you will never try it again. If you run and are elected, you are ruined.'"

The Christian people last week took the ox by the horns and vowed they were going to have a house of worship. The result is, a house is now almost ready for service, and while it is small, it is neat and well arranged and can be added to at their convenience.

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.

Law That Should Be Rigidly Applied.

The new law for the protection of birds should be rigidly enforced. There is no State with more birds or a greater variety of birds than we have in Texas. During the summer our native songsters are re-inforced by visitors from the tropics, while during the winter the robin and the rest come down from the north, nor excepting the wild goose from the polar neighborhood. Taking the year through, we probably have more birds to visit us than any other people have.

There are reasons for this. Of course our latitude and climate have something to do with it; but these are not the only inducements. We have more vermin, insects, herb, nuts and seeds than any other countries have. Nature in the instance meets the demands and necessities of the case, where man can be persuaded or compelled to permit nature to do so.

The insect life of Texas is something marvelous. The winters are not sufficiently severe to destroy beetles, bugs, flies, worms and eggs that would be destroyed in more northern climes. The results are noted in the early spring swarms. There is a bird for every swarm, if some thoughtless, foolish and heartless person has not destroyed it.—Dallas News.

A good farmer, one who has an educated brain and trained hands, is not exceeded in value to the community in which he lives, by the wealthiest and most liberal capitalist, the ablest orator or most learned professional man. Agriculture is the foundation of all industries and there could be no prosperity worthy of the name that does not "begin with the plow," and depend on the plow and plowman for existence. The importance of the good and competent farmer cannot be overestimated. He is an object-lesson that all neighboring farmers would do well to imitate, and everyone who does so will become a better farmer and a better citizen, and then all these become object lessons to their neighbors, and ultimately the influence of the good farmer spreads over the entire community, and all people within his sphere of influence are benefited and are prosperous, whether they be farmers are not.—Farm & Ranch.

N. J. Rawlins was down from Fisher County yesterday. He reports the town of McCaulley on a boom. Mr. Rawlins' land adjoins the town and he sold two acres last week at \$100 per acre.

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.

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.

SPECIALISTS!

Drs. ADAMS & HUBBERT

Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat
and Oculists

LOCATED AT ABILENE, TEXAS.

To the Public:

One of us will be in Merkel Oct. 28 and 29. The afflicted with any of the above troubles are specially invited to meet us at Burroughs & Mann's drug store and get our opinion of your diseases or deformities free of charge. If treated, charges reasonable. Satisfaction guaranteed and all the references given wanted. Refer you to Mr. Chenault. One cross eye will be straightened free.

Miss Dota Garoutte leaves Saturday for Eskota where she will enter upon her duties in the school-room Monday. Those good people are to be congratulated upon securing her services.

W. J. Cunningham of Abilene has been appointed District Attorney of this district by Gov. Lanham, the appointment having been made Tuesday.

The new telephone line to Dora was completed Monday, which places Merkel in speaking distance with all the inland towns in her trade territory.

An experienced dress maker can now be found at Mrs. Hoop's Millinery Store. Prices very reasonable. We solicit your patronage and guarantee satisfaction. 1t

The Methodist quarterly conference, fourth round, convenes at Merkel Oct. 31 to Nov. 1, inclusive. This will be the last work of the conference year.

A Wisconsin man accidentally swallowed the bobbin of his wife's sewing machine, and the local paper in referring to it stated that "for a time his life hung by a thread."—Exchange.

Eli Cordill was in from Nubia Tuesday and gave The Mail an order for job work. He has his sign up as a jeweler.

On the Frontier of Texas.

Snyder Light.

Scout of January 1st, 1891, was the result of Indians stealing our horses while we were engaged in a stag dance. We hunted around and mustered up enough horses to mount eight men, and work horses and mules enough to pull two wagons, loaded with corn and grub enough to do eighteen men and our stock for two or three weeks, we intended to take a hunt of some kind. There was a company of state rangers camped in two or three miles of us, and they were notified as soon as possible. Capt. Switcher and nine of his men joined us on this scout, making eighteen men in that scout, all that could be mounted at that time.

We knew that it would be impossible to catch these Indians with stock we were mounted upon, and knowing too the kind of stock the Indians had stolen from us—all corn fed and fat as they could be, but we wanted to take the hunt anyway, and maybe so get a few buffalo, deer and bear. We started in a northwesterly direction, traveling in that direction about sixty miles, leaving Buffalo Gap to the right. That threw us up in the roughest country in Taylor county. We started off on the Indian's trail and stayed with it, but knowing that we couldn't overtake them, we traveled at our leisure, killing a few fat buffaloes as we needed them, until we got up in Mulberry Canyon. Everybody in Taylor county knows where that canyon is. There are two sharp peaks close to an old military road. Right there close we were going to leave our wagons in a secret place, with four men with them, and go up Clear Fork to see what was to be seen. The next morning was a bright, beautiful morning, a little cool. The coyotes were howling their lonesome howl. Mr. Gholston had the night before selected what men he would leave with the wagons. So we all got ready, Capt. Switcher and his nine men had mounted their horses, and I and two others had gotten off some little distance ahead, Sam Gholston a little behind. We had our grub and two feeds for our horses. I hadn't gotten over a hundred yards from camp when I saw some buffaloes running which I knew wasn't running from us. I kept looking in the direction the buffalo were coming and in a few moments I noticed six horses trotting and six Indians driving those horses. The buffaloes were so thick that was hard to distinguish horses from buffaloes. I gave the alarm and all of us got ready. It was a mile or so to where the Indians

