

# The Haskell Free Press.

VOLUME XX.

HASKELL, HASKELL COUNTY, TEXAS, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 23, 1905.

NUMBER 51

## The Home Helping Society.

Insurance Right at Your Doors at Actual Cost.

The attention of the people of Haskell county is called to the fact that a number of citizens of Haskell have organized a mutual assessment insurance society and procured a charter from the State, and that it is now ready to do business.

The rates in the regular insurance societies are greater than a very large majority of the people feel able or disposed to pay. They are made so in order that their officers and agents may be paid princely salaries; many of their officers being paid salaries twice as large as that paid to the president of the United States. The object of the Home Helping Society is to avoid such expense and furnish to its members insurance at actual cost. No salaries are paid to its officers, and with the exception of a small fee from each member to cover the expense of bookkeeping, stationery, postage and other necessary expenses, which will be light, every dollar paid in by its members will be paid back to them (their beneficiaries) in the payment of death claims.

The plan, briefly stated, is this: You pay \$3.25 when you take a policy in the society. One dollar of this is put into the policy fund in the hands of a bonded treasurer to be paid to the beneficiary of the first member that dies, and as many dollars will be paid to them as there are members of the Society at the time, be it 100 or 750. Then an assessment will be made of \$1 per member to replenish the policy or death fund so that the cash will be on hand to pay the next death claim, and so on as deaths occur. After the fee paid at the time of joining there will be nothing else to pay except the death assessments and expense fund, of not exceeding \$1 a year, to keep up the expense account, as above explained. Thus it is seen that the members get back every dollar paid in, except \$2.25 paid at time of joining and \$1 or less a year for the expense fund. The membership will be limited to 750 in the county and when that number have joined your policy will be worth \$750 cash to your family upon your death. At any time it will be worth as many dollars as there are members in the Society.

The money to pay death claims will always be in the hands of the Society's bonded treasurer in Haskell and claims will be paid within a day, possibly an hour, after proof of a death. Persons of both sexes between the ages of 18 and 55 years who are in good health may join this Society.

The incorporators or charter members of this society are: R. E. Sherrill, W. L. Hills, D. B. English, W. E. Sherrill, R. C. Montgomery, Jno. B. Baker, J. W. Meadors, J. E. Poole, R. E. Ellis, T. B. Russell, J. D. Smith, G. R. Couch, Jno. L. Robertson, H. S. Wilson, H. G. McConnell, C. D. Long.

The officers are: R. E. Sherrill, president; R. C. Montgomery, vice-president; J. W. Meadors, secretary; W. E. Sherrill, treasurer. The board of directors is composed of the above named officers and W. L. Hills, D. B. English, Jno. B. Baker.

Messrs. J. W. Meadors, Jno. B. Baker and Rev. J. H. Chambliss are the regular solicitors and either of them will take your application for membership.

### Grand Jury Report.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,  
County of Haskell.

In the District Court of Haskell County, Texas, November term, 1905.  
To the Hon. H. R. Jones, Judge of said court, greeting:

We, your grand jury, duly organized as such at the Nov. term of said court, 1905, beg leave to report, finally, as follows, to-wit:

1st. We have diligently inquired into and true presentment made of all matters that have come to our knowledge, so far as we have been able to obtain witnesses.

2nd. That we have presented bills in two capital felony cases and three ordinary felony cases, charging respectively, murder, assault on murder and cattle theft.

3rd. That we have been in regular session, engaged actively, for eleven days.

4th. That there seems to have been an increase, for the present at least, of crime of the nature of felony in this county, and that such is to be deplored by the good citizens of the county.

5th. That there now exists a growing tendency on the part of some of the small boys of Haskell to go into store houses for the purpose of getting such articles of small value as they seem to desire, and that the main instigators of these pilferings are so very small and young that the grand jury has not seen fit at this time to call down the vengeance of the law upon them, and suggest that if parents persist in allowing these small boys to loaf upon the streets at night time, they may pay only too dearly for an error so easily corrected.

6th. That we have examined eighty-six witnesses during the session.

7th. That we, in a body, have examined the jail of Haskell county, Texas, and again especially call the attention of the commissioners court of this county to the fact that said jail is so constructed that persons on the outside can with impunity pass in any means of escape or means to do violence to the jailer and escape.

That said jail cannot be put in a safe condition as it now stands and should be more than one story high, that the jail is not and can not be kept in a sanitary condition as it now stands, and we also deplore the conditions of the public roads in this county, and we recommend to the commissioners court that they use their efforts to get them in better condition.

G. W. PILLEY, Foreman.

In Mad Chase.

Millions rush in mad chase after health, from one extreme of faddism to another, when, if they would only eat good food, and keep their bowels regular with Dr. King's New Life Pills, their troubles would all pass away. Prompt relief and quick cure for liver and stomach trouble. 25c at Terrells drug store; guaranteed.

FARMERS' UNION MEETING at MID New Officers Elected and Pleasant Social Occasion Enjoyed.

The Haskell County Farmers' Union met at Mid the 8th. The representation of the local unions was not as great as should have been, on account of some delegates and members attending court, though by 12 o'clock quite a good crowd had arrived from different parts of the county. Soon the Mid people began to hustle around to arrange for dinner. A fire was started and soon a 20 gallon kettle of fine coffee was made, and a table had been arranged, which was loaded from end to end with the very best of eatables. "Dinner is ready," some one said, and this was one time every man wanted to do his part. Dinner over, the house was called to order by our never-tiring president, M. A. Clifton, for the purpose of transacting such business as might come before the body. After a brief session motion prevailed to adjourn until 7:30. At supper time, we were made to enjoy ourselves feasting upon the good things prepared by the good ladies of Mid community. I must here say, many thanks to those good people for the courtesies shown us by them.

The house was called to order at 7:30 by the president; after attending to some unfinished business a motion prevailed to go into the election of new officers. The following officers were elected: S. V. Jones, president; H. M. Cooner, vice-president; F. M. Blair, secretary and treasurer; W. H. Berry, chaplain; G. T. Buford, D. K.; G. E. Courtney, conductor; M. A. Clifton, lecturer; G. W. Pilley, business agent. The following executive committee was elected: S. V. Jones, H. M. Cooner, F. M. Blair, J. M. Davis, H. L. Cleadonnen, W. S.

Fouts, R. W. Williams.

After the election of new officers several places were put in nomination to hold our next county meeting. Rule came out winner, no doubt due to a speech made by Uncle Bob Williams showing what a grand thing it was to visit a R. R. town and see the great iron horse as he goes snorting across the prairie and ride the automobile on the paved streets, (provided they have them.)

So the next county union will be held at Rule Friday and Saturday before the third Sunday in March, 1906. As this closed the business part of the meeting, the house stood adjourned to meet the following day at 10 o'clock, which was to be a public day with speeches by M. A. Clifton, S. V. Jones and others. As the writer had to leave, cannot give details of second day. Resp't.,

F. M. BLAIR, Sec.

WANTED.

Several small farms for our customers, also large tracts. If you need money on your land or notes see us. North side square.

WEST TEXAS DEVELOPMENT CO.

\*\*\*

The trial of Lester Power in the district court, on the charge of killing a young man named Walker at the town of Carney a few weeks ago, and which consumed nearly a week, resulted in a hung jury Thursday and the case was continued. It is said that the jury stood eight for conviction and four for acquittal.

On Thursday the attorneys for Power and Jake McKinney, who is under indictment in the same case sued out a writ of habeas corpus before Judge Jones and procured an order allowing each of them bail in the sum of \$5,000.

Remember it! That there are many pretty Christmas goods at the Racket Store.

You had better hunt C. M. Hunt & Co. If you are hunting for bargains.

W. C. Guthrie of Fort Worth, who is charged by complaint in Stone wall county with complicity in the murder by poisoning of Buff McGaughey, and who was arrested in Ft. Worth Tuesday, came to Haskell Thursday accompanied by his attorney, Senator W. A. Hanger and several friends, and on a habeas corpus proceeding before Dist. Judge H. R. Jones, was granted bail in the sum of \$5,000, which his friends gave promptly. Mr. Guthrie's friends say some fearful mistake has been made, that it is impossible that a man of his character could have been a party to such a crime.

Eastern and California canned goods—select line just received by Williams.

It's the latest idea—those Toile-Du-Nord gingham, in fancy and solid colors, at S. L. Robertson's.

The phone office is now over the Haskell National Bank.

Mr. Hollis Fields is now with the Haskell National Bank.

Mr. H. L. Sherrill of Temple, who has purchased several farms here lately, was in Haskell a few days ago.

Postmaster Jno. B. Baker is building an office building just north of the northeast corner of the public square. This building, besides the postoffice will be occupied by the Haskell Real Estate Company.

A good general purpose horse for sale—a good saddle, see Williams, 'he grocer.

Rugs, and they are nice ones, at C. M. Hunt & Co's. Get one cheap.

Mr. J. E. Wilfong says that there is a stray sow at his place and he would be glad for the owner to get her and pay for this notice.

Mrs. H. R. Jones and little niece Willie Veasy, have returned from Marlin, much recruited in health.

Mr. G. Rader of the Mid community was in town several days this week and was quite happy over the recent arrival of a daughter at his house. He insisted that the FREE PRESS should not slight her, as she wished her friends to know of her arrival.

Mrs. J. W. Meadors and little son Virgil, left Wednesday for Austin to spend Christmas with her sister, Mrs. W. B. Anthony.

Mr. W. T. Newson killed four eight months old hogs the other day that averaged 250 pounds each. He is another farmer who thinks there is no good business sense in a Haskell county farmer keeping his smoke-house in a store.

Our farmers are offering big pay for cotton pickers. Come if you want a good job. In fact labor of all kinds is in good demand here.

## CHRISTMAS

-AT-

## TERRELLS'

The Best of Everything for Xmas.

A Beautiful Assortment of Pleasing Gifts, Perfectly Adapted to the Wants and Requirements of all our Friends and Patrons.

Everything In Our Stock Is Bright and New, Fresh and Clean No Old Goods, Job Lots or Samples. Everything Is Direct From the Best Markets and Manufacturers.

Only a Few More Days Until Xmas.

COME early and make your selections before the rush and while our stock is complete and unbroken. You will then have more leisure in choosing what you want and we will have more time to show you everything.

Our Goods are Right! Our Prices are Right!! Our Values are Right!! ...COME and See for YOURSELF...

Here are a few suggestive and appropriate gifts, each one full value at the price quoted:

Ladies Watches at.....	\$12 to \$20.00.
Chains at.....	3 to 10.00.
Bracelets at.....	4 to 10.00.
Brooches at.....	2 to 10.00.
Lace Pins at.....	3 to 5.00.
Cuff Pins at.....	50c to 3.00.
Chatelaine Pins at.....	\$1 to 5.00.
Locketts and Chains at.....	3 to 10.00.
Waist Sets at.....	1 to 5.00.
Solid Gold, Plain and Set Rings.....	3 to 20.00.
Same in Misses' and Childrens' sizes.....	1 to 4.00.
Comb and Brush Sets at.....	1 to 5.00.
Brush and Mirror Sets at.....	2 to 10.00.
Mansette Sets at.....	1 to 3.00.
Hand Mirrors at.....	1 to 5.00.
Photograph Albums at.....	1 to 10.00.
Toilet Cases—an exceptionally fine line at.....	2 to 5.00.

You will find every one of these articles the very best of its class, and all suitable gifts for the ladies.

We especially invite you to inspect our Jewelry and Sundries Departments. Our stock is new, well selected and down-to-date in every particular. And when it comes to prices and quality we absolutely have no competition in any department of our store.

### PRESENTS FOR GENTLEMEN.

If you desire to select an appropriate gift for a gentleman, any one of the following items will be sure to please:

Watches	Cigar Cases	Signet Rings	Pearl Pocket Knives
Chains	Match Boxes	Pocket Books	Stud Shirt Sets
Fobs	Ink Stands	Bookie Books	Collar and Cuff Boxes
Charms	Gold Pens	Stamp Boxes	Necktie Boxes
Purses	Scarf Pins	Paper Weights	Cigaret Cases
Brushes	Hat Marks	Shaving Sets	Shaving Mugs
Combs	Coat Marks	Writing Sets	Moustache Cups
Pipes	Bill Books	Cuff Buttons	Collar Buttons

—And there are others just as appropriate—

### CHINA AND SILVER WARE.

We have many artistic and beautiful items in hand painted china and fine silver, and we are making the prices low.

We mention a few of the many items:

Cabarets	Cake Plates	Salad Bowls	Bon Bon Dishes
Rose Jars	Spoon Trays	Fruit Bowls	Ice Cream Sets
Tea Sets	Cracker Jars	Chocolate Sets	Sugar, Cream Sets
Rose Jars	Olive Dishes	After Dinner Coffee Sets,	Vases

All new goods, and many novelty patterns from best makers in Germany and Japan.

In Sterling Silver and Plated Ware. We have the standard makes. Knives, Forks and Spoons in Matched Sets. And a variety of special pieces in artistic designs.

If You Want a Musical Instrument we have a large stock of high grade instruments and can please you.

Violin Outfits Complete \$10 to \$15.00. Guitar Outfits Complete 10 to \$30.00. Banjos 5 to \$12.00.

A large stock of Harmonicas, Harps and general musical goods.

### IN FACT YOU FIND IN OUR STORE

Presents for father that he will appreciate; gifts for mother that are sure to please; appropriate things for grandma and grandpa; gifts for girls and boys that are just what they want; delightful presents for young ladies and desirable gifts for young men; pretty remembrances for friends and hundreds of pleasing little gifts that Santa Claus always brings for the little folks.

The Right Gifts for Everybody.

Santa Clause is here and invites everybody to

## TERRELLS.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to our many customers and friends.

PIONEER MILL and ELEVATOR CO.  
STAMFORD, - - TEXAS.

## TEXAS CENTRAL Railroad.

STAMFORD.

No. 1 Arrives from Waco,.....5:45 P. M.  
No. 2 Leaves for Waco,.....10:00 A. M.

GOOD CONNECTIONS AT WACO FOR ALL POINTS IN CENTRAL, EAST AND SOUTH TEXAS TO POINTS IN THE OLDSTATES!

VIA Cotton Belt Route and Memphis, H. & T. C., So. Pacific & New Orleans.

Write us a letter, Stating When and Where you want to go. We will advise you promptly, Lowest Rates, and give you a Schedule of the Trip. W. F. McMILLIN, THOS. F. FARMER, Gen'l Pass. Agent, Agent, Stamford. Waco, Texas.

