

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIV.

MERKEL, TEXAS, AUGUST 6, 1903.

NO. 24.

TAYLOR COUNTY 1903 TAX ROLLS

Show a Small Decrease Under Last Year, Caused by Drop in Price of Cattle.

The tax rolls for this county have been completed and show a decrease of \$519 under last year.

For 1902 there was a total assessment of \$5,647,686, and for this year it is \$5,047,167. The decrease is due to the condition of cattle, which were rendered this year at \$8 per head and last year at \$10. Following is a comparative statement of the two years: Horses and Mules (1903) 2,125 head, \$197,850; (1902) 8,948 head, \$179,125. Cattle (1903) 27,223 head, \$222,425; (1902) 31,815 head, \$320,955. Jacks and jennets (1903) 873 head, \$4,565; (1902) 132 head, \$4,130. Sheep (1903) 185 head, \$275; (1902) 100 head, \$150. Goats (1903) 719 head, \$1,050; (1902) 265 head, \$540. Dogs (1903) 21 head, \$665; (1902) 10 head, \$105. Vehicles (1903) 2,259, value \$60,870, (1902) 2,208, value \$63,855. Poll tax 1903, 2518 polls; 1902 2,452 polls. Residents not subject to poll tax, estimated 500. Resident taxpayers 3,018, estimated population 15,090.

The Higher Life.

Selected.

The religion of the Lord Jesus Christ is a fact and can be demonstrated only to the man who accepts him as his master.

"The Church of God" is the Bible name, and it were well if it might be borne by all that claim to be New Testament churches.

To be a Christian today is to like Christ; it used to be to know something about him. Be good and communicate it; that is Christianity.

The house of God has no fellowship with the temple of Baal. It must not be turned into a playhouse, although by such methods we attract crowds.

The Jews believed fully in the loving kindness of God; that all that was holy and noble was in him. This is the belief that always draws quick response from human beings.

Charity comes from God and depends on him. It sees God in the poor, the needy, the afflicted and the outcast. It recognizes that there are no classes nor races, but one common brotherhood.

We are not to withdraw from the cause of the living God, but to push forward with redoubled vigor. Are we carrying out our thoughts as suggested in God's word in our service and making the most of our opportunities?

When we come into conscious possession of the Christ mind, our deliverance is consummated and we enjoy the fullness of the godhead—one with God. If we have courage we have God; if we fear and collapse, we are minus the God standard of being.

The early church understood well its mission in the world. The savior had carefully instructed his disciples as to the object for which the church was in-

stituted. To go on and preach the gospel to every creature was the first duty, to minister to their poor brethren was the next.

Brain Leaks.

A consecrated Christian never takes a vacation from duty.

"Good of the party" seldom means the good of the people.

Is it wrong to envy the man who enjoys the love of the little folk?

One form of patience is reading a continued story in a monthly magazine.

Our idea of a really brave man is one who will go without a collar on a hot day.

The man who is always boasting of his ancestry is storing up trouble for his posterity.

Did you ever see molars in the mouth of a man who chews tobacco to "preserve his teeth?"

The cheapest investment is making a child happy, and no other investment yields greater returns.

Some people wait so long for somebody to give them a start that they grow fast in their tracks.

The worth of a library consists in the use you make of it, not in the number of books it contains.

Conceit is shown when another shows that he thinks himself just as smart as you know yourself to be.

The average congregation looks very much like a body of people who sit through the service because they have to.

When a wise man stumbles he stops, picks up his stumbling stone and uses it in the stairway by which he climbs upwards.

If we were going to employ a young man we would not look for one who has a beautiful curl to a cute little mustache.

There are many people who give away things they want to get rid of and then feel proud because they have exercised "charity."

Government Ownership.

This is the chief plank in the new pop platform, resulting from the pow wow at Denver, Colo., last week. The following demands were made:

(a) A money whether stamped on gold, silver or paper, to be coined and issued exclusively by the government and make a full legal tender for all debts, both public and private.

(b) A system of transportation and the transmission of intelligence, owned by the public and operated by the government at the cost of service.