were, and they did not discover us until we had gotten in two or three hundred yards of them, and right then the fun commenced. There was two Indians that were skinning a buffalo that we hadn't seen, two or three of us running by them, not knowing that they were there. The musket shots were thick and fast for a mile or two. Some of the rear boys chased those two Indians, but they rode much better horses than our boys were riding and they ran right off from them, so they quit the chase and followed on after the main bunch. We chased them ten miles and they passed through two cedar breaks where they thought they could make a good fight with us, but it didn't suit them, for they knew right where to stop. It was a running fight, until we got them bottled up. Our horses had played out, we crowded them too fast right on the start. We had stripped our horses for a long run, but the Indians were on their best stock. However, there was one of our boys, Joe Franks, that was riding a little dun mare that led the whole crowd from start to finish. He fought those Indians single handed after he caught up with them until he bottled them up. There was one Indian on a large bay horse that would drop back and try to check Franks. He would fire a shot or two and then take to his heels, but Franks would out shoot him. They were running northwest right against the wind. They left their horses they had and tried to get rid of their surplus luggage that they had. They tried to get shelter under a wagon sheet that hung from their saddle, but the wind was blowing hard from the northwest and blew the sheet straight up in the air, and he had to cut his saddle girth and let the whole thing go together.

After a long chase the Indians came to a halt in a cedar canyon, on the north side of a range of mountains that lies south of the T. & P. railroad in Taylor county, running parallel with the road south of the town of Merkel. There is where we had it with them red skins all day. After they got into the canyon they had been making for, we surrounded them and had them completely bottled up. Gholston and Switcher called for all of us to come to the top of the mountain. The next thing was to find out where they were in the cedar breaks. We could see their horses. There were six Indians that went into the breaks, riding five horses as one of the horses was killed in the chase.

Jep Brown.

(continued next week.)

A lesson to profit by may be found in the following, which we clip from an exchange: "No man has ever been so poor that he could not help his fellowman. No man is so rich that he is not under obligation to his fellows. Money may procure pleasure, rest and a position in the social world, but it has never made a man a gentleman, nor covered up his defects in character. We can all do something for those we come in contact with and even though our walk through life may be an humble one, yet we can in our own sphere help some one who is in need."

Elder L. A. Dale will preach at the Presbyterian church Sunday, morning and evening.

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

A Word to Cotton Raisers.

The easiest way to produce a panic is for everybody to whirl in and say "it is coming"—and it will come, all right. On the other hand, when people are buoyant and hopeful the atmosphere becomes charged with electricity of enthusiasm and the business world thrills with confidence and activity.

The cotton producers of the south ought to take to heart just now these simple facts of human experience. If present prices of cotton lead them to say "The bottom has dropped out of the market" and they rushed to sell their crop at 9 cents, because they say "next week cotton will bring only 8 cents, and the week after 7 cents, it is but logical that 7 cent cotton will come to pass. It is just this sort of feeling that the cotton buyers abroad in the land are delighted to see pervade the situation. They want the cotton. The mills of the world are obliged to have it. They are employing every possible artificial agency in their power to depress the price. But the real position of supply and demand do not warrant the rush to market and an anxiety to sell that is visible all over the cotton belt.

There may be cases where the holder is compelled to sell to meet maturing obligations. But these ought not to be so many as to justify a general scramble to take an offer made at the warehouse door. Those who can hold their cotton off the market for the present are simply robbing their own pockets to dispose of it at prevailing prices.

It is distinctly to the interests of the country and town merchants all through the cotton region to discourage such sales. Those made now will yield large profits to the farmer and larger sales and profits to home merchants.—Atlanta Constitution.

Mental Courage.

The editor of the Laredo Times is as morally brave as he is mentally brilliant. The following editorial from the Times shows of what mental courages EditorCrank

is composed. May the fates spare him in this time of peril, for his country needs his talent and his manly character:

"The yellow scourge is still with us and no man can tell just what the outcome is going to be. The experts say if the dry weather continues there is no doubt but that the disease will be stamped out very soon; if it rains they cannot answer for the consequences. Such is the situation in a nutshell. During any other season we could have guaranteed the medical gentlemen an abundance of dry weather but we can't answer for this season. It turns loose and rains and rains at the most unexpected times. In all the past no Laredo citizen has ever been heard to express the hope that it wouldn't rain. He is wishing this thing right now with all his soul. Let us all keep a stout heart and a courage to face any fate misfortune may have in store for us. There may come a silver streak any day in the clouds that now lower upon us and just around the corner be song and laughter."