## OPERA HOUSE STABLE

HASKELL, - - TEXAS.

I will furnish good rigs to all surrounding points. Charges Moderate.

TRY US FOR PROMPT BUSINESS

JACK SIMMONS.

See our line of

## Cook and Heating Stoves.

We carry the CHARTER OAK. Everybody knows them to be the highest type of bakers. We have plenty of them and are ready to show them. Prices Right.

Sherrill Bros. & Co.

Subscribe for the FREE PRESS and Dalla News, \$1.75.

Shall It Be White Terror?

Out of the Mass of the Confusion Comes Only An Appalling Dread of New Horrors.

What a long time it has been since we have had any live news from Main Street!

So interested is Europe just now that even our Father Time joins in the general uprising.

A truce has begun to bubble up the New York carter shops. This is the most significant outfall.

Let us hope that Russian students will not continue to riot as they do and go to playing football.

Though all the world may say that beauty is absurd, the slight of one pretty woman will deny it.

Hetty Green may be the richest woman in America, but most girls would rather be Maxine Elliott.

When the emperor of Korea wants to do a little ruling nowadays he has to be content with ruling his temper.

The profit of the United States mint service for the year is \$2,289,018, which represents considerable many jules.

Korea is to have a Japanese governor, but the natives of Korea will be permitted to keep on doing the heavy work.

Mr. Fitzsimmons calls Mr. O'Brien a "jumping jackrabbit." Well, if it's jackrabbit vs. kangaroo the latter ought to win.

And another great and needed reform could be achieved if the moving picture machines would show views of women running.

One trouble with the bluffs offered by the Sultan of Turkey is that the other fellows can always look into the mirror behind him.

There were two descriptions from the British newspaper during their stay in American waters. Uncle Sam is a strong drawing card.

The Shah of Persia has bought six French automobiles. He must feel that something is necessary to stop the overcrowding in Persia.

Here is a fine sentence from The Outlook: "Happiness came to him because he did not seek it—only tried to become better and better."

Gen. Weyler has been sent from Madrid to see the Catalonians. If the Catalonians deserve seeing the sight man has been picked for the job.

A Filipino schoolboy has snatched his teacher to death. The young lion down that way, as it is taught to shoot should be taught not to cut.

If Prince Louis had ordered a full set of false teeth from that New York dentist, he might have had to pawn one of his warships in order to get away.

A school teacher now in the Philippines crumbles that all he has to eat there is "rice, fish, eggs, chicken, mangoes, pineapples and bananas." That's all.

A Cleveland preacher says pie is worse than beer as a destroyer of morality. Perhaps he means the custard pie that one sits on at a Sunday school picnic.

This thing of packing husbands in trunks when starting on the honeymoon trip may be economical, but it is undignified. No husband of proper spirit will submit to it.

Mark Twain acknowledges on his 70th birthday that he's never done a day's work in his life. He always was a joker. But we don't understand why he settled in New York.

New York is crowding over the fact that two lots of land, with the buildings on them, cost more than the United States paid for Alaska. But Uncle Sam is not offering to swap.

The statement of Dr. Hornaday of New York that Boston has the best place in the country for a zoo has no reference whatever to the council chamber in the city hall—Boston Globe.

The man who testified in the divorce court that his wife threw hash in his face didn't say whether the hash was not good or whether he merely objected to the way in which it was served.

A man who was arrested a few weeks ago for stealing \$100,000 says it is difficult to be honest on a salary of \$65 a month. Pshaw! Not at all, if he doesn't burn coal and refrains from eating meat.

At the New York opera Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt's gown was of bright red silk veined with chiffon. She wore diamond shoulder bars instead of shoulder straps, thus setting a fashion that will not be generally followed.

A Trenton, N. J., man left his entire fortune of \$100,000 to his twenty-fourth child, and his other twenty-three children are now trying to break the will. If each of them has a lawyer there may be as much as 15 cents apiece left when the matter is settled.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 18.—A shudder of horror has convulsed Russia. The Government claims it has never had the only on the "red" revolutionists, but the populace generally believes that the "white terror" has returned. Already the leaders of the pro-Soviet organization who caused the capture Saturday night at the congress, and even men of the rank of Professor Mironoff are being taken from the police who are making them all known. The Government evidently anticipates a battle royal and has made its dispositions accordingly. It fully understands that the proletariat will give blow for blow in answer to the wholesale arrests.

The Workmen's Council and the League of Leagues Saturday night issued a declaration of a general strike to begin immediately and consequently by an imperial ukase published this morning all governors, general governors and prefects throughout the empire, who are cut off by telegraph are clothed with almost dictatorial powers, being authorized without consulting St. Petersburg to declare a state of siege, and, if necessary, even martial law. As most of the provincial authorities are reactionary officials of the old regime, the advantage they will take of such power to terrorize the populace can be easily imagined, they being in position to become petty tyrants and wage war each in his own particular fashion against the revolutionists.

M. Nomechaloff, minister of communications, has issued orders to the chiefs of all the railroads not to recognize organizations of railroad men, particularly cautioning them not to allow the passage of the orders of the leaders of the organizations who heretofore have been using the railroad telegraphs to transmit their instructions.

The Government has chosen a desperate moment to repress the proletariat. It is fighting for its life in the Baltic region where a revolt is admitted to be in full blast with almost a practical certainty that if it cannot be crushed its flames will spread to Poland. The native population of the ancient kingdom of Lithuania is made up of a hardy and headstrong people who, having raised the banner of revolt, will fight to the bitter end.

Lived in Three Centuries. Waelder, the oldest woman in this part of the country, and probably in the State, in the person of Lottie Davis, colored, died Friday night after a three week's illness. Aunt Lottie, as she was called by all who knew her, was 107 years old. She was born in Jones County, Ga., in 1798, having lived in three centuries. She was remarkably healthy, having never been sick but once. Her last illness was due to old age. She has been blind about eighteen years. Her husband, James Davis, and son, Jose, survive her. Her husband is 115 years old, but is very feeble. They have been married between eighty and ninety years. They were doubtless the oldest married couple in the State, or perhaps in the United States.

Engineer J. D. Connoughy was seriously injured and two Mexicans badly hurt in a head-on wreck of two freight trains seven miles east of El Paso on the El Paso and Southwestern Railway. One engine was completely demolished.

Texarkana, Tex.: The contract for the Post Pipe Tiling Company's factory buildings on Rose Hill was let at St. Louis Saturday. The building will cost \$125,000, and, according to the terms of the contract, must be completed within sixty days. The plant, when in operation, will give employment to about sixty persons, with a weekly payroll of \$700. A Chicago firm was awarded the contract.

Burglars Failed to Make Good. Suffield, Conn.: After binding the railroad watchman, William James, and his 12-year-old son before daylight, six bank robbers pried their way into the Suffield Savings Bank, blew open the safe after the fourth attempt, and made away with about \$50,000 worth of registered bonds and stocks, not negotiable, according to President M. T. Newton, of the institution. They overlooked \$3,000 in cash and negotiable bonds in a drawer near by.

Shooting at a Dance. Nacogoches: Friday night at the home of Henry Moman, about fourteen miles from Nacogoches on the Spanish Bluff road, the young people had a dance. During the evening Tom Pitts was shot through the left breast, being instantly killed. Joe Wagoner was arrested and brought to Nacogoches and placed in the county jail. Pitts leaves a widow and six children. Wagoner is also married and has two children.

SUNDAY'S TRIPLE TRAGEDY.

NEGRO KILLS AND IS KILLED.

After Killing Two Men the Murderer Shot Down.

Beaumont, Dec. 18.—Henry Powell, a negro, walked up the street on the car track in Fifth street, on the South End, and Motorman Merritt approached with his car. When the point just opposite the car track was reached Merritt brought his car to a stop and about getting off the track. No one heard what was said and Conductor Lueden was not close enough to understand exactly what went on. In an instant, however, the negro, who all the time held two revolvers in his hands, shot once at Merritt, and the latter fell with a bullet through his neck and head. Only one shot was fired.

In a few minutes every available officer was in the South End. They divided into pairs and began a systematic search of the houses occupied by the negroes in that section. Deputy Constable Pevito and Deputy Sheriff Read Taxis formed one pair. As they reached one hut Pevito rode in front and Taxis behind. A rough blind was thrown open and another shot rang out, and the bullet went through Pevito's heart. He fell just in front of his boy, who was accompanying him. The negro Powell then ran out to the back door to make his escape.

He was commanded to stop by Taxis, but instead of obeying he raised both pistols to fire at Taxis. The latter was too quick, and shot him squarely through the head. His hands went up and the fourth shot was fired aimlessly into the air, and the negro was dead.

Motorman Merritt was about 25 years of age. He had lived in Beaumont and Orange practically all his life. When the Beaumont Traction Company started the street car system here he was among the first of the home boys to make application for a position. He leaves a wife and two children. He has three brothers and two sisters living.

Deputy Constable Elisha Pevito came to Beaumont from Orange four or five years ago. He has served on the police force and also as Deputy Constable and Deputy Sheriff, being a peace officer almost the entire time of his residence in this city. He was about 32 years of age, and leaves a wife and four children, besides his brothers and sisters.

Henry Powell, the negro, was about 19 years of age. He was a half brother of Joe Powell, who runs a saloon on Fifth street near where the death of Merritt occurred. Henry Powell helped his brother in running the saloon at times.

Indian Territory Wants Boundary Marked. South McAlester, I. T.: Red River has cut off nearly 100,000 acres from the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations and passed it over to the Texas side, where it is occupied by squatters who recognize no constituted government and pay tribute to no tax gatherer, says the Choctaw Legislative Council, which passed, just before its adjournment, a resolution appointing a commission to ascertain and establish the correct boundary line between Texas and the Indian Territory.

Dutch Family's Unusual Deportation. New York: Although they own a farm in Polk county, having paid \$2500 for it, Johann Puetz, his wife and their four children, who came in on the Varland from Antwerp last week, have been ordered deported. A special board of inquiry at Ellis Island decided that one of the children, Nicholas, 15 years old, is not mentally responsible. Through counsel Puetz has appealed to Washington.

Bishop Loses a Cross. Buffalo, N. Y.: A gold cross set with rubies and suspended on a gold chain was cut from the vestments of Rev. Charles M. Colton, bishop of the Catholic diocese of Buffalo, while he was attending the dedication of St. Nicholas Greek Catholic Church Sunday. The cross was valued at more than \$1,000. The cross hung about the bishop's neck and outside his robes. While in a crush immediately after the service the cross disappeared.

Tokio: The first official celebration in honor of the return of the Manchurian army was held Sunday. Field Marshal Oyama and Gen. Kuroki were guests of the Guards Division. Ten thousand men in the field uniform, and with twenty-four guns, marched from Hibiya Park to Ueno Park, three miles, their tattered flags telling eloquently of the ordeals through which each regiment had passed. Great enthusiasm was manifested.

THE REAL FIGHT BEGINS.

Printers Demand Eight Hours and Employers Say Nine.

New York, Dec. 16.—In refusing to grant the demands of the printers for an eight-hour day and the closed shop the book and job offices, the publishers of magazines and periodicals other than daily newspapers announced today that they were prepared for a strike on Jan. 1 throughout the United States.

Schools of instruction in the operation of typesetting machines have been opened in this city, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha and St. Louis, and a canvass of many other cities has been made for nonunion printers who are willing to fill vacancies when the union men quit, as they are expected to do on Jan. 1. Strikes have already been ordered in several shops in this city, but the existing agreements between the men and their employers in most cases end with the year. Both sides have taken a determined stand, the publishers insisting on a continuance of the nine-hour day and the open shop, while the men demand that eight hours shall constitute a day's work, and that none but members of Typographical Union No. 6 be employed, so far as New York City is concerned.

Publishers of the leading magazines of the country have prepared for the struggle by having their magazines for the next two or three months in type and in some instances the issues are actually printed.

Oil Fever Attacks Lufkin.

Houston: Public interest has been aroused to almost excitement in a new oil field nine miles northeast of Lufkin. Several Houston and recent Beaumont oil men have been out there. The Lufkin Oil Company is to begin boring Monday and Stahl and Granberry, two experienced oil men, are to start boring later. Fowler and Co. are the contracting drillers for the Lufkin company and have the material on the ground.

To Honor Confederate Dead.

Marshall: Ground was broken in the county courtyard last week for the foundation of the monument to be erected by Marshall Chapter No. 412, United Daughters of Confederacy, in honor of the Confederate soldiers. It will show a Confederate soldier at parade rest. The statue is made of Italian marble, on a base of Texas granite, and was designed by Telsch, and will cost \$2,500, complete. It was purchased by the Daughters.

Father Barbin Dead.

Texarkana: Rev. Father A. Barbin, who for twenty-five years was pastor of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, died Friday morning after a long illness, aged about 60 years. Father Barbin was ordained a priest in Galveston more than thirty years ago and came here to take charge of the Sacred Heart Church in 1879 and continued to serve the same continuously until about eighteen months ago, when his health broke down.

Run Over By a Car.

Dallas: B. F. Butler, who lives on Maple avenue north of the City Hospital, was run over by Friday night about 11 o'clock by a southbound South Belt car near the corner of Lamar and Columbia streets in South Dallas, sustaining serious injuries. He was placed on the car and brought to the corner of Commerce and Austin streets where he was taken in the city ambulance to St. Paul's Sanitarium.

Nickname of a Coin.

The standard silver coins being used in the Philippines are known as "Conants," having been named for Charles A. Conant, who was sent to the islands to prepare a coinage system. The authorities in Washington objected to this nickname and directed that the coins should be known as Philippine Currency. Before this order arrived they were universally called "Conants" and notwithstanding the official mandate the name has stuck.

Remarkable Woman Linguist.

Mrs. Minnetta Taylor, of Greencastle, Ind., for years professor of romance languages in De Jaum university, speaks fluently twenty-two different, is able to converse fairly well in nine others and can read four more. From early childhood she showed astonishing ability to master languages, and when little more than a child, became so familiar with Latin, Greek and Hebrew that she spoke each of these tongues.

Roosevelt's Rifle.

The rifle which President Roosevelt used on his recent hunting trip has been received at Springfield (Mass.) armory, extensive repairs being necessary as a result of rough usage. The rifle, which was made for President Roosevelt under the direction of Colonel F. H. Phipps, commandant at the armory, is essentially a magazine army rifle, with slight changes from the regulation model to make it more suitable for sporting purposes.