(c) Land for use rather than for speculation, and abolition of alien ownership of land.

(d) American ships for American foreign commerce, without a cent of subsidy.

And as an open door for all economic reforms, we urge the rule of the people through the optional referendum and initiative and the recall of derelict officials.

C. B. Scarborough Stricken.

Rev. A. H. Norris reports C. B. Scarborough stricken with paralysis this morning at his home on his Clear Fork plantation at Truby.

The attack followed a drive over his place and came without warning. His condition was regarded as critical when Mr. Norris left at 10:30 a. m.

A host of friends will hope for better news.—Reporter.

SMALL BIT OF TEXAS HISTORY

Something About the Man Who Established the Name Maverick Given Cattle.

Over in the northwest part of South Carolina, near the line which separates Anderson and Pickett counties and about five miles from Pendleton, there is an old graveyard or burying ground. It comprises about fourteen acres of land, all of which are thickly wooded. There are five marble monuments, one of which is of considerable size. The inscription on one of the monuments is as follows:

"In memory of Samuel Maverick, Born in the City of Charleston, Dec. 30, 1772.

Died April 30, 1852. Aged 79 years and 4 months."

Inquiry of those who live in the neighborhood elicited the following facts:

Samuel Augustus Maverick, the eldest son of Mrs. Elizabeth (Anderson) Maverick, went to Texas and was the first man to make cattle raising a business on the grassy plains. He made a great success of this business, and when others went into it he insisted that others should brand their cattle in order to distinguish them from his, which were unbranded. Because of this all unbranded steers were known as "Mavericks." Even to this day unbranded steers are known as "Mavericks," although it has been a long time since there was anybody to lay claim to them as the original cattleman did. Maverick now means a steer that escaped branding and that is a subject of identification and claim by whom can establish ownership.

The people whose deaths are recorded on these tombstones were neighbors of John C. Calhoun, whose plantation was not more than five miles away.

The ground is used for burials still, but now mostly by negroes. There has been no objection made to this, and it seems to be understood that it is a free burying ground for any who wish to use it, white or black. The fourteen acres make ample room for both races, and there is no encroaching on the older graves in any of this usage.

Official Corruption.

In behalf of the law-abiding citizens of Colorado, The Clipper wants Mr. Faucett to name those county officials who promised him immunity from punishment for violating the local option law. If his story is correct punishment has been meted out to the wrong individuals. If any of Mitchell county's officials have been false to their oath of office and have connived at any infraction of the law, the people want to know who they are in order that they may be held to accountability. Name them, Mr. Faucett, in order that this stigma upon all Mitchell county officials may be removed and the responsibility fastened where it properly belongs.—Colorado Clipper.

All of which is very proper, but if reports coming to Pecos are

true, Faucett has already named the officials from whom the proposition emanated and the Clipper is either behind on local happenings in its own town or is working off a big stage bluff. The name of the official making the agreement with Faucett was given in Pecos, by a pretty good authority, too, and if the Clipper doesn't know yet, it should make a strenuous effort to learn and publish it at the very earliest moment possible, for it has given widespread publicity to this "stigma upon all Mitchell county officials" and endeavor to clear the innocent by fixing upon the guilty.—Pecos Times.

They Are Fixed.

Friday night, somewhere in the vicinity of that imaginary line that divides Friday from Saturday, Fannin county went dry. And the impression seems to be pretty firmly established in the minds of the people that dry means dry.

The climax of active preparation for the drouth came Friday. Circus day, the fourth of July, the cotton mill jubilee and a few Christmases thrown in for good count, never made such heavy drafts on the liquor stores as the great run of Friday.

There was not an unusual amount of drinking—folks were just fixing to drink in case they may have to. Families that have not used a quart of liquor in ten years have a gallon supply sitting in their closet now, and folks who with more or less frequency are supposed to sometimes touch the now forbidden, are fixed for time and time to come. Snakes in this county had as well spit out their "pizen" before biting, for that "pizen" has no show.—Bonham Favorite.