Law in San Angelo.

The following from the San Angelo Standard shows how the law is enforced in that neck of the woods. The Standard says: "There was a meeting last Saturday night, at the court house, of the saloon men of the city and some of the city officers. The meeting was called because of the notice issued by the city marshal, Saturday morning, to the effect that the saloons must close on Sunday in compliance with the state law. At the meeting it was agreed by the saloon keepers that if the law was not rigidly enforced till after the carnival, they would agree to keep closed all day Sunday. Their agreement begins to take effect Sunday, Oct. 25. Most of the saloon men say that they are glad of a chance to get one day's rest out of the week, and intend to keep closed as long as the rest of them will."

Mrs. Ayres, an estimable lady of the Caps community, died last Saturday.

"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.
Half-Done Work Always Wasteful.

The extravagance and waste of doing work badly are most lamentable. We can never overestimate the value, in a successful life, of an early formed habit of doing everything to a finish, and thus relieving ourselves of the necessity of doing things more than once. Oh, the waste in half-done, careless, patched work.

The extravagance and loss resulting from a slipshod education is almost beyond computation. To be under the necessity, all through one's life, of patching up, of having to do over again, half-done and botched work, is not only a source of terrible waste, but the subsequent loss of self-respect and life is also great.

There is greatest economy in putting the highest possible per-

sonal investment in everything we do. Any thoroughness of effort which raises personal power to a higher value is a judicious expenditure of individual effort. Do not be afraid to show thoroughness in whatever you undertake. Thoroughness is a great quality when once mastered. It makes all work easier and brings to life more sunshine.—Success.

In Memory of Donnie.

There is no death; an angel form
Walks o'er the earth with silent tread;
He bears our best loved things away,
And then we call them dead.

As the hours of twilight were deep'ning into the hush of midnight, and the weary of earth's pilgrims had sought their rest like a tired, weary bird, too frail to longer stand the storms of life, folds its tired pinions and calmly sinks to rest—just so sweet sister, wife, mother and friend, Mrs. Donnie Kindred Martin, left earth's sorrows for the sweet home in heaven. Our darling is gone, but will not be forgotten.

Farewell, oh sister darling!
We have said our last adieu;
Your loving hands are folded
O'er that heart so good and true.

In the church-yard softly sleeping,
Where the grasses gently wave,
Lies our precious Donnie, keeping
Silence in her narrow grave.

There she rests. And no tomorrow
Will disturb that silent tomb;
There she waits—no trace of sorrow
Clouds with grief our Donnie's home.

There the dewy grass and roses
Fill with incense sweet the air;
There the birdies sweetly singing
Hum an air for sister fair.

But they can not wake our Donnie
In her grave within the tomb;
Angels up in heaven missed her,
So they came and took her home.

Written by her sister,
ORRIE KINDRED FREEMAN.

Special prices will be made on saddles and buggy harness during the next few days. Now's the time to buy.
R. L. HUDSON.

Add to Phone List.

Paste the following names on your card:
T. C. Weir, res. No. 100.
C. E. Evans, res. No. 73.
Gin, F. & M., No. 3.
Gin, east Oil Mill, No. 65.
The Mail and Dallas News one year only \$1.50. Subscribe now.

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.

It has helped many. It is not the theory of 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, COUGHS and COLDS. Price 50c & \$1.00

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

Merkel Lodge No. 710, A. F. & A. M., meets Saturday night on or before the full moon in each month.
C. E. Evans, W. M.
R. B. Ustick, Sec.

Best Passenger Service

...IN...
TEXAS



"No Trouble to Answer Questions."

DINING CARS
BETWEEN
FORT WORTH and SAINT LOUIS

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

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 months50
Three months25
Invariably in advance.

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

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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

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.

Color the optic of the calamity howler.

Every day looks like circus day in Merkel.

Merkel's growth is still rapid and substantial.

Destiny holds great things in store for West Texas.

How many acres are you going to plant in hogs next year?

Really we are too busy to talk politics now. Wait until next year.

Saving the cotton is far better than saving the country by talking politics.

The spread of yellow fever won't be a patchin' to the spread of politics next year.

Of the 675 oil companies chartered in this State following the boom at Beaumont 358 have passed in their checks.

The West Texas Fair was a success. Everything attempted in West Texas—in fact the country itself—is a success.

If James Stephen Hogg wants to be Attorney General of grand, glorious, glimmering old Texas by gatlings he can have the office.