NEW RAILWAY PROJECTION.

Plan to Build from Waco to Strawn, 110 Miles Distance.

Waco: Within the next few days, or just as soon as weather condition permit, a survey will begin on a railroad which is projected from Waco to Strawn which is in Palo Pinto county, on the Texas and Pacific railway. There is a great deal of coal at Strawn, and this is one of the reasons for going to this point. All money for making two or three surveys and locating a definite line, besides securing pledges of right of way, bonuses and concessions, has been secured, and parties who are planning the line think that work should commence within the next few months. The line will run through Meridian and Stephenville, on to Strawn, but further than this has not been decided. The total length of the main line will be 110 miles, with lines projected to Brownwood and Hamilton.

Bell County Poultry Show.

Temple: The second annual poultry show of the Bell County Poultry and Pet Stock Association was brought to a successful conclusion Friday, bright and sunny weather having exerted a wonderful influence upon the attendance during the last two days. The people interested in the breeding of poultry, the smaller near-by towns being well represented.

A Big Brick Combine.

Guthrie, Ok.: Under the direction of John H. Parks of New York City, a proposed merger of the brick manufacturing plants of Missouri, Kansas Oklahoma and Indian Territory, is now in progress, and already the deal has been made for the factories here. Parks is financing the proposition. The combined capital is to be \$5,000,000. The merger will control 75 per cent of each plant, preferring that the present owners retain 25 per cent interest.

Indians Pick Cotton.

Guthrie, Ok.: The experiments recently made in several counties with Indian cotton pickers in a majority of cases proved a success. The Kiowa Indians in southwestern Oklahoma, the Cheyennes and Arapahoes in the central part of the Territory, and the Sae and Foxes in Lincoln County were employed, and did good work. The Indians pitch their tops near the cotton patch and remain near the field until the cotton is all picked.

Cigarettes Losing Position.

Judge John H. Burford, in instructing the Grand Jury in regard to dealers in cigarettes and cigarette paper, said that since the new law went into effect in Oklahoma, making it a penalty to sell or give away cigarettes or papers that cigarette smoking has been decreased 90 per cent. He advocated that the enactment of a law similar to that in Indian Territory that will prompt the indictment of cigarette smokers.

Blind Stagers Among Horses.

Guthrie, Ok.: Blind stagers is killing a good many horses in Oklahoma and Kansas at the present time, although at this season of the year there is always more or less trouble from this disease. The general opinion is that it is caused by horses eating the worm dust on corn. The corn throughout the West is said to be more wormy this season than usual, and horses used in gathering bite off the ends where the worms have eaten.

Roosevelt's Scholastic Degrees.

President Roosevelt has received twice the number of honorary degrees ever given any other president. Two doctorates have been conferred upon him this year. His bachelor of arts was conferred upon him twenty-five years ago by Harvard. In addition he may now write after his name eight LL. D.'s and one L. H. D. He is the first to receive the latter degree.

Fast Growing Cities.

In 1900 the population of Chemnitz, Germany, was 206,913. On September 1, 1905, it numbered 244,019. No city in Europe has proportionately grown so fast in recent years as has Chemnitz, and with respect to cities of this size, its record of growth, with the possible exception of Minneapolis, Kansas City, Los Angeles and Indianapolis, has had no equal.

To indulge in the things we can't afford is the average man's idea of pleasure.

Want Viceroy of Royalty.

Now that the Prince and Princess of Wales have gone on a journey to the Orient, there comes renewal of a demand from India that the viceroy of that colony shall be a royal personage. Leading newspapers of the great Asiatic dependence unite in voicing this demand, adding that the viceroy should have a cabinet, the governor general to be prime minister.

ALL OVER TEXAS.

City Attorney Stone of Houston, has resigned.

Johnson City, Blanco County, has voted local option.

Waco has undergone a thorough trash cleaning, preparatory to the inevitable fireworks.

Clifton Lilley, a negro, living near Tyler, is under arrest for shooting Clayton Ross, another negro, in back.

A deal has been consummated, backed by Northern capitalists, which will give Denison a wire fencing and gate works, employing one hundred hands.

F. Bran, of Waeider, was found dead in a mud hole. It is thought that he was attacked by vertigo while attempting to get into his buggy and fell strangling to death in the mud.

A local grain dealer shipped a car of pecans to Galveston from Belton. The shipment is consigned to New York. The load represented 30,540 pounds.

Baxter Edwards, a messenger boy, shot himself through the right hand. The boy was attempting to shoot a dog that was biting at the tire of his wheel.

The Texas Paper Company of Dallas has filed an amendment to its charter in the state department, increasing its capital stock from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

Senators Bailey and Culberson and Representatives Burgess, Stephens, Smith and Randall will each have an appointment to make to the Naval Academy.

The body of a white man was found beside the Cotton Belt tracks Thursday afternoon, about three miles east of Waco. He was found lying beside the Cotton Belt tracks, but it could not be told how he came to his death.

Editor Thompson of the Herald Louis Eppesine and A. D. Bethard, traffic manager of the Katy, all of Denison, are having a \$1,500 gasoline pleasure launch built for service on Red River.

The sudden death of Steve Spence took away one of the good citizens of Houston, the like of whom is not found one in a thousand. He was at home, and while preparing to go to bed fell from his chair and died from heart trouble.

Champron R. Fallant, in attempting to swallow carbolic acid at the Grand Central depot at Houston Thursday night missed his mouth and poured the fluid over his face, some running into both eyes. He was horribly burned and may lose the sight of both eyes.

The committee on right of way for the Oklahoma and Texas Railroad reported to a meeting of the Board of Trade at Wichita Falls that the necessary funds had been secured, and that the bond of agreement between the road and the committee had been signed and forwarded.

Uncle Jake Oakes, an aged negro, died on the prairie Wednesday night and the body was not found until Friday. He started on foot to visit relatives and becoming exhausted fell and perished from exposure in the cold rain.

Oscar Stromberg, the young carpenter who fell fifty feet from the city bridge at Houston, died Thursday morning from his injuries. He was making repairs on the structure and was knocked off by a swinging beam striking him on the head.

The Texas and Pacific will lay 80-pound rails along its whole system in Louisiana and Texas. Twelve car loads of new rails have arrived, and work will be begun at once from both New Orleans and Shreveport.

There has probably never been a time in the history of Waco when there was so much sidewalk construction going on as now. The city council has ordered miles of sidewalks built both in the residence and business portions of the city.

The work north on the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railway from Sweetwater is being pushed. The track is now laid on the main line one mile north of Sagerton, which is fifty-three miles north of Sweetwater.

The Missouri, Kansas and Texas is now enjoying the use of the biggest part of new equipment aggregating 3,000 cars. At least 2,000 of the order have been put into commission, thereby relieving to some extent the congested condition of things.

Ed Corbett, a white man, went to the county jail to see see Cleve Clark, his brother-in-law. On arriving at the jail he was arrested and was placed in jail on a charge of carrying a pistol unlawfully.

The preliminary survey for the Lockhart Interurban has been completed and will be forwarded to the Wall street capitalists to be interested in the construction of the line, if it is found to be feasible from their standpoint.

# Cotton Raisers to Meet.

## Maintenance of Price Must Be Made Good at Any End of Effort.

New Orleans, Dec. 15.—If the plans of President Jordan of the Southern Cotton Association are fulfilled, the mass convention of the association to take place in New Orleans Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 11, 12 and 13, will be the occasion for one of the most striking celebrations in the annals of the cotton industry ever held in the south, for after a year of unprecedented and continuous victories, the southern cotton planters will meet for the purpose of more closely welding their organization and to discuss and decide upon important questions affecting the welfare of their industry.

Organized eleven months ago at New Orleans a monster assembly of over 3,000 farmers, merchants and bankers, the Southern Cotton Association has proved itself a factor on national and international power, and at the January convention further

steps will be taken to insure to the farmers still further advantages to which their position entitles them. "One of the chief features to be emphasized is the continued holding of the balance of the unsold crop for higher prices, so as to average the present crop for as near 12 cents as possible, and this can only be done by selling at 15 cents," writes Mr. Jordan.

"We must do this, and we must discuss other matters of great importance under the following general heads:

"The advisability of speedily bringing about direct trade relations between the spinners of the world and the cotton producers.

"The importance of extending the work of the association as rapidly as possible throughout the cotton belt, so as to make the work absolutely effective."

### THE WORLD'S RAILWAYS.

#### The Americas Easily Lead All in Mileage and Tonnage.

New York, Dec. 15.—According to the most recent German statistics, the length of the railways of the world was 537,105 miles on Dec. 31, 1904, of which 270,386 were American, 187,776 in Europe, 46,592 in Asia, 15,649 in Africa and 16,702 in Australasia. Of the mileage of European railroads Germany stands first (34,610) followed in order by Russia (33,286), France (28,266), Austria-Hungary (24,261), the United Kingdom (22,592), Italy (19,025), Spain (8,656), Sweden and Norway (7,739). The average cost of construction of the European railroads per mile is estimated at \$107,577, for the remainder of the world \$59,680. The total value of the railroads of the world is \$13,600,000,000, of which the European roads figure for \$22,000,000,000. The estimate for rolling stock is: Locomotives, 150,000; passenger coaches 225,000; freight cars 3,000,000. "America" here includes Canada and Central and South America. The railroads of the United States, besides sidings, measure 208,000 miles, almost 40 per cent of the total. We have only 30 per cent of the engines and scarcely more than 10 per cent of the passenger cars, but our engines are far more powerful than any other, our passenger coaches longer and wider. Of freight cars, we have just one half the world's estimated supply, and they are bigger freight cars than any other nation uses. More than half the world's freight car tonnage capacity is in this country.

#### Texas' Biggest Postoffices.

Washington: The report is complete up to the ending of the fiscal year, which was the 30th of last June, and shows that the receipts from the Dallas postoffice for that year were \$360,664. According to this report Houston is the next largest city in Texas as regards the amount of receipts, the total for the south Texas city being \$209,518, while Fort Worth is third, the receipts being \$146,903. The combined postal receipts of Houston and Fort Worth are \$356,421, while those of Dallas, as stated above, are \$360,664, or a total of \$4,243 more than the other two leading cities of Texas combined. San Antonio is fourth, her receipts being \$146,222; Galveston fifth, \$98,605, and Waco sixth, with \$65,894.

#### For Little Children.

New York: Soil has been broken in the Bronx for a building for the Messiah Home for Little Children. The building will be erected by Henry H. Rogers, vice-president of the Standard Oil Company. The cost, it is said, will be \$300,000. Mrs. H. H. Rogers is president of the Messiah Home for Little Children and devotes much time to the work. The institution is for the relief of working mothers and the care of girls under 12 years and boys under 8.

#### Terrell Says the President Has Won.

Austin: Judge A. W. Terrell has returned from Washington, where he spent several days on business and pleasure. He was entertained at a dinner by President Roosevelt and was shown many other social courtesies by distinguished people of the national capital. He says that President Roosevelt has whipped in his fight for governmental rate regulation of railroads.

#### State Sugar Crop a Little Off.

Austin: Financial agent of the State penitentiaries, says that the sugar crop of the William Clemons and the Harlem plantations will not be as large this year as last, but that it will provide a handsome revenue. Last year the proceeds from the sale of the crop amounted to about \$285,000. The price of sugar is lower this year and the same crop is not as good. The grinding season will close about Jan. 1st.

### A Texas Cotton Mill to Double.

Waxahachie: At a meeting held last week by the directors of the Waxahachie Cotton Mills, the superintendent was instructed to at once employ an architect to prepare plans and specifications for enlarging the plant. At a recent meeting of the directors it was decided to make some important improvements before another cotton season. The plant will be sufficiently enlarged to double its capacity. Three thousand bales of cotton are now consumed annually by the mill, and it is the purpose of the management to increase the facilities for manufacturing from 5,000 to 6,000 bales per year. While the plant is being enlarged an additional number of cottages will be erected for operatives. The output of the mill is now sold up to next May.

### Torch and Sword in Baltic Provinces.

St. Petersburg: The government's advice from the Baltic provinces, forwarded part of the way from Riga by courier, are of the most alarming character. Bands of thousands of Letish peasant are roaming the country in the vicinity of Riga, putting the torch to the houses on all the estates, and even threatening the town of Riga itself. The districts of Riga and Venden are entirely in the hands of the insurgents.

### St. Petersburg, via Eydtkhunen, Dec. 14.

—According to reports from Tsarskoe-Selo, the reactionary Camarilla, headed by Gen. Count Alexis Ignatieff and M. Stechinsky, formed to effect the downfall of Count Witte and to create a dictatorship, has failed and His Majesty is standing firmly by the Premier, M. Menshikoff, the well-known writer, who is in close touch with the court, is out with a strong article demanding the inauguration of an aggressive fight against the revolution before it is too late.

### Brownwood Printers Organize.

Brownwood: For some time the local printers have been working for the organization of a local union. Wednesday night the organization was completed. A ten-hour schedule has always been used here. Now the union asks for eight hours with the ten hours' pay. Certain other things are demanded, one of which is that only union men are to be employed. The two printing houses here have so far refused to accede to the demands.

### May Get Christmas Pardons.

Austin: It is understood that Gov. Lanham has adopted a new rule this year in making his Christmas pardons of penitentiary convicts. The list will be made up principally of long-term men. Those who have served fifteen years or longer and have good prison records will receive the clemency of the governor. As a rule these long-term men have few friends on the outside to intercede with the Chief Executive in their own behalf.

### Both Litigants Dissatisfied.

Austin: Both the state and the oil companies have given notice of appeal from the decision of Judge Brooks, rendered in the oil cases, involving questions arising from the Kenedy bill. The oil companies deny the tax, and the sustaining of it is appealed from. The holding that the penalties are void, and other issues, causes the state to appeal. Thus both gave notice of appeal to the Third Court of Civil Appeals.

### To Stamp Out Hazing.

Washington: Hazing of every kind, it was announced today, was stamped out of the Naval Academy, regardless of the number of dismissals from the brigade of midshipment necessary to bring about this result. Two midshipmen will be dismissed from the academy within a few days by the secretary of the navy, the one for hazing and the other for countenancing it by failure while on duty to report its occurrence.