Don't Become Discouraged,

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

APPORTIONMENT FOR SCHOOLS

Five Dollars Per Capita Is Amount Apportioned for Next Year. Same as Last Year.

Austin, Tex., Aug. 1.—This being the day fixed by law for the apportionment of the available school fund, the State Board of Education met and fixed it at \$5 per capita for the next scholastic session. It was made on a basis of 764,751 children enumerated as being within the scholastic age, on an estimated income of \$3,882,250. The apportionment will require but \$3,323,755, some \$60,000 less than the probable revenues.

The board last year fixed the apportionment first at \$4.80; then \$4.90 and finally \$5 for the current year, which will end on the last day of this month.

As compared to the last or current apportionment, that for next year is \$26,255 greater, with an increase of 5,251 children entitled to the school fund. The per capita apportionment is the same \$5.

The only other time the per capita apportionment exceeded \$5 was in 1886, when it was \$5.20, with 452,798 school children. It was \$5 in 1885, 1893 and 1902.

Schiller says: "Joy is the mainspring in the whole round of everlasting nature. Joy moved the wheels of the great timepiece of creation and rolls spheres in distant pace, seen not by the glass of the astronomer." This poetic thought gains beauty when one realizes that he can emulate this brightness, and, instead of being gloomy can, by taking thought, add to another's joys, causing them to view the world through the rose-colored glasses of friendly interest.—Ex.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

MONEY!

is saved by

BUYING THE BEST



We sell the Farrand Organs, Mason & Hamlin, and others. Also a fine line of Pianos, nice line of Violins, Guitars, Mandolins; strings of all kinds.

Basham, Shepherd & Co.

The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEEMAN, PUBLISHER.

Published Every Thursday.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Office..... 57
Residence..... 11

If you know of any news item, we will consider it a special favor if you will report same to this office, either by person, letter or over the phone to either of the above numbers.

Gaps and Go-Between.

Did you ever notice how often it happens that the edges of things fail to come together? Take good times for example: over and over again there are little gaps between them that have to be filled in somehow. Everybody has good times, but with very many, the edges do not overlay; every now and then there is a gap. Then, take good work of every sort. Some times there are not enough people to carry on the work, and sometimes those who want to do the most, are hindered in some way and others, who might do more, forget or grow lazy, and there is something wanting, here and there. Moreover, there are people who can do great things upon occasion, but who can't keep on with them. Now and again, there is a good deed wrought, but there are gaps between and some one must fill in, or the world's good and the world's happiness will suffer from being fragmentary. A great surgeon may perform a skillful and successful operation and save a man's life, but he can not sit by the patient, and keep the dressing of the wound wet with some antiseptic. Some one else must be between the surgeon and the patient for that.

If one feels that he has no great and high mission in life, let him be sure that he can make life happier and better for many, if he will just be a go-between for the little gaps in work and pleasure, and help here and there with a little bit of sympathy, a helpful word, a little lift for a burden, a little brightness for a cloudy time.—Leaves of Light.

What Others Know

Exchange.

We would all be astonished and actually mortified if we but knew what others know and were saying about us. It is a fortunate thing that kind fate ordains we are not to know it. The young man who pays attention to the young lady of his acquaintanceship does not realize until long after all others that he is in love with her and that he is to marry her. While he is nursing this great secret in his breast, sure that no one else knows anything about it, hundreds of persons are discussing it daily and freely. They know exactly how many visits he makes a day or week, how many boxes of candy he sends, and how often they meet on the street. Every turn he makes is watched. While he is wondering to himself if he loves the girl and if she will marry him, the gossips have decided that she does and will. Long before the matter of a wedding has been settled by the interested parties, the gossips have fixed matters to their own liking.

Treatment of Cramp.

Boston Journal.

Many persons of both sexes are troubled with cramp in one or both of the legs. It usually comes on suddenly, and while it lasts the pain is acute. Most people jump out of bed—the cramp nearly always comes on

just after going to bed or while undressing—and either rub their legs themselves or get some one to do it for them. There is nothing easier than to overcome the spasms, and the method suggested as follows: Provide a good stroug cord—a long garter will do if nothing else is handy. When the cramp comes on take the cord, wind it around the leg, over the place in which the pain is felt, and take one end in each hand and give it a sharp pull—one that will hurt a little. The cramp will cease instantly, and the sufferer can go to bed assured that it will not come again that night.