The Federal grand jury at Muskogee, I, T., has returned 200 bills of indictment against saloon-keepers of Fort Smith, Ark., for shipping liquor into the Territory on mail orders. Verily, the path of the saloon-keeper is strewn with many thorns.

Many farmers have sown wheat and winter pasturage is assured on many farms. The acreage planted is largely in excess of that of last year, but while this is true the acreage on each farm is small—just enough for winter

pasturage. Wheat planting should grow upon our farmers.

The initial number of the Record, Fort Worth's new morning paper, has made its appearance. Typographically it is second to no paper in Texas, while its associated press reports, market reports and specials are full and complete. The Record is in able, safe and conservative hands, and its success is assured from the very first issue.

A well-known educator of New York, in an address delivered at the commencement of an industrial school recently, said: "I have always experienced a certain resentment against the fact that the wages of the ditch-digger and the scavenger are not the largest of all, so as to be some compensation for the ignominy which they have been awarded. For what they do for me I feel gratitude which I can not articulate." There is food for thought in this.

A NEW CRIMP.

The "injunction craze" is up against a hard proposition, and from present appearances it will be given a black eye, it seems, in Texas, so far as it applies to prohibition. Here is the way the District Clerk of Montgomery County put a crimp on it, as given by a local paper:

"When presented the restraining order of Judge Hamblen in the Montgomery local option case the District Clerk at Conroe refused to receive and file papers, giving as his reason for so doing that Judge Hightower, the District Judge of this, the Ninth Judicial District, having refused to grant an injunction on the same application, that he, as the clerk of Judge Hightower's court, is under no obligation to file a restraining order issued by the Judge of another district."

Thus is added a new question to the many which have grown out of the prohibition and local option contests in this State. But the law ought to be enforced. That judge had the right to issue a restraining order and it was the duty of the clerk to file the papers, however unjust it may have seemed to the people. The proper thing to do in such cases is to track the law, then impeach the judge granting the order.

ANOTHER HOWL.

The Baird Star took a fall out of The Mail in its last issue and proceeded to lay on McDuff in a way that was not only puerile, but down-right silly. To make its effort more reprehensible it sought to foist its billingsgate upon the people of Merkel by sending out sample copies to as many names as it could get hold of. The Mail was called upon in many instances to answer the query, What is the Star driving at? Its article was so rambling and obtuse that few could actually tell why he was waisting so much breath.

The Star started out by declaring that any man with average intelligence ought to know that prohibition is a political question. In substantiation of this contention Webster, in his definition of politics, is quoted, likewise a lonesome pop paper published by the disgruntled Mallett. Good logic, that, but it shows that a man in dire distress will clutch at the things he most abhors to save his skin. The quotation from Mallett's paper is as follows:

Cyclone Davis is doing everything in his power to rid Texas of

two of the greatest curses that ever afflicted any people. One of them is the whiskey traffic and the other is bourbon Democracy.

Apropos of the above The Mail wishes to quote this news item: Cyclone Davis has gone to Ohio where he has accepted an engagement to speak for the Democratic party in the campaign now on.

What does the Star think of that? How will it hedge against it? What is the difference between bourbon Democracy and anti-prohibition, anyway? The first quotation does not necessarily imply that prohibition is a political issue, but rather that politics is dominated by the saloons. And the implication is a just one. One-half of the successful candidates for office ride in by the saloon or "bourbon Democracy" route, to which the Star is a close adherent. In East Texas the people are adopting the double primary system in order to defeat this bourbon Democracy, and during the next few years prohibition and this system of nominating candidates will purge the State of the gigantic evil which the Star and others of its ilk are trying to foist upon the people. The antis have tried every subterfuge known to the wiles of shyster lawyers and political tricksters, and even now are laying plans to put men into the Legislature who can be depended upon to hedge against the prohibition laws of the State. Would the Star lend itself to this effort? Shame on such a perversion of moral stamina!

The second quotation does not show, as the Star would have its readers believe, that Cyclone Davis is working for prohibition because he hopes to so engraft it into politics as to split the party asunder. On the other hand it shows that he is a professional campaigner and as such his services are in great demand.

The Mail has tried very hard to point out the way to the Star man, but he is a hardened sinner, so far as prohibition is concerned, and we have almost despaired of converting him. First, he was against prohibition because it wouldn't prohibit, but this fallacy exploded right under his nose and he was forced to admit his error. Then he tried the "personal liberty" racket, but the spirit of Democracy with which he was animated urged him to give way to majority rule, and he again changed his tactics. The dispensary system and high license appealed to him in turn as a proper solution of the vexed question, and they, too, went the way of his other isms in rapid succession. Finally he hit upon the scheme of appealing to party pride and tried to scare up a bugaboo in the ranks because Cyclone Davis was out making prohibition speeches, and, he believed, was trying to undermine the Democratic party. His latest abortion is along this line. It is undoubtedly the weakest argument he has yet used and shows that he is at the end of his tether. We yet have hopes of his full salvation and shall watch the trend of his mental development with much apprehension. Gilliland's heart is right, but his pocketbook is unappeased.