### HEARST LOSES THE COUNT, COURT OF APPEALS' OPINION.

#### Only the Face of Returns May Be Questioned.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 14.—The Court of Appeals, in a decision handed down today in the New York City ballot box case, sustains the contention of counsel for Mayor George B. McClellan and denies that of attorneys for William Randolph Hearst and his colleagues on the Municipal Ownership League ticket. The court holds, as was argued by former Chief Justice Parker and his associates, that the courts have no power under the law to order by mandamus the opening of the ballot boxes and a recount and canvass of ballots.

The case relates directly to the vote for mayor, controller and president of the Board of Aldermen cast in the Second Election District of the Sixth Assembly District of New York County at the election of Nov. 7 last, but is of the utmost importance in Mr. Hearst's contest for the mayoralty of New York City and in fundamental in its effect upon the electoral system of this state under the present election law.

The decision was rendered by a divided court, five to two, the majority comprising Chief Judge Cullen and Judges Gray, O'Brien, Haight and Werner, Judges Bartlett and Vann dissenting.

The gist of the majority opinion is that the courts are "without power or authority to order a recount of the ballots cast in the election districts," and that, therefore, the candidates defeated on the face of the returns are "left to such action at law or otherwise as may be appropriate wherein to question it as to the ballots counted without question."

The dissenting Judges hold that the purpose of the legislature in the election law in commanding the preservation for six months of the ballot boxes and other documents relating to an election is manifestly for the purpose of having them available for a recount. If this is not to be permitted under the present law, they say, "a new election law can not be too soon drafted and enacted."

### Japanese Buy Land in Bee County.

Washington: A Japanese syndicate has bought 10,000 acres of land near Beeville, and expects to begin the colonization of it early next spring. A representative of the syndicate, Mr. Aokaskal, visited Washington on business connected with this project and will sail next week for Japan. Mr. Aokaskal was especially interested in satisfying himself that there is nothing in our immigration laws which would mitigate against the enterprise.

Rear Admiral Abraham Bryn Hadronek Lillie, U. S. N., retired, died at his home in New York Tuesday. He was promoted to captain March 3, 1901, and served as commandant of the United States naval station at Key West until 1902.

The Collin County Fine Stock and Poultry show, scheduled to take place at McKinney on the 15th and 16th instant, has been postponed until the 3rd and 4th of January. Postponement was made necessary on account of excessive rains.

George W. Perkins tendered his resignation as vice president and chairman of the finance committee of the New York Life Insurance Company at the meeting of the board of trustees recently, and it was accepted.

Tom Cannon, a negro employe at the oil mill at Cumby, had the fingers of his right hand mashed off.

### Took Too Much Dope.

Tyler: J. W. McKay, inventor and agent for the patent plant setter, fell dead in his store. He had a bottle of Bromidia and a box of strychnine tablets on his person, but his friends know he was addicted the use of drugs. The coroner's verdict was that he came to his death through an overdose of the drug. His wife resides at Milan, Tenn., and the remains will be shipped there.

### Louisiana Up to Speed Test.

Rockland, Me.: The new battleship Louisiana was sent over the measured mile course near Owls Head Wednesday and easily exceeded the government requirements of eighteen knots an hour. The maximum speed developed was 18.924 knots and her builders express confidence that the ship can attain a speed of nineteen knots. The Louisiana was sent over the course twelve times. The first run was made in a drizzling rain, but later the sky cleared.

### Muskogee Wants Navigation.

Washington: The beginning of an effort to have the government commit itself to the improvement of the Arkansas River between Muskogee and Fort Smith, Ark., was begun Wednesday by the introduction of a bill to appropriate \$200,000 to begin the work. The measure, of which Delegate McGuire of Oklahoma is the author, directs that the money shall be expended in cleaning and straightening and otherwise improving the channel of that stream.

### STATE PENITENTIARY REPORT.

#### Fewer Convicts in the Tolls than a Year Ago.

Austin, Texas, Dec. 14.—At the regular meeting of the State Board of Penitentiary Commissioners held here yesterday the report of Superintendent Searcy Baker was submitted, showing that there had been 3,871 convicts on hand Dec. 1. During November 103 new convicts were received, 2 were recaptured, 2 were returned by Sheriffs, 70 were discharged, 2 were pardoned, 5 escaped, 9 died, 6 were delivered to Sheriffs and 5 were paroled. The convict forces were distributed as follows:

State Insane Asylum 3, contract forces 1,453 share forces 283, railroad forces 268, Harlem State farm 272, William Clemons State farm 414, Wynna State farm, 44, Camp Searcy Baker v. Huntville prison, 443, Rusk prison 682.

The monthly report of Financial Agent John L. Wortham shows the balance on hand Nov. 1 was \$25,056.74, receipts during November \$65,573.18, disbursed \$66,044.23, balance on hand Dec. 1 \$24,585.59.

The State Board of Penitentiary Commissioners did not act upon the proposition to sell the nine and one half miles of State railroad leading out of Rusk at the meeting here yesterday. None of the parties making the original offer for the road were here. Judge F. B. Guinn, of Rusk, was here, and he advised the board that the citizens of Rusk have no objection to the sale of the railroad under proper contract.

### Five Men Blown to Shreds.

Birmingham, Ala.: The mixing house or upper "punching" department of the Dupont Powder Mills, located seven miles north of Birmingham, blew up this morning 11:15 a. m., blew up Wednesday morning and five men met death. The explosion was heard for fifteen miles. The dead are: Dave Coghlin, Bid Wright, Pyree Wright, Lohn Dixon and Nat Knox (colored). Paris of bodies were found in tree tops a quarter of a mile away from the scene of the disaster.

### Dallas Bonds Approved.

Austin: The Attorney General has approved \$14,000 city of Georgetown refunding schoolhouse building bonds, bearing 5 per cent interest, maturing in thirty years and optional in five years, and \$75,000 county of Dallas court house refunding bonds, eight of which are due April 10, 1907 and 3 each year on April 10 until April 10, 1904. The bonds bear four per cent interest, mature in fifteen years, and are optional in ten years.

### Alice Roosevelt's Marriage Announced.

Washington: Formal announcement was made Wednesday afternoon by the President and Mrs. Roosevelt of the engagement of their daughter, Alice Lee Roosevelt, to Nicholas Longworth, Representative in Congress from the First District of Ohio. Coupled with the announcement of the engagement is the additional announcement that the wedding will take place about the middle of next February.

Joe Kelly, aged 17 years, a deaf mute, was struck and killed Wednesday afternoon by Missouri, Kansas and Texas passenger train, near Durant, I. T. Kelly was walking along the track at the time of the accident and his affliction prevented his hearing the approaching train.

### A Jap to Raise Silk Worms in Orange.

Beaumont: K. Otsuki, a Japanese silk raiser and manufacturer will establish a silk farm in Orange County, a few miles east. He has purchased land and is preparing to plant mulberry trees and will stock the farm with fifty thousand silk worms. His intention is to also erect in this city, a plant to manufacture silk cloth. Operations on the farm are to begin immediately.

### Drunk and Murderously Mad.

Houston: Stuart Ferguson, aged thirty, is at the infirmary from the three bullet wounds which he received from his brother, Baldy Ferguson, Tuesday night. The affair is a strong temperance lecture. The brothers were always good friends, but fell out while drinking. The shooting followed. One bullet entered the forehead between the eyes, the other bullets struck less vital places. There are slight hopes of his recovery.

The Lancaster Live Stock Fair, billed for Thursday, Dec. 14, on account of wet weather, was postponed for one week, Dec. 21. The same premiums and the same entertainment will be given.

While P. L. Davis and Horace Alexander of Crawford, were out hunting Tuesday evening, five miles north of Crawford, Mr. Davis' gun went off accidentally and Alexander was killed. He was 17 years of age.

### SOURCE OF VOLCANIC ACTIVITY

In a recently published volume on volcanoes Prof. C. Deelter undertakes to tell why volcanoes have eruptions. Melted rock such as is flung from Vesuvius requires a temperature of 1,600 degrees Fahrenheit, so that it becomes liquid only far down in the earth, perhaps 60 or 100 miles. Below the outer crust of cooled and solidified rocks there must be a larger zone of rock which still remains solid, because its temperature is less than that of the melting point corresponding to the pressure under which it rests, and below that again there must be rock or magma in a state of fusion; it is to this magma that Prof. Deelter looks for the primary source of all volcanic activity. At the same time the depth at which this primary reservoir of magma lies and the pressure under which it is confined are so great that a direct eruption from it is inconceivable, but when by movements in the overlying crust or otherwise, a channel is opened the magma may rise to a depth where it is surrounded by rock at a lower temperature than the melting point. In these circumstances solidification begins.

From all volcanoes large quantities of steam, of carbonic acid and other gases are evolved, and the course of

every lava stream is marked by clouds of steam evolved from the cooling lava. At one time—and the idea is still common—this steam was supposed to have been derived from sea water which had obtained access to the molten lava while still underground, but this explanation is now generally rejected, being impossible in some cases and inadequate in all, and the greater part of the steam and other emanations from a volcano are now regarded as directly derived from an original store in the interior of the earth. However this may be, it is certain that the magma from which volcanic lava is derived is not merely in a state of igneous fusion, but is combined with water and gases, which are given off as it solidifies, and by their escape frequently form miniature volcanoes, on the surface of lava streams.

If the solidification takes place underground, the steam and gases are expelled, and, if there is no free escape, pressure may increase till it becomes great enough to overcome the resistance of the overlying rock and so lead to an eruption, and the formation of a volcano, whose character will depend on the nature of the reservoir from which the eruption took place.

### WHEN GEN. CUSTER SWERVED

Word was given; the bugle blew; "Boots and saddles!" it signaled shrill. Up and mount! and each horseman bow. Astride his steed with a right good-will. Hoofs were pawing and necks were arched.

Forth from the camp the troopers marched.

In the plains they rode where dread lurked with doom in the prairie-grass; Many a serpent raised its head.

Hating "death" from the tangled mass.

Many an Indian skulking unseen, Spying from their cruel-keen.

Not for these would the brave ranks sever.

Straight in the line of march they rode, He who would soldier must needs prove.

Hear! that harbors no craven bold.

Into the prairie pressed the band, General Custer in command.

Noon's sun down from the zenith beat,

Scorching the earth with ruthless rays; Over the ground the quivering heat.

Rose and danced in a blinding haze.

Never a brook or tree was there Serving to cool the fevered air.

Every sound to heartward went;

Click of hoof on the ring of steel, Sudden clank of accoutrements.

Never a soldier failed to feel!

While one step from the beaten course.

Roused to alertness man and horse,

Gallant Custer rode ahead; Guide and chief of a brave command! Arrow-straight his good charger sped.

Never swerving in either hand.

Till—a touch! and the faithful steed

Swerved aside in his headlong lead.

What had happened to force their chief

Out of his pathway? What dread foe?

He! a coward!—'Twas past belief!

Soil his way, most troopers gasped.

If the General rode detour,

They must follow him, that is sure.

So each rider, as up he drew

To the place where his chief had

Swerved,

Staggered his rank and dither made too,

Witless below in the grass he peered,

Wondering what he there should see,

That might lead to the cavalry.

There deep-hid in the prairie-grass

Lay the nest of a meadow-lark.

Birdings were in a fluffy mood,

His north her wings so warm and

dark.

Right in the line of march they stood;

Little mother and tiny brood.

That was all, but 'er rough heart beat

Gentle beats and those softer beat.

For their children's simple deed,

Done for love in its dim retreat.

'Twas that all, but in Custer's wake

Loke meek hen—for a mother bird's

sake.

—Julie M. Lippman, in Boston Pilot.

### DINED ON SCATTERED "CRUMBS"

In front of a drinking place in Fulton street stood a brewer's dray and the portly, prosperous looking horses attached to it were at their midday meal. Naughtily they tossed their heads, scattering the oats from their well filled nosebags as if to emphasize their opulence. Other horses standing in the street and engaged with scantily filled nosebags from which they struggled to extract the last particle of grain, kept one eye upon the haughty pair with a look which seemed to conceal envy under an expression which said as plainly as words: "What vulgar ostentation!"

Nearly stood a scrawny old white horse attached to a ramshackle cart. His expression was one of profound humility. His ribs showed through his hide and his Roman nose was unadorned by any bag of grain. All his expression seemed to say was: "What a blessing it is to be able to watch the rich enjoying themselves!" His humility under the trying circumstances reminded one of those starv-

ing Parisians who, before the French revolution, used to accept with gratitude the privilege of crowding the galleries of the royal dining room to watch the king and his family at dinner.

When the brewery horses had finished their luncheon their rabiund driver appeared, took off their nosebags and mounting his seat drove away. With a celerity surprising in such a bag of bones, the humble old horse moved up to the place vacated by the prosperous team and began to eat the oats left scattered on the pavement. Lazarus did not eat more greedily the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table than did that old, white horse devour the grain which fell from the nosebags of the brewery team. He cleaned the pavement as if it had been gone over with a fine-toothed comb and then, with a sigh of repletion which seemed to say: "Fate cannot harm me—I have dined," he settled back into his meditations.—New York Press.

### THINK CRABS CAUSED 'QUAKE

Very curious were some of the explanations given by Chinamen of the recent earthquakes which have been felt at Hongkong, Canton and Macao. The Hongkong Daily Press tells about them: "The famous dragon whose privilege it has been to give an occasional shock to the earth's crust is not held responsible for the recent scare in Macao and elsewhere. Some Chinese attribute the last shocks to the water-dragon of Canton, whose anger has been raised by the reclamation works. Coolies are dumping daily boatloads of sand and stone on the poor dragon's back, and the beast naturally feels hurt.

"It appears, however, that the real causes of the earthquakes were the Macao crabs! Here is the story: Close by the hot springs in the neighborhood of Macao stands a small village wherein lives an old woman who has the misfortune to be the mother of an unworthy young man whose sole

occupation is fishing. A few days previous to the first earthquake shock experienced in Macao the young man returned home with a couple of crabs and a few small fish.

"Nothing extraordinary was noticed at first, but when the crabs had been boiled one of them presented a peculiar appearance, as on the red background of its shell stood in gold relief a design in white which resembled a Chinese character. Neighbors were called and the wise man of the village soon explained that it was the king of the crabs that had found its way into the old woman's kettle.

"Thereupon the village prophet predicted that some great calamity would visit the unfortunate village. Meanwhile the crabs of Macao and the neighborhood, having learned the fate of their king, assembled in great numbers, filling up every available hole, and started to shake the earth. Thus was their displeasure at the death of the king crab clearly shown!"

### COCKTAIL AT THREE FORKS

"I was standing in the barroom in a resort at Three Forks," said a traveling man, "waiting for the proprietor to arrive, in the hope of placing a small order. While I was waiting, two cowboys, wrapped in fur coats, their own dignity and a reputation as the top riders of the country which stretches away toward the head of Willow Creek, came into the saloon and, marching up to the bar, demanded a cocktail.

"The bartender looked nonplussed for a moment, but he was not to be shut out, for he grabbed the biggest glass he could find behind the bar and immediately got busy. If there was anything there he missed putting into that glass, from the salt and pepper sauce used to flavor the beer, to the snipping from the ends of the cigars which he found in the cigar cutter, I could not see it, and when he had finally finished he had two big beer

glasses full of the mixture.

"The boys both tasted the beverage, and it did not taste good. Each had unlimbered a big gun and, playfully toying with the weapons, they suggested that the bartender drink his own mixture. It required some persuasion, but finally, to avoid trouble, he swallowed the contents of both glasses. 'Now, make your will, you would-be poisoner,' shouted the punchers and solemnly they put their guns back where they belonged, treated the house to the cigars and faded away into the distance, their horses hitting only the high spots as they disappeared up the valley.

"And I tell you, the impromptu bartender had good occasion to make his will. For three of four hours he was the sickest man I ever saw, and it took the services of a doctor, who worked over him for an hour or two, to bring him back to life again."—Anaconda Standard.



# HOLIDAY Greeting

**W**e wish to extend to our patrons a Christmas greeting, and thank them for their most liberal patronage during the past year. The fact is, we were greatly encouraged by the success of our December sales and in volume they have been the greatest in our history, this month having already proven to be a banner month.

Your liberal patronage and fair dealing makes it pleasant to do business with the people of this section. We feel much encouraged and will next year use our best endeavor to keep all of our departments fully stocked with goods direct from the factories.

Thanking you again, we invite you to make our house headquarters during the holidays.

## ALEXANDER MERCANTILE COMPANY.

### FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

List your land with the Haskell Real Estate Co.

Mr. H. C. Scott has built a residence in the north part of town.

For Christmas presents, see W. H. Parsons.

Dr. B. O. Hester is building a neat residence in the north part of town.

Fine line of ladies skirts going cheap at C. M. Hunt & Co's.

Remember that Williams has Reg pickles, both sweet and sour.

**Mode, the peanut merchant, has all kinds of cheap Xmas goods.**

Mr. W. L. Hills made a business trip to Fort Worth this week.

Mrs. V. J. Joslett was in town shopping Wednesday.

Groceries without profit at Ballews, and they are new and fresh, too.

A general discount of twenty-five per cent. off all solid gold jewelry at Terrells.

Mr. B. F. McCollum is arranging to build a residence on the west side.

Messrs. Cason, Cox & Co. are making preparations to build a large warehouse.

Mr. B. Cox's residence is about completed and is one of the prettiest cottages in the town.

Mr. H. C. Buie has 12 head of fine hogs to kill. They will weigh from 250 to 450 lbs.

For quick loans—see West Texas Development Co., Haskell, Texas.

Now don't be discouraged, but go to Williams' for fancy groceries for Xmas, and then buy a bill of staple goods.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Hunt left this morning for Aransas Pass to spend the holidays with relatives.

The ladies of the H. M. S. of the Methodist church will give a reception to their husbands at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Morris, on Tuesday night, Dec. 26.

Special low prices on all Christmas goods at the Racket Store now.

Mr T. C. Cahill of Temple was looking around in Haskell this week.

Remember that groceries are cheap at Ballews because he is closing out his stock to quit business, on account of his health.

### A CALL TO MEET.

The Commercial Club is called to meet at the court house Tuesday night, Dec. 26. All members are expected to be present. It is also hoped that all business men who have not yet joined the club will sufficiently appreciate the importance of doing something for the town to come and take part in the work.

R. C. MONTGOMERY, Pres.

Messrs. T. A. and W. J. Greer paid the FREE PRESS office a brief visit Thursday morning. They say there is lots of cotton in the fields yet and farmers are needing pickers.

Mr. J. S. Post killed two fine hogs the other day and got 32 gallons of lard, one of the hogs would have weighed 400 lbs. These hogs were raised on milk and sorghum and finished off with corn.

Mrs. Levi McCollum has returned from a trip to McAnley. She reports that Mr. McCollum has completed his warehouse and has their residence framed.

Mr. R. W. Tyson is building a new residence in the north part of town.

**Mode is over loaded with candies, fireworks and fruits. See him for Xmas goods. You can get them cheap.**

See that new line of hats and caps at S. L. Robertson's.

### TO COTTON RAISERS.

**We have taken advantage of the rainy days this week to sharpen our gin saws and put all machinery in tly-top condition and can do first-class ginning for you. Come on, get your cotton ginned and be ready to sell while the price is up.**

### EARNEST & SANDERS.

Our entire line of special pieces of Japanese hand painted china goods at cost. Terrells.

**Cheap candies, fireworks and peanuts at Mode's peanut stand.**

Reader, remember that Williams has the goods and the prices to please you.

The Baptist and Christian Sunday schools will have a Christmas tree together at the Christian church, and the Presbyterian and Methodist Sunday schools will have trees at their respective churches.

Get a nice overcoat at reduced price from C. M. Hunt & Co.

Among subscribers who have lately favored the FREE PRESS with cash are Messrs. J. A. Graham of Jud, J. E. Wooten of Knox City, J. T. Boyd-stun of Stamford, J. B. Riddling of Miller Creek, T. L. Pitman of Sager-ton, J. S. Sloan of Pinkerton, G. Rader of Carney, Lee Burnham, V. J. Joslett, G. C. Nance, Rev. J. H. Cham-blish, L. C. Irick, W. H. Parish.

Messrs. Morgan Bros. of Hill county have purchased lots in Haskell and, it is said, intend establishing a first-class lumber yard here.

Don't fail to see the new line of ladies' and gentlemen's watches and solid gold plain and set rings at Terrells—they are going now at twenty-five per cent. discount.

When you spend a dollar at Williams' you get your money's worth—don't forget it.

Messrs. Will and Virgil Ballew of the Territory are here on a visit to their parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Ballew.

Mrs. Henry Alexander is expected to arrive tonight from Galesburg, Ill., where she has been visiting her mother for several months.

I am closing out my grocery business on account of failing health, and to do so quickly will sell anything in the house at about cost, and my store house will be for sale or rent on reasonable terms. G. E. Ballew.

Mr. W. G. Williams got a message by long distance 'phone Tuesday morning informing him of the death of his uncle, Mr. Jas. M. Williams at Baird. Mr. Williams had an arm broken in a railroad accident about three weeks ago and it is said that blood poisoning set in and caused his death. Deceased was a brother of Capt. J. S. Williams, who resides near this place. Mr. W. G. Williams left Wednesday morning to attend the funeral.

In preparing for winter see the new line of white wool and cotton blankets at S. L. Robertson's.

Apples, oranges, bananas, cocoanuts and all kinds of dried and canned fruits and pickles—in fact a complete stock of staple groceries are going at about cost at G. E. Ballews.

I have closed my business here and have placed my accounts in the hands of R. E. DeBard for collection. See him and settle up. J. B. HASK. 4t

Mr. J. F. Vernon is assistant cashier and bookkeeper at the Farmers National Bank.

### To Our Friends and Customers Greeting:

We extend to you our thanks and appreciation for your past favors and hope for you a pleasant Christmas and Happy New Year.

For your success you have our best wishes.

### ...EXPLANATION...

Mrs. E. J. Hunt, desiring to retire from active business, has sold her interest in the firm of C. M. Hunt & Co. to Hardy Grissom. Altho' Mrs. Hunt is no longer connected with the firm as a partner, she will continue to work in the store when needed.

The business will be run in the future on the same plan that has made it such a success in the past. Our customers will receive the same courteous treatment and the same liberal prices as heretofore given them. We will endeavor to keep at all times a full stock of new and seasonable goods.

Knowing that a satisfied customer is the best advertisement we can have, it is our desire to please all.

YOURS TRULY,

## C. M. HUNT & CO.

### NOTICE OF SHARE HOLDERS MEETING.

The regular meeting of the shareholders of The Farmers National Bank of Haskell, Haskell, Texas, will be held at the office of the Bank January 16th, 1906, being the third Tuesday in the month, for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of any other business proper to come before a shareholders' meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors.  
R. C. MONTGOMERY, Cashier.  
Haskell, Texas.

An up-to-date line of ladies' dress skirts at S. L. Robertson's

The Children all say Williams is headquarters for everything good.



### CITY MEAT MARKET...

ELLIS & EN GLISH, Proprietors.

West Side of the Square.  
Your Patronage Solicited.

We Keep all Kinds of Fresh Meats Obtainable in Their Seasons.

Haskell Real Estate Company has the buyers. Tell them about your land you want sold.

Full line of dried fruits, such as figs, peaches, apricots, apples, prunes, etc., at Williams'.

# SOME CHRISTMAS POEMS

## Too Late!

These Christmas Eve and bitter cold,  
The snow was falling fast,  
The ice was cracking and the wind  
And snowdrifts piled high,  
He trudged along the frozen road,  
A lot with yellow hair,  
Who tried to find his way,  
And panting a merry air.

When last he read those bills and dices  
It was a summer day,  
The birds were singing overhead,  
His heart was light and glad,  
He danced with all his friends,  
And followed dancing feet,  
And now he stands in the snow,  
He asks for the old man.

But after seeing a weary month  
Of hardship and pain,  
He looked to see what the book  
The light of the old man,  
The old man's face was pale,  
In his hand he held a book,  
And at the window he sat,  
His mother's smiling face.

He drew a sigh as he went  
Of work and of pain,  
A long, long road he went,  
With a heavy load on his back,  
And when he reached the end,  
His mother's face he saw,  
He saw her face, wrinkled and old,  
His mother's face he saw.

The days passed and he could not fall,  
He tried to sleep but could not,  
The days passed and he could not fall,  
He tried to sleep but could not,  
The days passed and he could not fall,  
He tried to sleep but could not,  
The days passed and he could not fall,  
He tried to sleep but could not.

## Bethlehem-Town

As I was going to Bethlehem-Town,  
I saw a star in the night sky,  
That shined so bright and clear,  
And led me to the manger scene.

As I went to Bethlehem-Town,  
I saw a star in the night sky,  
That shined so bright and clear,  
And led me to the manger scene.

As I went to Bethlehem-Town,  
I saw a star in the night sky,  
That shined so bright and clear,  
And led me to the manger scene.

As I went to Bethlehem-Town,  
I saw a star in the night sky,  
That shined so bright and clear,  
And led me to the manger scene.

## A Christmas Hymn

The stars were shining in Judah's sky  
And all the air was ringing  
When angels came with their sweet voices  
To sing the birth of King.

A golden light was shining  
And down below the stars  
In the manger scene  
A mother sat beside the manger bars.

A tender babe was lying  
A swaddling clothes on his face,  
From the manger scene  
The angels came to sing.

This little babe lay sleeping  
Can this be He the King upon His throne?  
This lowly King stranger?  
And in His arms He comes into His own.

For Him bring dearest treasures  
And lay beside Him all your toil and pain,  
In overflowing measure,  
Not the gold offering of older days  
Or shrinking tithes of olden days,  
But every jewel wrought of faith and praise,  
Of love and adoration.

Morgan SILL

## Christmas

The silent skies are full of speech  
For who hath ears to hear,  
The winds are whispering each to each,  
The moon is singing in the lea,  
And stars their sacred wisdom teach  
Of faith and love and fear.

But once the sky the silence broke,  
And song o'erflowed the earth;  
The midnight air with voices shook,  
And angels' mortal language spoke,  
When God our human nature took  
In Christ, the Saviour's birth.

And Christmas once is Christmas still,  
The gates through which He came,  
And forests wild and murmuring still,  
And fruitful fields and breezy hill,  
And all that else the wide world fill,  
Are vocal with His name.

Shall we not listen while they sing  
This latest Christmas morn;  
And music bear in everything,  
And faithful lives in tribute bring  
To the great song which greets the King,  
Who comes when Christ is born?

Phillips Brooks

## A Song for the Season

A song for the holy hour  
For the Yuletide berries now,  
And our harvest-garlanded spheres  
Showeth the white of the year!  
Brightly the berries burn  
Like the embers in the urn  
Of the day ere it declines,  
Behind the crest of the times,  
Are the leaves of verdant sheen,  
None of their kind in the year,  
Under the touch of the frost,  
Burnished berry and leaf  
Symbol the soul's belief  
In the fabled love of Him  
Who sitteth in heaven, above  
The saints and the seraphim  
At the right of the throne of Love,  
Center our faith and hope—  
We who yearn and strive—  
In the love they typify  
(Glisten the garlands now!),  
So, under the Yuletide sky,  
A song for the holy hour,  
—Clinton Scoullard in Housekeeper

# Christmas in Australia

A long, narrow track curls in and out amongst the forest trees like a great dirty yellow ribbon. The sun pours down upon it all day long, and the unceasing glare adds to its ugliness. There is no sign of moisture anywhere within sight; not a drop of water has fallen from the blue skies for six months past. The wheels of wagons and the hoofs of horses have churned and kicked the surface of the track into fine red dust—so fine that every passing breeze picks up the powdered earth and plays with it. On the straight stretches of the forest trail, the breeze carries the dust in a misty haze, like the dust-laden mist one meets with at eventide in the China seas. Where the trail bends suddenly to right or left, the playful winds catch up the dust and whirl it round and round in swiftly revolving circles, lifting it higher and higher until its furthest spirals seem to melt into the very skies. All along the track the trees on both sides are covered with dust; it lies thickly upon the trunks; it clings to the boughs, it bows down the leaves, giving a

straight up and drop them straight down again, seldom skimming the surface and never stumbling. They are due at the morning camp tonight, for they are laden with Christmas cheer, and many a storekeeper, looking at his empty shelves, and at the crowds of diggers lounging about with well-stocked pouches, curses Said Mahomet, the owner of the caravan for not hurrying his men and his beasts; but the curse of a Christian storekeeper is only so much idle wind in the ears of the Mohammedan camel king, though at the giving of curses he is neither niggardly nor slow himself, for he hates all unbelievers, though he carries their trade and pouches their money.