To aid in his mental development The Mail wishes to give this little bit of statistics: "For every man, woman and child in the United States \$40 is spent annually for liquor and tobacco, while 40c is the average contribution of Protestant Christians for the support of the gospel." An exchange adds: "Come to

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

think of it, the good things of life are mighty cheap; it's the things we ought not to have that cost like fury."

To cure the Star of its high license fallacy it might be well to state that the workings of high license in New Hampshire, after 50 years of prohibition, may be inferred by the published utterances of Judge Pillsbury, a prominent jurist of that State, who says tersely and significantly: "May God have mercy on our State till we vote again."

The Mail could give many such aids to mental development and right seeing, but deems them unnecessary. Facts and figures are brought to the Star man's attention every time he picks up an exchange; hence a man who

can see and won't or does see and won't heed, is past redemption. Either this or he has an acute case or breaking out of the swell-head.

But honor bright, Gilliland, how much did you get for that column of "slush?" And how much per copy did you get for the papers distributed in Merkel? Unlike The Mail, which recently turned down an order from Baird for 100 copies, you are not out for your health, are you? Well, we are, and loaded besides; so you needn't answer these questions if they are too pointed. We warn you, however, that The Mail will invade your own bailiwick after this. Forewarned is forearmed. Make the most of it while you may.

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.

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.

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.

Mrs. Sammie Kendrick of Dallas came in Saturday on a visit to her mother, Mrs. P. R. Boaz.

Mr. Curran Hunt and Miss Virga Houx were united in the holy bonds of wedlock in the city of Ft. Worth Friday of last week. Their friends are many in Alvord who join with the Budget in wishing them a life of much happiness.—Alvord Budget.

Mr. Hunt is a brother of J. P. C. Hunt of the Merkel Mercantile Co., who resides at Comanche, I. T., and attended the Hunt-Comegys wedding here a few months ago. He is quite well known to many of our people.

Otto Brown, a popular young merchant of Tuscola, was here Sunday visiting his mother who is sick at the home of her daughter, Mrs. McWhorter.

Somewhat Romantic.

W. E. Mays of Oklahoma and Miss Claudie Caldwell of the Canyon were married by Justice Wheeler in the First National Bank Saturday, and the young couple took the 8:25 train for the home of the groom.

This was Justice Wheeler's first attempt at tying nuptial knots, and if he was just a little bit rattled at the beginning of the ceremony he had ample authority to tie the knot good and hard.

Felt in Merkel.

The effects of the strike among employes of the express company were felt here Friday, when the banks had to order money by registered mail to handle the cotton which poured into the town. Saturday's daily papers were missed, and there was a big kick when the laundry baskets failed to arrive and people were forced to wear soiled shirts and other wear to preaching. A strike of this kind is gigantic. Its effects are wide-spread.

New Bank for Abilene.

Notice of permission from the Comptroller of the Currency for organizing the American National Bank of Abilene, capital \$75,000, has been received by Steffens & Lowdon, the well-known bankers. Officers of the new bank have not been elected, but Steffens & Lowdon will be in active charge of its affairs, and the stock was largely subscribed by Taylor County people. Steffens & Lowdon will not abandon their private bank, and both institutions will be conducted under the same roof.

Frost Last Week.

Considerable frost appeared in various parts of the country, and especially in the lowlands, Thursday night of last week. Some crops were slightly scorched, but comparatively no damage was done. This is the second light frost so far this season, and it is hoped that there will be no more for some weeks yet. A late killing frost will enable much cotton to mature.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurmond visited at Sweetwater Sunday.

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.

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

Twelve bales of Fisher County cotton were sold in a lump Friday at 9:50, and Saturday morning six bales from the same neighborhood sold at the same figures. Merkel passed the 2500 mark last week.

Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Boaz returned from Borden County last week whither they moved a few months ago. They seem glad to get back, but are in love with the Borden Country.

Miss Sallie Powell of Dublin is the guest of Miss Carrie Hargroves.

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

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.

To The Public.

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

George Hill went to Colorado, Monday afternoon, to accept a position on the Spokesman.

The party who borrowed my wheel barrow from the Flemming building will please return it at once. R. A. Miller.

Andrew Coggin was here from Colorado Saturday visiting his father.

John Elliott returned from New Orleans, where he accompanied a shipment of cattle, Friday. John speaks of the "Father of Waters" as a good-sized creek.

The new T. & P. schedule went into effect Sunday morning, the east bound train arriving here at 11:25 instead of 8:25 as under the old schedule.

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.

Dr. I. E. Smith, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist of Weatherford, will be in Merkel Oct. 26th.

Mrs. Elsie Fisher of Big Springs is the guest of Mrs. S. H. Basham.