Half a dozen horsemen come along the track, each rider leading a pack-horse by a halter. Long of limb are these men, tanned for the most part, with dry skin, weather-tanned faces. They wear their broad-brimmed, soft felt hats pulled far down over their brows to keep the dust out of their eyes. They sit loosely in the saddle, with a slovenly, careless seat, and

litle squads of horsemen dash in from the outside camps, wearing white, soft, slouch hats, blue or red shirts, breeches, and spurred boots. They sing and shout merrily, and get and return chaff with careless freedom. All is noise and motion, all is merriment and reckless freedom; for the diggers are out to spend their gold, and spend it they will, though the heavens fall. Little brown men and women, too, from Japan, dressed in all their Oriental finery, jostle their way amidst the eager crowd, the Jap women smiling gaily at the bronzed diggers toss them playful compliments. A serious-faced Chinaman now and then puts in an appearance, his big plaited straw hat, long pigtail, and saffron-colored robe looking out of place amidst the whirl of Australian life. The Chinaman gets no compliments, he is not welcome on a gold field, and he knows it, and, what is more, he has no legal right there, a fact which he also knows as well as his neighbors.

The sun sinks in a blood-red bank of clouds in the West, there is a great

eager for quarrels; groups link arm-in-arm and go reeling down the causeway, shouting, singing, capering, laughing, ripe for fun or mischief. Hark! a bell rings out loud and high above the din, a bell that tells that Christmas day has come. Hark! yet again. A young girl's voice comes stealing sweetly through the warm night air, other voices join in and blend with it, strange sounds to catch the listening ear amidst such surroundings:

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King,  
Glory, glory, glory, glory,  
Glory to the new-born King.

Along the causeway comes the little band of carol singers. At their head a wandering preacher, who, with his daughter, goes wherever the Spirit calls him. The man carries his hat in his hand and sings in a deep bass that is almost a roar. The girl, with hands folded in front of her, with her bonnet pushed back almost on to her neck, fills the street with melody:

Glory, glory, glory, glory,  
Glory to the new-born King.  
The half-dozen disciples who follow

# SOME CHRISTMAS POEMS

## A Christmas Carol

The earth is bare and dreary,  
And cheerless is the light,  
The distant hills are gloaming,  
With snow-drifts heavy white.  
The summer birds are silent,  
The flowers are sleeping low,  
Upon the earth's warm bosom,  
Safeguarded from the snow,  
The dear old year is dying,  
But ere it quite departs,  
With beams of golden glory,  
It cheers our wistful hearts.  
For Christmas—merry Christmas  
The Christian's Day of Days,  
A tender benediction  
Upon its soft rays.

Oh, Christmas—merry Christmas  
In spirit we go back  
To see the star that guided  
The sages on its track.  
To see the Baby Jesus  
Upon His lovely bed,  
While seraph hosts adoring,  
Sung praises o'er His head  
And we, in spirit kneeling,  
The Babe of Bethlehem  
New born of Virgin Mother,  
Adore and praise with them.  
Oh, Son of God, most Holy!  
And yet no home so small,  
But Thou, our King and Savior,  
Wilt be the Guest of all!

Oh, Christmas—merry Christmas  
It comes to make us glad,  
It comes to high and low,  
To happy and to sad;  
It comes, with sweet insistence,  
Our drooping hearts to cheer,  
And touch with tender glory,  
These last days of the year.  
With golden rays of promise,  
The hopes that ebb have lain  
To fuller life it quickens,  
Until they bloom again.  
Good-will all hearts uniting,  
We bid vexations cease—  
Thou unto God be glory,  
Who unto earth gives peace.

—Helen Marion Burnside.

## The Bethlehem Star

The Bethlehem Star! The Guiding Star  
Of Old Judah's night,  
Has it become a faded star  
Across the orient night—  
The guess of Science, and the guess  
Of critic, seer, and sage?  
Has it the dimmer glow or less  
For change of time and age?

Star of the East!—it is not set,  
Though Science scout the sky,  
'Tis burning in the heaven yet,  
As bright and sure and high  
As when the Shepherd saw it flame  
Over Old Bethlehem,  
And followed it until it came  
And showed a Christ to them.

The Bethlehem Star—each mother sees  
Its holy promise-light,  
Believing each its destinies  
Her darling's, in the night;  
Believing each the little star  
To set above her son,  
To light her mother-hopes that are,  
And shine when hers are done.

The Bethlehem Star! The Guiding Star  
That hovers full and clear  
Wherever babe and cradle are,  
And parents watching near;  
Wherever cherub lips of love  
Bring tidings of great joy,  
Wherever a mother tends above  
Her darling first-born boy!

—Alvius Coll in Designer.

## The Christmas Star

A little Star all undimmed  
Strooped down the dusky waves of night;  
White-footed, smiling, unafraid  
It passed the orb of greater light.  
It held its slender taper high,  
The tiny splendour piercing far,  
It knew its time to shine was nigh;  
For lo! it was the Christmas Star.

A little child knelt in the dark,  
With clear eyes raised and lifted face,  
Saw the tiny twinkling spark  
Move on from its appointed place,  
The tears welled so she scarce could see  
Its orb of brightness grow a bar,  
"Mother," she cried, "it comes to me,  
"It kissed my eyes—the Christmas Star!"

God knows that both those things are one—  
The star that shines, the eye that sees,  
The answer to the prayer is shown  
Unto the sinner on his knees.  
On the long lanes of splintered light  
Descends the shining avatar,  
But only tears of pure delight  
Could bring the holy Christmas Star.

—Grace Mac Gowan Cooke, in The Sunday Magazine.

## The Christmas Feeling

I like the Christmas Feeling that is filling all the air,  
That fills the streets and busy stores, and scatters everywhere,  
I like the easy manner of the people on the street,  
The bundle-burden people, and the shop-girls smiling sweet,  
There's a glow of warmth and splendor in the windows everywhere,  
There's a glow in people's faces which has lately stolen there;  
And everywhere the bells ring out with which makes me like the Feeling of the happy Christmas time.

I like the Christmas Feeling; there is nothing can compare  
With the free and kindly spirit that is spreading everywhere,  
The rich, the poor, the young and old, all catch its atmosphere,  
And every heart for once is full of good old Christmas cheer.

—Life.

## The Star of Bethlehem

Out of the past's dark night  
There shines one star,  
Whose light  
Is more than countless constellations.

High in the East it gleams—  
This radiant star,  
Whose beams  
Are more to man than all the planets.

Still be thy light displayed,  
Oh, Bethlehem star!  
Nor fade  
Until the circling systems no more are.

—Bennett Stephens.

## Holly Song

The holly is for happiness;  
Hang it, hang it high,  
When the holy morn we bless  
Shows its rose along the sky.

The holly is for heartsome cheer;  
Hang it, hang it high,  
While the glory of the year  
Lights the heights of all the sky!

The holly is for home-side mirth;  
Hang it, hang it high,  
Till the dearest day of earth  
Fades in shades along the sky!

—Clinton Scoullard.



strange, unnatural appearance to everything that grows, if you were not a hushman you could not tell one tree from another under that summer mantle. Bloodwood, quondone, blue gum, sandal wood, stinky bark, bull oak, red gum, iron bark, currojong. No living thing can exist where that mantle lies, no birds twitter amongst the branches, because the dust has killed off all insect life; even the lizards have fled from their haunts in the hollow trunks. There is no grass on either side of the track, not a solitary blade; the dry season has killed it all off. Here and there you note the grey ashes of what had been teamsters' camp fires, with a smouldering ember at intervals glistening in the greyness, like a bloodshot eye in a sodden face. You turn a bend, in the trail and come upon a string of eighty or a hundred camels, all heavily laden with stores. Their Afghan drivers, in blue blouses, dirty white, baggy calico trousers, and dirtier turbans, plodding along ankle deep in soil that is softer than snow, strange dark, fierce-looking men, with jet-black, gleaming eyes and curly ebon beards, big, broad-shouldered men, who will neither eat nor drink with the Christian teamsters, prospectors, or diggers. Their camels, trailing one behind the other, each with its nose-line attached to the tail of the beast in front of it, make but little dust; they lift their great padded feet,

look to an untrained eye as if it would not take much to shift them should a horse buck suddenly or stumble. Yet most of them could ride a whirling if they could only saddle it, for they are Australian pioneers making their way into the big mining camp in time for the Christmas revels that are certain to take place.

The great camp comes in sight. A long, narrow gully flanked on both sides by low hills, dotted all over with dirty tents that look too hot to shield even a dog on such a blistering day.

In front of nearly every business place, no matter whether it be made of galvanized iron, wood or bag and canvas, the owners have tied a liberal amount of fresh green foliage. All day long men have been busy bringing in great wagon loads of young trees and green branches cut in the forest close by, and the business folk have purchased liberally.

Camels are kneeling in the highway, whilst their Afghan drovers unload them, and they gurgle and cluck and groan dismayed as though loth to part with their burdens. Mules with ears laid flat back, and big, dirty, yellow teeth laid bare, step quickly through the throng, drawing carts daily decorated and covered with quaint devices planned by the different tradesmen to whom they belong. Auctioneers and cheap jacks are holding impromptu sales in the open air,

grew on all the earth, and the glory of the everlasting skies fills the world with splendor. The crimson flame flickers for a moment, then dies out, and the clouds turn purple, then black, and the night is mistress of the mining camp. A myriad lights leap into being, Chinese lanterns glow in every bunch of greenery, they flutter across the track in long gleaming strings. Then women and boys ride down the highway on the horses, on mules, on camels, and all carry Chinese lanterns that dodge and dance and glisten joyously. Old comrades who have been sundered for years meet and clasp hands in the sturdy grip the digger loves; they shoulder their way to the nearest bar, and drink to the memory of comrades buried and comrades bankrupt, and live again through the scenes that made them friends. Old foes meet and pass each other with a scowl or a muttered oath, for your digger is a sound hater as well as a good lover. The click of the billiard balls is heard and the direful rattle of the dice-box. Gamblers were at work with cards in many a spot, and gold that has cost months of toil to win is lost in a few hours' mad plunging. Fiddles squeak, accordions wail, and harps twang in the dancing saloons. Champagne corks fly fast and furiously, and the revel grows fiercer and fiercer. As the night wears on men reel out of the drinking hells flushed, hot,

Hark, the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King,  
Glory, glory, glory, glory,  
Glory to the new-born King.

Then the whole street bursts into one great glad song of praise and adoration, and Christmas came to the camp—A. G. Hales in Montreal Herald.

## Is Disease a Crime?

Not very long ago, a popular magazine published an editorial article in which the writer asserted, in substance, that all disease should be regarded as criminal. Certain it is, that much of the sickness and suffering of mankind is due to the violation of certain of Nature's laws. But to say that all sickness should be regarded as criminal, must appeal to every reasonable individual as radically wrong.

It would be harsh, unsympathetic, cruel, yes criminal, to condemn the poor, weak, over-worked housewife who sinks under the heavy load of household cares and burdens, and suffers from weak nerves, various displacements of pelvic organs and other derangements peculiar to her sex.

Frequent bearing of children, with its exacting demands upon the system, coupled with the care, worry and labor of rearing a large family, is often the cause of weakness, nervousness and debility which are aggravated by the many household cares, and the hard, and never-ending work which the mother is called upon to perform. Dr. Pierce's, the maker of that world-famed remedy for woman's peculiar weaknesses and ailments, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, is one of the greatest obstacles to the cure of this class of maladies is the fact that the poor, over-worked housewife can not get the needed rest from her many household cares and labor to enable her to secure from the use of his "Prescription" its full benefits. It is a matter of frequent experience, he says, in his extensive practice, in these cases, to meet with those in which his treatment fails by reason of the patient's inability to secure from hard work long enough to be cured. With those suffering from prolapsus, anteversion and retroversion of the uterus or other displacement of the womanly organs, it is very necessary that, in addition to taking his "Favorite Prescription" they abstain from being very much, or for long periods, on their feet. All heavy lifting or straining of any kind should be avoided, and a much out-door air as possible, with moderate, light exercise is also very important. Let the patient observe these rules and the "Favorite Prescription" will do the rest.

Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Send to Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y. 21 one-cent stamps for paper-covered, or 31 stamps for cloth-bound. If sick consult the Doctor, free of charge by letter. All such communications are held sacredly confidential.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets invigorate and regulate stomach, liver and bowels.

Mme. Nabuco from Brazil.

Mme. Nabuco, wife of Senor Nabuco, the newly appointed ambassador from Brazil, is said to be an extremely handsome and talented woman. She is fond of society, and the Brazilian legation at Washington will be the scene of many gay social functions this winter.

Paper Saucepans.

Paper is now used to make saucepans. On account of their lightness these utensils were much used by the Japanese army. The paper pulp is impregnated with certain salts. The utensils stand the fire well, provided they are kept full of liquid.

Big Shipment of Potatoes.

California has just made her biggest shipment of potatoes from Stockton. It consisted of a train of thirty-five cars, loaded with 9,450 sacks of potatoes, which went by the Santa Fe route to Texas, Arkansas and Missouri river points.

Original Carmen.

Mme. Galli-Marie, the original Carmen in Bizet's opera of that name, died recently in the South of France. The opera failed when first staged in 1875, but Galli-Marie was frantically applauded. Subsequently "Carmen" became the rage and Galli-Marie was regarded as the ideal cigarette girl.

Words of Wisdom.

Westfield, Ill., Dec. 18th (Special)—All who are suffering with Bright's Disease, should read carefully the following letter from the Rev. G. L. Good of this place. He says:—

"I feel, it is my duty to tell you of the wonderful benefit I have received from the use of Dodd's Kidney Pills. I am a Minister of the Gospel, and in my work, I am frequently exposed to all weathers. Six years ago, I was laid up sick. I doctored with a number of physicians, and finally consulted a specialist, but without success. They all told me I had Bright's Disease. I was in a bad way and almost helpless when, thank God, I heard of Dodd's Kidney Pills. They saved my life. I took sixteen boxes and now I am cured. The first day I took them I felt relief. When I began I weighed only one hundred and five pounds, now I weigh one hundred and sixty-five and I am the picture of health. I recommend Dodd's Kidney Pills to all my friends who have Kidney Trouble and I pray to God that other sufferers will read these words and be helped by them."

Woman Coal Operator.

Mrs. Mae O. H. Russell, of Bloomington, Ill., is the only woman coal operator in Kentucky and perhaps in the United States. Since the discovery of oil there have been but one or two women who ventured into the business on a large scale and so far as known this young woman of some 28 years old is today rated among the largest operators in the country.