Rev. R. B. Young, pastor of the Methodist church, preached his farewell sermon to a large congregation Sunday night. This is his last sermon of the conference year, as annual conference meets at Fort Worth early in next month.

J. C. Hamm went to Roscoe Monday evening.

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.

Rural Philosophy.

Lots of people get a reputation like a mule—by kicking.

Political bedfellows lose lots of sleep watching each other.

If a man ever expects to get a loan, he must show that he can stand alone.

It's a heap harder to give in when you are right than when you are wrong.

With some folks who marry, money is not as much of an objection as it is an object.

Whether we want it or not, we've all got to take what the future has in store for us.

If a man is prepared for the worst and the worst don't happen, he ain't badly disappointed.

A fool is often considered a wise man, if he has only sense enough to keep his mouth shut.

If you want a man to listen, just begin the conversation by criticising his neighbor's methods.

Some fellows are so contented with their life that instead of being satisfied they become petrifed.

It's an old saying that riches don't bring contentment, but lots of people are not content without riches.—Chicago News.

A donkey stepped into a store and the proprietor approached him and asked: "What are you doing in here? You know this is no place for a donkey." "I am here," said the donkey, "because I saw your advertisement on the fence that surrounds my pasture I know you, too, must be a donkey or you would place your advertisement in the papers where it would be read by people, not donkeys. Being lonesome today, I thought I would be neighborly and make a fraternal call."—Exchange.

The Mail gives all the news.

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, 324 Dearborn street, Chicago.

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

The Short Train.

We are sorry to learn that the short train will probably stop here, in the near future, instead of running on to Colorado as it now does.

We need it as it is, especially since the through train east does not get here until noon and gives people from the west only four hours to stay in Abilene.

We hope the report is not true and that the short train will still go on to Colorado.—Reporter.

County Court is in session at Abilene this week. The docket is light and there and there are no cases of importance to dispose of.

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 Woodward 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.

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 1/2 c	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.

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

"Cling to the Cross."

The late Admiral Sampson told this story to an audience of small boys in the parlor of a social settlement house. They were ragged, small boys of more than one nationality, but they proudly called themselves Americans, and they had come to see and hear an American hero.

The Admiral judged his audience correctly at once. He saw that they were at the impatient age, and he plunged straight into his story.

"I want to tell you of something that happened on my ship the morning the American fleet took the harbor of Santiago," he said, and all the wrigglers stopped wriggling. There was a happy sigh throughout the room, then breathless stillness.

"You all remember that battle." Vigorous noddings from every head. "And you know my ship was late getting there." More nods. "All around us, as we sailed in, there were signs of Spanish defeat—wreckage, dead men, disaster. Now who can tell me what day of the week that was?"

"Sunday!" shouted the audience as one boy.

"Yes, Sunday morning; and we always have prayers on the Admiral's ship Sunday morning. The little reading-desk, with the cross carved on the top of it, was still standing on deck. We had gone into battle so hastily that no one had time to put the desk away. It was a light little thing, easily moved about.

"So we sailed along, and there was death and destruction on the face of the waters. And the battle was won. But among the dead things and the burning things that floated on the water we saw a man swimming. He was a Spanish sailor, one of our enemies. He was making a struggle for his life, but there was

nothing near enough for him to cling to, and each stroke he made was fainter than the last. The shore was a long way off. According to the rules of war, we had no time to save his life; besides, he was our enemy."

The room was very still; every eye was fixed on the Admiral.

"Some of us on that side of the ship," he continued, "watched the man curiously, wondering how long he would hold out. Then, all of a sudden, one of our sailors picked up that little reading-desk, and pitched it out over the side of the ship into the sea.

"Here, friend," he cried, 'cling to that! Cling to the cross, and it'll take you safe to shore!'

"Of course the Spaniard could not understand those English words, but the action was unmistakable; and the last we saw of the poor fellow he was clinging to the cross, and moving toward the shore.

"That's the kind of American you want to be, boys—the kind that sailor was aboard my ship."

Then they all stood up in the settlement parlor and sang "America" till the ceiling trembled.—Youth's Companion.

An Orchard young man, who asked a girl recently how her nose became so red, is now wishing he hadn't been so inquisitive. My nose is growing red with satisfaction over the fact that it is not always stuck into other people's business, she replied. And then in spite of the nose, she froze him with a look.

Another editor is suffering embarrassment through a careless compositor. Up in Clay county the other day a fat girl was married to a well known young man and the editor, wishing to say something to please the concerned, spoke of "the groom and his elegant bride." Then the printer got in his work. He made it "elephant."—Exchange.

Miss Lillian Julian visited her parents at Caps Sunday.

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

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25c 50c \$1

Sold by all
DRUGGIST.

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.**
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.
Prepared by **JAMES F. BALLARD, St. Louis.**

For Sale by BURROUGHS & MANN,

Merkel, Tex.