When a man wants money or assistance the world is charitable enough to let him keep right on wanting it.

Those Who Have Tried It.

Life is like a game of cards, in which a good deal depends upon a good deal.

A woman's friendship borders more closely on love than man's.

It Will Stay There.

"In my family medicine chest no remedy is permitted to remain unless it proves beyond doubt the best to be obtained for its particular purpose."

"For treating all manner of skin troubles, such as Eczema, Tetter, Ringworm, etc., Hunt's Cure has held its place for many years. I have failed to find a surer remedy. It cures itching instantly."

R. M. Swann, Franklin, La.

Friendships of women are cushions wherein they stick their pins.

Taylor's Cherokee Remedy of Sweet Gum and Mullen is Nature's great remedy—Cures Coughs, Colds, Croup and Consumption, and all throat and lung troubles. At drug-gists, 50c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle.

There was never yet fair woman but she made mouths in a glass.

We are told that love levels all things, but often it seems like an uphill fight.

Mole St. Nickolas Again.

Vice Consul Baptiste, of Part au Prince, reports that the Haitian legislature has enacted a law, promulgated October 4, declaring the port of Mole St. Nickolas open to foreign commerce. This decision, the consul adds, is made in view of the geographical position of the port and the possibility of its becoming one of the most frequented ports in the new world on the opening of the Panama canal.

California's Famous Sheriff.

Benjamin K. Thorn, a native of New York, nephew of United States Senator T. C. Platt, aged 75, and classed as the most fearless sheriff in California, died recently. As sheriff of Calaveras county, he was leader in the most famous man hunt in the state's history. No chance was too desperate for him to take and he took many desperate chances in his fifty years of service.

Many a strong swimmer in the sea of matrimony has found himself tangled up in the widow's weeds.

Old and True.

"For fifteen years I have constantly kept a supply of Hunt's Cure on hand to use in all cases of itching skin trouble. For Eczema, Ringworm and the like it is peerless. I regard it as an old friend and true one."

Mrs. Eula Preslad, Greenfield, Tenn.

A woman doesn't realize the difficulties that beset the reformer until she gets married.

Superior quality and extra quantity must win. This is why Defiance Starch is taking the place of all others.

More dust seems to accumulate on the family bible than on the cook-book.

Cures Blood, Skin Troubles, Cancer, Blood Poison, Greatest Blood Purifier Free.

If your blood is impure, thin, diseased, hot or full of humors, if you have blood poison, cancer, carbuncles, eating sores, scrofula, eczema, itching, rashes and lumps, scabby, pimply skin, bone pains, catarrh, rheumatism, or any blood or skin disease, take Botic Blood Balm. It is according to directions. Soon all sores heal, aches and pains stop, the blood is made pure and rich, leaving the skin free from every eruption, and giving the rich glow of perfect health to the skin. At the same time it is a powerful purifier of the system, cures dyspepsia, strengthens weak kidneys. Just the medicine for old people, as it gives them new, vigorous blood. Druggists, 11 per large bottle, with directions for home cure. Sample free and prepaid by writing Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga. Describe trouble and special free medical advice also sent in sealed letter. B. B. B. is especially advised for chronic, deep-seated cases of impure blood and skin disease, and cures after all else fails.

A hand mirror is one of the few things that a woman never holds up to ridicule.

Insist on Getting It.

Some grocers say they don't keep Defiance Starch because they don't keep stock on hand of 12 oz. brands, which they know cannot be sold to a customer who has once used the 16 oz. pkg. Defiance Starch for same money.

Back to First Principles.

Led by Mrs. Roosevelt, the wives of cabinet officers have decided to raise the standard of the culinary art in Washington. With this end in view, cooking schools will be conducted in private homes for busy women in official life, so that, as in the days of yore, hostesses may have the pleasure of preparing with their own hands dishes for their guests.

Woman Coal Operator.

Mrs. Mae O. H. Russell, of Bloomington, Ill., is the only woman coal operator in Kentucky and perhaps in the United States. Since the discovery of oil there have been but one or two women who ventured into the business on a large scale and so far as known this young woman of some 28 years old is today rated among the largest operators in the country.

When a man wants money or assistance the world is charitable enough to let him keep right on wanting it.

Those Who Have Tried It.

Life is like a game of cards, in which a good deal depends upon a good deal.

A woman's friendship borders more closely on love than man's.

It Will Stay There.

"In my family medicine chest no remedy is permitted to remain unless it proves beyond doubt the best to be obtained for its particular purpose."

"For treating all manner of skin troubles, such as Eczema, Tetter, Ringworm, etc., Hunt's Cure has held its place for many years. I have failed to find a surer remedy. It cures itching instantly."

R. M. Swann, Franklin, La.

Friendships of women are cushions wherein they stick their pins.

Taylor's Cherokee Remedy of Sweet Gum and Mullen is Nature's great remedy—Cures Coughs, Colds, Croup and Consumption, and all throat and lung troubles. At drug-gists, 50c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle.

There was never yet fair woman but she made mouths in a glass.

We are told that love levels all things, but often it seems like an uphill fight.

SHOOT FROM THE TISSURY YEW

Interesting Relic Secured by a Boston Clergyman.

When Dr. Charles E. Banks was in England six years ago and visited Tisbury he saw in the old churchyard of that parish the famous yew tree which is said to have been planted by one of the Arundel family seven hundred or more years ago. It is about thirty-six feet in circumference, hollowed at the trunk and capable of holding about ten persons in the cavity.

The vicar promised the doctor a shoot from the tree as soon as one could be procured. Recently the doctor received by express a young tree from the old giant, and it is now potted and ready for transplantation at the proper time. When it becomes acclimated this memorial of the old Tisbury will find a home in the new town on the lawn of Dr. Banks' summer home at Vineyard Haven. The yew is a large and beautiful evergreen tree, with a trunk often of great thickness, branching a few feet above the ground and forming a large and dense head. Fine specimens of it are frequently found in English churchyards, and for this reason, it has been often mentioned in the elegiac poems of English authors.

The yew tree obtained by Dr. Banks will have a deep significance and interest for the Vineyard people not only because it came from old Tisbury, but also for the reason that under the spreading branches of the parent tree Thomas Mayhew, known to fame as Gov. Mayhew, must have been carried to his baptism over three hundred years ago.—Boston Transcript.

This is the Approved Method.

She runs to the gate as he comes, there to meet him;

The joy that she feels in her smile is expressed.

With widely embraces she lovingly greets him.

She knows he is weary and needs a good rest.

But first, it is certain he ought to have dinner.

He'll feel a deal better, she's sure, after that.

The lady is what we would all call a "winner."

She knows what to do when she wants a new hat.

She wears his pet gown and she's mighty good looking;

She has which is lucky, his favorite dish;

The coffee is worthy the rest of the cooking;

He seems to have all a more mortal "could wish."

She talks to him easily, her silvery laughter.

Rings out at his joking so ready and free.

He has his suspicions of what she is after.

But then it is cheap at the price of a hat.

She brings his old jacket when dinner is ended.

His slippers and pipe, not forgetting the match.

And when on the lounge he is fairly extended.

She gets out her basket to darn and to patch.

Oh, syntax may sneer at the marriage relation.

But what half so sweet as that nice, cozy chat?

And what does it matter if soon conversation.

Insensibly turns to a new winter hat? —Chicago News.

Lighthouse as Bird Trap.

The night watch of the Cape May lighthouse was chatting with a visitor when something struck hard against the netting around the light. The watch went out upon the tiny circular balcony and returned with a dead bird in his hand. "A mud hen," said he. "Sometimes we get five or six in a night. Often we find robins and ducks dead on the balcony."

"It's a fine life you lead here," remarked the visitor.

"Yes; if it wasn't for the oil—the six gallons of oil that the light burns nightly. The government won't give us any machinery to hoist it up with. Consequently every day I must carry the whole six gallons up these 217 steps. That's hard on the heart."

"It must be so," agreed the visitor.

"It would be so easy to rig up a rope and pulley, too, and draw the oil up that way."

"It ain't allowed," said the watch.

"In every oil-burning lighthouse the attendants must carry up the oil by hand. It does seem—"

Pop!

He slipped out to get another mud hen.

Inconsistent Science.

"Did you like that scientific paper on germs and baleful bacilli that I read at the club?" said Ethel to her companion as they entered a Lexington avenue car.

"Indeed I did, dear. I was shocked to know that almost every article is covered with disease germs."

"Well," said the amateur scientist, "every word I spoke about the danger of infection is absolutely true." She fumbled in her pocketbook as she spoke. "No, dear," she added hastily; "it's my turn to pay the fares."

She spoke rather indistinctly because she held a greasy, battered dime between her teeth as she used her hands to close her chatelaine bag.—New York Press.

Texas Railways.

Texas is building or planning so many new railroads that it is next to impossible to keep track of them all. When they are all completed Texas will not fall far short of having 50 per cent more main track than Illinois, which was the state of greatest mileage until recently, when the Iron horse took a fresh spurt over the boundless areas of the Lone Star State.—St. Louis Republic.

Two Breaks from Party Lines.

William Travers Jerome of New York is not the only man who won at the recent election without having any party nomination. In Massachusetts John B. Moran, who ran for district attorney of Suffolk county (Boston) on the indorsement of the requisite number of voters, was elected over the fusion nominee of the Republicans and Democrats.

But one thing on earth is better than a wife—that is the mother.

SEVEN YEARS AGO.

A Rochester Chemist Found a Singularly Effective Medicine.

William A. Franklin, of the Franklin & Palmer Chemical Co., Rochester, N. Y., writes:

"Seven years ago I was suffering very much through the failure of the kidneys to eliminate the uric acid from my system. My back was very lame and ached if I overexerted myself in the least degree. At times I was weighed down with a feeling of languor and depression and suffered continually from annoying irregularities of the kidney secretions. I procured a box of Hunt's Kidney Pills and began using them. I found prompt relief from the aching and lameness in my back, and by the time I had taken three boxes I was cured of all irregularities."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

A girl is never satisfied with her newest dress until she discovers that her worst girl friend doesn't like it.

AGONY OF SORE HANDS.

Cracked and Peeled—Water and Heat Caused Intense Pain—Could Do No Housework—Grateful to Cuticura.

"My hands cracked and peeled, and were so sore it was impossible for me to do my housework. If I put them in water I was in agony for hours; and if I tried to cook the heat caused intense pain. I consulted two doctors, but their prescriptions were utterly useless. And now after using one cake of Cuticura Soap and one box of Cuticura Ointment my hands are entirely well, and I am very grateful. (Signed) Mrs. Minnie Drew, 18 Dana St., Roxbury, Mass."

Women never weep more bitterly than when they weep with spite.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take LAXATIVE BLOOD PURIFIER. Bring out the mucus from the throat and lungs. It is a sure cure. 25c. W. G. W. GLOVE'S signature is on each box.

A girl's idea of a flatterer is a man who says that another girl is handsome.

Every housekeeper should know that if they will buy Defiance Cold Water Starch for laundry use they will save not only time, but because each package contains 16 oz.—one full pound—while all other Cold Water Starches are put up in 8-oz. packages, and the price is the same, 10 cents. Then again because Defiance Starch is free from all injurious chemicals. If your grocer tries to sell you a 12-oz. package it is because he has a stock on hand which he wishes to dispose of before he puts in Defiance. He knows that Defiance Starch has printed on every package in large letters and figures "16 oz." Demand Defiance and save much time and money and the annoyance of the iron sticking. Defiance never sticks.

With some people the entertainment of an idea is an intellectual feat.

No chromes or cheap premiums, but a better quality and one-third more of Defiance Starch for the same price of other starches.

Noah was a great ball player. He pitched the ark without and within, and later put the dove out on a fly.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.

For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.

It's the hardest thing in the world to be frank and popular at the same time.

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*.

In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Come to think of it, it's wonderful what civilization hasn't done for mankind.

Trials of Winter.

Do not permit yourself to be a victim to a cold or cough. They lead to pneumonia, consumption and elsewhere. Be wise; use Simmons' Cough Syrup. It cures coughs, heals lungs and will keep you right here to enjoy the beauties of spring.

It is easy enough to stop a clock if you don't wind it, and it is easy enough to stop a business if you don't advertise.

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quick medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrh. Send for testimonials. Free suits in curing catarrh. Price, 50c. Proprietary, Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Punishment Not So Bad.

Lieutenant Blise, the German officer who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment in a fortress for criticizing German military life in a book called "In a Little Garrison Town," seems to have fared well in the end. He has married a wealthy German woman and settled down in Switzerland.

But one thing on earth is better than a wife—that is the mother.

When two women fall in love with the same man they cut each other by looking daggers.

More Flexible and Lasting.

won't shake out or blow out, by using Defiance Starch you obtain better results than possible with any other brand and one-third more for same money.

When the right young man comes along a girl doesn't have to give him any encouragement.

A GOOD SCHOOL.

No blow, no impossible propositions made by Tony's Practical Business College, Wash., Tex., the High Grade School for High Grade Students. Plenty of good, honest work by a corps of highly educated professors. "That's all." Enter any time. Catalogue free. The home of Jane's Successful shorthand, the renowned parliamentary system.

How unhappy the lot of the boarding house landlady. Strawberries no sooner get cheap than the boarders begin to kick for peaches and watermelon.

Stands Head.

There is something about Hunt's Lightning Oil that no other liniment possesses. Others may be good, but it is surely the best. It does all you recommend it for, and more. For sprains, cuts, bruises, burns, aches and pains, it has no equal on earth. It stands head on my medicine shelf. Very truly yours, T. J. Brownlow, Livingston, Tenn.

It is difficult for the man who keeps his nose too much above liquor to keep his head above water.

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES.

Itching, Bleeding, Protruding Piles. Brings out the mucus from the rectum and restores the normal condition. 25c. W. G. W. GLOVE'S signature is on each box.

Many a man remains a bachelor to the finish because he is afraid that if he marries the girl of his choice he would also have to wed her family.

FITS permanently cured. No more nervousness after first use of Dr. King's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for FREE 2500 trial bottle and treatise. P. M. KLINE, Ltd., 211 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

A good and cheerful old man comes as near being godlike as anyone may in this world.

FOR WOMEN

Amigo

\$2.50

A Shoe Which is the STYLISH WOMAN'S Favorite.

It Must Be Worn to Be Appreciated.

INSIST UPON HAVING IT.

IT'S A MONEY SAVER. IT'S AN "ALWAYS JUST CORRECT" CLOVER BRAND SHOE.

Wertheimer-Swartz Shoe Co.

LARGEST FINE SHOE EXCLUSIVISTS

ST. LOUIS, U. S. A.

Many who formerly smoked 10¢ Cigars now smoke

LEWIS' SINGLE BINDER

STRAIGHT 5¢ CIGAR

Dealers supplied by their jobber or direct from Frank P. Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

PRICE, 25 Cts.

TO CURE THE GRIP IN ONE DAY

ANTI-GRIPINE

HAS NO EQUAL FOR HEADACHE

IS GUARANTEED TO CURE GRIP, BAD COLDS, HEADACHE AND NEURALGIA.

I won't sell Anti-Gripine to a dealer if you won't guarantee it. Call for your MONEY BACK IF IT DOESN'T CURE. F. W. DIESER, M. D., Manufacturer, Springfield, Mo.

A good resolution is always stronger at its birth than at any other stage of its existence.

Piso's Cure is the best medicine we ever used for all affections of the throat and lungs.—W. G. EMBLEY, Vancouver, Ind., Feb. 10, 1900.

The fools are not all dead. In fact, a lot of them haven't been born.

DON'T EXPERIMENT WITH CANCER.

Any disease that means LIFE or DEATH should be handled by a MAN. DR. J. W. HARWELL has been treating cancer and tumors in San Antonio for 26 years. He has cured hundreds of desperate cases after other doctors gave them up as hopeless. He does NOT use KNIFE or X-RAY or balm or ointment. Consultation and service free. Send for book of testimonials.

DRS. J. W. HARWELL & ANDERSEN, Room 7, Reuter Building, Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Texas.

X-MAS HOLIDAYS

Low round trip rates on sale December 2, 22, and 23, good for return thirty days.

Old States Best Route

FRISCO SYSTEM

Write for information C. W. STRAIN, G. P. A. FORT WORTH, TEXAS

12 CANS OF OYSTERS, \$3.

Delivered Express Prepaid.

30 Large, Fat, Cultivated Oysters to the Can. As the ice does not come in contact with the oysters all their natural fresh flavor is retained.

GIVENS PACKING CO., Planters and Wholesale Shippers of Oysters and Fish, Corpus Christi, Tex.

FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS THE

SANTA FE

ANNOUNCE SPECIAL LOW RATES TO THE OLD STATES

In the Southwest. Tickets on sale December 2nd, 2nd, and 23rd. Limited to return 30 days from date of sale. Quick direct connections through the three principal gateway to the Southwest. If you are thinking of a vacation back to the Old States for the holidays just ask it over with.

The Santa Fe Agent

W. S. KEENAN, G. P. A. GALVESTON

DEFIANCE STARCH—16 ounces to the package—other starches only 12 ounces—same price and "DEFIANCE"

COME!



SEE!!

UPTO-DATE  
Furniture.

We are pleased to announce the arrival of the car-load of furniture which has been delayed for several weeks, and to invite your inspection of same.  
We believe we will be able to satisfy your taste and supply your wants in the furniture-line whether you want something plain or desire something more elaborate and costly. Our prices will be such as to make it unnecessary for you to look further.



JUST IN  
A full line of  
Cooking and Heating  
STOVES.

When we tell you they are BUCK'S that is a sufficient guarantee as to quality, for everybody knows what BUCK'S stoves are.

**Bason Cox & Co.**

Haskell Telephone Company.

Has Long Distance Connection with All Points, and Direct lines to the following local places.

Aspermont, Asherton, Beaver Ranch, Shinnery Lake, Mandy, Brazos River, M. Daniel Ranch, Pinkerton, Cliff, Abby Ranch, Throckmorton, Stamford, Rader, Orient, Gatlin, Munday, Seymour

Local Exchanges at Haskell, Aspermont and Munday. Telegraph messages received and transmitted.  
J. F. POSEY, Manager, Haskell, Texas.

EPWORTH LEAGUE PROGRAM.

Leader—Geneva McWhirter.  
Subject, The Song of the Angels.  
Lesson, Luke 28-29.  
Prayer.  
An occasion worthy Angelle celebration, 1st and 2nd—Carey Touchstone; 3rd and 4th, Fannie Cummings.  
Song.  
5th and 6th, Ora Buchanan.  
The birth of Jesus glorifies God—Flossie Parsons.  
Violin solo.  
2nd, Mr. Park, 3rd, Addie Haswell.  
Special song.  
The birth of Jesus is an earnest of Universal—Ara Killinsworth.  
2nd, Ella Ballew.  
Song.

Grip Quickly Knocked Out.

"Some weeks ago during the severe winter weather, both my wife and myself contracted severe colds which speedily developed into the worst kind of a gripe with all its miserable symptoms," says Mr. J. S. Eggleston of Maple Landing, Iowa. "Knees and joints aching, muscles sore, head stopped up, eyes and nose running, with alternate spells of chills and fever. We began using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, adding the same with a dose of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets, and by its liberal use soon completely knocked out the grip." These Tablets promote a healthy action of the bowels, liver and kidneys which is always beneficial when the system is congested by a cold or attack of the grip. For sale at Terrells drug store.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,  
County of Haskell.  
Taken up by J. H. Bland and estrayed before J. T. Knowles, Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 1, Haskell county: One dark bay horse about 5 years old, about 15 or 16 hands high, not branded, 3 white feet and star in forehead. Appraised at twenty-five dollars.  
The owner of said stock is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges, and take the same away, or it will be dealt with as the law directs.  
Given under my hand and seal of office, this the 4th day of Dec. 1905.  
C. D. LONG, Clerk  
County Court Haskell County.  
By J. W. Meadors, Deputy.

A Certain Cure for Croup.

When a child shows symptoms of croup there is no time to experiment with new remedies, no matter how highly they may be recommended. There is one preparation that can always be depended upon. It has been in use for many years and has never been known to fail, viz: Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Mr. M. F. Compton of Market, Texas, says of it, "I have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in severe cases of croup with my children, and can truthfully say it always gives prompt relief." For sale at Terrells drug store.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Pinkerton of Cliff were in town Wednesday, and Mr. Pinkerton remembered the FREE PRESS with some cash while he was here.



Be it Known:

That I have just left at the Haskell Racket Store a very extensive and choice collection of Christmas goods, brought from my many factories. Go, all ye people, great and small and see them. Yours for a happy Christmas, SANTA CLAUS.

It would be tedious to enumerate all the things, and we merely suggest a few of the lines:

- Opal, Crystal and Press Cut Glass,
- Japanese Odities in China and Bisque,
- Beautiful Oil Paintings, Medallions, Etc.,
- Indian Brskets and other Novelties,
- Stag and Gilt Toilet Goods,
- Birch Bark Spills, Boxes and Baskets,
- Odd Articles in Burnt Work,
- Photo' Auto' and Scrap Albums.

Dainty Books in Limp, Burnt and Padded Leather, White Vellum and Gold and Ooze Calf Bindings. Come and see these and hundreds of other things at the

Racket Store.  
LAND BARGAINS

FOR SALE BY  
S. W. SCOTT,  
LAWYER, REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE AGENT.  
Haskell, - - - Texas.

Look over the list and see if you don't think it will be to your advantage to buy some of this land. From \$1.00 to \$5.00 per acre has not been added to the price by bonus hunters and land speculators. I represent about one hundred non-resident land owners, and the following list of lands is only a part of the most desirable special bargains. All interest on deferred payments will be 8 per cent, unless otherwise stated. Distances and directions are from town of Haskell, and the price is per acre:

- |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2672 acres, west part J. G. Pitts survey 10 miles E., at \$4.00, 3 payments.                                                                       | 1476 acres, J. E. Ellis sur., 8 miles E., at \$7. in 3 payments.                                                                               |
| 40 acres up to any quantity desired out of James Scott league and labor survey, 1 1/2 miles N. E. of Haskell. Price \$6 to \$25 and terms to suit. | Lots 3, 4, 5 and 6 Block 42, Haskell, for \$20.                                                                                                |
| 424 acres G. G. Alford survey, 15 miles N. W. 44, Abst. 6, \$6, in 3 payments.                                                                     | 640 acres, James Gray survey, 16 miles S. E., at \$5.                                                                                          |
| 522 acres, section 1, G. H. & H. Ry., 12 miles E., at \$4.00, 3 payments.                                                                          | 1476 acres, Chas. Callott survey 10 miles N. (East Abbott pasture) \$10.50 per acre, on easy terms. Will cut in 200 acre lots from either end. |
| 320 acres, Sur. 3, G. H. & H. Ry, 14 miles S. E., at \$5.00, 3 payments.                                                                           | 503 acres, S. T. Blakeley survey, 15 miles S. E., at \$3. in 3 payments.                                                                       |
| 320 acres, W. F. Gaines survey, 12 miles S., at \$5.50, in 3 payments.                                                                             | 360 acres Hays Covington sur., 15 miles S. E., at \$5.00 in 3 payments.                                                                        |
| Sections 1, 3 and 5, E. T. Ry. Co., 13 to 16 miles S. E., at \$5.00, in easy payments.                                                             | 960 acres G. W. Brooks sur. 9 miles N. E. \$4 in 4 payments.                                                                                   |
| 640 acres, N. E. Brister survey, 7 miles S. E., at \$4.00, in 3 payments.                                                                          | 1500 acres 8 to 12 miles north on Benjamin road The Masterson lands in 200 acre blocks at \$12 in 4 payments. No better land in West Texas     |
| 488 acres, John Campbell survey, 7 miles N. E. at \$4.00, in 3 payments.                                                                           | Lots 12 and 14 blk 2, Kirby Ad. for \$100 in 3 payments.                                                                                       |
| 1476 acres, South 1-3 Robertson league, 8 miles E. of Stamford on California creek, at \$10 per acre in 3 equal payments.                          | 820 acres of Jas. Cooper section, 14 miles S. E., \$4.00, in 5 payments.                                                                       |

Have many other lots and acre blocks in different parts of town too numerous to name here.  
Call on me, or write, for full information.

S. W. SCOTT,  
Haskell Texas.

Cistern Builder  
AND  
STONE and BRICK MASON.

I have located in Haskell and offer my services in above line of work. Have had sixteen years experience and guarantee my work. I can give you references in Haskell.

Warren S. Butler.

1000 STUDENTS ENROLLED.

The Tyler Com'l. College is closing its sixth year, with an enrollment of 1000 students from many different states. No other Commercial school in America has ever enjoyed such a rapid growth and won such popularity in so short a time. Its graduates are now employed in the very best positions to be found in our larger Southern cities. Their extensive Employment Bureau has done much to place their students into these responsible positions, where they can earn a good living and enjoy promotion.

More than 100 students are expected to enroll in this famous institution during the month of January. All who can should join this large and energetic crowd of workers, and prepare themselves for a greater success in life. Just as sure as you will attend this school and complete a course of Bookkeeping and Shorthand, or Telegraphy, just as sure will you be securing a position paying from \$40 to \$75 per month. The demand for Tyler Com'l. College graduates during the past year has been greater than the supply. Young men and women who were a year ago only earning from \$25 to \$30 per month are now, after finishing their course, earning from \$50 to \$150 per month. Is not this enough to stir the ambition of our young people, and create in them a determination to launch out and do something for themselves and become men among men?

Their faculty is composed of 15 teachers, each a specialist. You may think you do not know enough or, are too old to enter this institution. Such is not the case. Their students vary in age from 15 to 50 years of age. They teach thoroughly everything pertaining to a commercial education. They give free of charge, with their courses of bookkeeping, shorthand and telegraphy, thorough instruction daily in Writing, Arithmetic and Grammar. The student receives individual instruction in a greater part of his work, thus enabling him to enroll any day and get the very work his education or ability demands. Should his knowledge of Arithmetic and Grammar be limited, he may take up Arithmetic at fractions and Grammar at the very first. The work is so arranged as to accommodate those of limited education as well as the College or University graduate. No difference what your advancement may be, you will find many others here of the same advancement. No small school could offer such inducements. Further information may be obtained by writing the Tyler Commercial College, Tyler, Texas, for their large free catalogue.

HAPPY WOMEN.

Plenty of Them in Texas and Good Reasons for it.

Wouldn't any woman be happy, After years of backache suffering, Days of misery, nights of unrest. The distress of urinary troubles, She finds relief and cure? No reason why any Texas reader Should suffer in the face of evidence like this:

Mrs. J. A. Beck, of Austin, Texas, employed at the Asylum for the Blind, and living at 1605 Sabine Street, says: "In April, 1902, when living at 1709 East Avenue, I gave a testimonial concerning Doan's Kidney Pills, after I had procured a supply. The cure they performed has been permanent in every particular and I have told a great many sufferers from backache and kidney ailments to give them a trial if they wished to get positive relief. You are at liberty to continue the use of my name as one who endorses all the claims made for Doan's Kidney Pills."

For sale by all dealers. Price, 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.  
Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

LAND FOR SALE.

488 acres of land 7 miles N. E. of Haskell, new 4 room house, barn and other improvements. 400 acres good agricultural land, plenty of timber and water. Price \$7.50 per acre, half cash balance 1, 2 and 3 years. Box 124 Haskell, Texas. 4t

A Fearful Fate.

It is a fearful fate to have a cure the terrible torture of Piles. "I can truthfully say," writes Harry Colson, of Masonville, Ia., "that for Blind, Bleeding, Itching and Protruding Piles, Bucklen's Arnica Salve, is the best cure made." Also best for cuts, burns and injuries. 25c at C. E. Terrells, druggist.

Mr. J. L. Robertson has moved into his new residence in the north part of town.

FURIOUS FIGHTING.

"For seven years," writes Geo. W. Hoffman, of Harper, Wash., "I had a bitter battle, with chronic stomach and liver trouble, but at last I won, and cured my diseases, by the use of Electric Bitters. I unhesitatingly recommend them to all, and don't intend in the future to be without them in the house. They are certainly a wonderful medicine, to have cured such a bad case as mine." Sold, under guarantee to do the same for you, by C. E. Terrell, druggist, at 50c a bottle. Try them today.



Santa Claus as  
A Compounder  
seems rather out of place, but if he does not worry much about sickness and its remedies, he finds lots of other things in our store that are surely more in his line. Here in the way of presents are fragrant perfumes, soaps and sachet powders, daintily put up for the lady's boudoir. Dressing table and toilet articles, combs, brushes and a variety of other useful gifts too numerous to mention.

COLLIER, NORTHEAST CORNER, HASKELL, TEXAS.