New T. & P. Schedule.

The following passenger schedule is now in effect:

DAY TRAIN

No. 6, east bound, ... 11:51 a. m.
No. 3, west bound, ... 4:55 p. m.

NIGHT TRAIN

No. 4, east bound, ... 11:25 p. m.
No. 5, west bound, ... 4:15 a. m.

Hope and Wisdom

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

Strayed or Stolen.

From my lot in Merkel two weeks ago one brown horse, about 14 1/2 hands high, 5 or 6 years old, branded HB, connected, on left shoulder. \$2.50 reward for his recovery.
It J. L. Reed.

A. S. Hardwicke Resigns.

The resignation of District Attorney A. S. Hardwicke has created considerable surprise and no little disappointment. Senate has made an enviable record as prosecutor. No reason has been given for the step. A successor will be appointed by Gov. Latham.

The holiness conducted by Miss Lillian Pool of Mulberry Canyon is attracting a great deal of attention. The meeting is being held in the Court House and the services Sunday and Sunday night were largely attended. Miss Pool is doing some earnest preaching.

An extra session of Congress has been called to meet Nov. 9.

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.

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

Bynum & Muir, Abilene.

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.

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P. R. Boaz, "
D. B. Stockton, "
Jos. Winter, "
J. W. Hardy, "
W. R. Walker, "
Rev. Hairfield, "
D. J. Gibson, "
Miss Dota Garoutte, "
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E. H. Cordill, "
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PARENTAL NEGLIGENCE.

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WARNICK'S BANK.

How Did You Die?

Did you tackle that trouble that came your way
With a resolute heart and cheerful?
Or hide your face from the light of day,
With a craven soul, and fearful?
O, a trouble's a ton, or a trouble's an ounce,
Or a trouble is what you make it;
And it isn't the fact that you're hurt that counts,
But only, How did you take it?

You're beaten to earth? Well, what of that?
Come up with a smiling face.
It's nothing against you to fall down flat,
But to lie there—that is disgrace.
The harder you're thrown, the higher you'll bounce;
Be proud of your blackened eye;
It isn't the fact that you're licked that counts,
It's How did you fight, and why?

And though you be done to the death—what then?
If you battled the best you could,
If you played your part in the world of men,
Why, the critic will call it good.
Death comes with a crawl, or comes with a pounce;
And whether he's slow or spry,
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Cures Headache
Cures Backache
Cures Colds
Cures Grippe
Relieves Toothache
Relieves Fever
Relieves Pain
Relieves Rheumatism

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Sold by all
DRUGGIST.

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.

New T. & P. Schedule.

The following passenger schedule is now in effect:

DAY TRAIN

No. 6, east bound, ... 11:51 a. m.
No. 3, west bound, ... 4:55 p. m.

NIGHT TRAIN

No. 4, east bound, ... 11:25 p. m.
No. 5, west bound, ... 4:15 a. m.

Hope and Wisdom

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

Strayed or Stolen.

From my lot in Merkel two weeks ago one brown horse, about 14 1/2 hands high, 5 or 6 years old, branded HB, connected, on left shoulder. \$2.50 reward for his recovery.

It J. L. Reed.

A. S. Hardwicke Resigns.

The resignation of District Attorney A. S. Hardwicke has created considerable surprise and no little disappointment. Senate has made an enviable record as prosecutor. No reason has been given for the step. A successor will be appointed by Gov. Latham.

The holiness conducted by Miss Lillian Pool of Mulberry Canyon is attracting a great deal of attention. The meeting is being held in the Court House and the services Sunday and Sunday night were largely attended. Miss Pool is doing some earnest preaching.

An extra session of Congress has been called to meet Nov. 9.

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.

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To the Purchasing Public:

A Complete Line of....

**DRY GOODS,
LADIES' WAISTS,
SKIRTS, JACKETS,
HATS, CAPS,
SHOES, etc.**

Also a full line of Groceries
as **CHEAP** as the Cheapest.

We wish to say that our stock is larger and more complete than ever before. One of the modern features of this store is selling goods on their merits. We buy good merchandise to the best possible advantage, and sell it on a small margin of profit. We do not offer premiums or discounts to induce buyers; instead, we give increased values and lower prices.

Our constantly increasing patronage proves our assertions.

J. O. HAMILTON

Items From Various Sources

One Need of Organization.

One hundred and sixty-two dollars per car load is the minimum rate of freight the cotton farmers pay on their commodity from Beeville to Houston, a distance of two hundred miles. The cotton farmer has no organization to register his protest with the powers that make rates, hence he has to stand the highest rate of freight charged on any article of commerce produced in the State. The writer has never quite understood why the rate on cotton should be so much higher than on cattle. Cotton does not have to be unloaded, watered and fed, thus tying up a train for several hours, nor is it injured by delays and wrecks to fill the courts with damage suits against the carrier.—Beeville Bee.

Some Old Timers.

Wednesday afternoon we spied a crowd of men making their way to the picture gallery and, of course, followed them to see what was up. On arriving at the gallery we found them arranged in a group to have a photograph of the crowd made. We were informed they were among the early settlers in this country and as this was the largest bunch of them that had been together in some time and that they wanted a souvenir of the occasion hence the photos. The personal of the party, was, J. D. Earnest, A. J. Long, Fort Worth, Jesse Evans, A. F. Jones, Jack Rogers, J. D. Birdwell, John Mundy, L. S. McDowell, John Roberts, J. D. Williams, G. L. Brown. These men all came to Howard county in the 70's, and have helped to make this country what it is today. They opened the way for the others! They chased Indians and sometimes were chased by the festive redskins, killed buffaloes and made the land tenable for those who have followed them. They were as intelligent and fine looking body of men as can be found anywhere, and their interests are centered in the welfare of this country.—Big Springs Enterprise.

On last Monday Will Morris was arrested charged with stealing two ton of cotton seed from H. M. Cospers gin. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$50 and given ten days in jail. He is serving his sentence.—Roby Banner.

Phenomenal Flight of Hawks.

Yesterday morning between 8

or 9 o'clock an occurrence which attracted much notice was the passing over town of a great number of big chicken hawks in a migratory flight south.

The number which passed over the square seemed phenomenal, there appearing to be at least three or four hundred, but they were but the outer edge of the main flock which was farther east; it passing above the territory between Elm street and the Cotton Mills. In the flock it is said that there must have been several thousand of the birds, for they were flying apparently as close together as black birds and were several minutes in passing a given point. They were in size much larger than half grown golden eagles, and in their circling flight made a pretty spectacle.

Their passage was the subject of considerable comment, they being birds which seldom can be seen in more than pairs. Some of the older citizens say that the occurrence has happened before, however, and that it has always been followed by an early winter.

Along the line of the thought in the above it may be said that great numbers of wild geese, which at this season of the year harbinger cold waves, have been going south since Monday.—Weatherford Herald.

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.

In the United States District Court at Abilene this week J. R. Burnham and J. N. Dinger each received a year and a day at hard labor in the penitentiary at Atlanta, Georgia, and \$100 fine, for selling liquor without paying Uncle Sam the prerequisite \$25 license. Our State law makes the possession of such a license prima facie evidence that the party is selling liquor. Verily would-be violators of prohibitory laws of all kinds, have a hard time. But law is a terror to evil doers only.—Big Springs Enterprise.

The best boll weevil remedy yet brought to light was demonstrated on the streets of Floresville this week. It was a big wagon load of fine peanuts brought in by a nearby farmer. He planted quite a lot for ex-

periment and without half the cultural trouble attending the acre of cotton, raised fifty bushels to the acre. The market price for good peanuts is \$2 per bushel. If this does not settle the boll weevil it ought to.—Floresville Chronicle.

Our young friend, W. J. Cunningham, of Abilene, has been endorsed by the Abilene bar for the position of District Attorney, made vacant by the resignation of A. S. Hardwicke. The Mail hopes Mr. Cunningham will fall under Gov. Lanham's good graces in the matter of receiving the appointment.

Mitchell County Land Rush.

A number of men are holding down chairs at the west door of the county clerk's office this week and have been since last Friday morning. This is quite a common occurrence in counties farther West, but in Mitchell it is something entirely new as about all the school land has already been secured. The occasion of this rush was brought about last week by a decision being handed down in favor of the State of Texas, in a land snit between the State and the Houston and Texas Central Ry., for fourteen sections of land located in the northwest part of Mitchell county and the southwest part of Scurry county. We understand only five sections of the fourteen are situated in Mitchell county while the remaining nine are under the jurisdiction of Scurry county and our sister county is entertaining guests of the same kind.

All the land included in this suit located in this county is and has been occupied by the men who are now at the door awaiting orders to file, for a number of years. All have good farms, nice residences, wells, windmills, etc., and of course they are entitled to the land and up to the present time no sign of opposition has been seen and it is to be hoped that these gentlemen will only have to walk up and file on their land and get an award to same. It is not known what day the land will be declared "open for settlement," but they are looking for orders every day.—Colorado Spokesman.

Strayed or Stolen.

One black mare, ball face, JW on left hip; one bay horse, two years old, and one black mule, year old past, both branded NF (connected) on left shoulder. \$5 reward for information of their whereabouts.

W. B. Smithson,
Hodges, Texas.

Mrs. Fannie Lawrence of Arlington is here visiting her brother, H. C. Burroughs, and assisting in straightening up the affairs of her mother, deceased.

Some idea of the greatness of Texas may be had when it is known that the taxable values of the State have increased about \$35,000,000 over last year. The total taxable values are approximately \$1,036,000,000.

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.