Much in little: "Jails are built out of honest men's earnings. Courts are supported from peaceful men's property. Penitentiaries are built by the toil of virtue. Crime never pays its own way. Vice has no hand to work and no head to calculate. Its whole faculty is to corrupt and to waste and good men foot the bill."

Love Making in Various Lands.

A curious inquirer into enormous customs and traditions has lately set forth some interesting observations on "the way of the world with a maid" in different parts of the world. In Japan, it appears, the affair is carried on with characteristic delicacy. There, the lover who wishes to declare his love throws a bunch of plum flowers into the lady's conveyance as she enters it on her way to the wedding of a friend. Should she fasten them to her gown it signifies that the suitor is accepted; should she throw them away, however, the fates against him. In the arctic regions a less amiable habit prevails. The Eskimo lover cares little for the usual amenities of civilization, he walks boldly into the fair one's abode, seizes her by the hair, or by her garments of fur, and drags her away to his home.

The Hungarian Gypsies use cake as love letters. A coin is baked into sweetmeat, which is then thrown at a favored lady as she passes by. If she eats the cake and retains the coin, all is well; but if she should fling back the silver, it would be fatal to the lover's hopes. Among the savages of the Arabian desert the girl is approached without ceremony while pasturing her flocks. She resists strenuously, attacking her suitor with sticks and stones. If he succeeds in driving her into her father's tent she is his, but if she should repulse him, lifelong disgrace would be his portion.—Harper's Weekly.

YOU DOUBTLESS appreciate prompt, painstaking attention to the details of your banking business. This is where we can be of real service to you.

Warnick's Bank,
Merkel, Texas.

BROOKS COLD TIRE SETTER

Tires Set Quicker and Better and Will Run Longer Without Loosening than is Possible When Set the Old Way.

Compresses the metal cold; no burnt or charred felloe surface to wear away, but a hard wood surface instead; no steam and water soaked felloes to shrink away and loosen the tire; no burnt paint to replace. It gives just the amount of dish required; no over-dishing; no guess work about it. We guarantee our work and refund the money if not satisfactory. Give us a call and see the machine in operation.

Compton & Son,

Merkel, Texas.

Some of the boys engaged in a species of fun last night that is not at all conducive to longevity. When a man is aroused from slumber and finds himself confronted by a "mummy," his gun is liable to go off in the direction of the most convenient hiding place in the vicinity. This happened last night, but no harm was done.

Poultry Wanted

ONE HUNDRED DOZEN.

I will be in Merkel at Hughes' Wagon Yard from Aug. 6 to 15, and will buy all your poultry, including chickens, turkeys and ducks. Large fryers or springs 20 to 22c, or 9c per pound. Fat hens 25c or 6c per pound. Turkeys 7c, ducks 6c, geese 6c. After Aug. 15, ship your poultry to Tom's Meat and Poultry Market, El Paso, Tex., by express, collect on delivery, and they will be paid for upon arrival and the money returned to you by the express company. W. T. Stewart.

It is said that people who sleep with their mouths shut live the longest. This perhaps is true, but those who keep their mouths shut when awake are generally the most popular and derive the most pleasure from living.

A young lady applicant for a school in Missouri, says a St. Louis paper, was asked the question: "What is your position on whipping children?" and her reply was: "My position is on a chair, with the child held firmly across my knees, face downward." She further said, "I am from Missouri, and if you will trot out your kids I'll show you." She got the school.

"Assimilation."

After all the Phillipines themselves seem to be in the assimilating business. About 25 per cent of the soldiers we have over there are sick or on the verge of collapse and the surgeons say Americans at the best cannot withstand the climate more than three years. A significant fact has lately leaked out to the effect that General Davis has been looking for a site in Benguet for a sanitarium with a capacity of 6,000, "where soldiers may be sent to recuperate." This tells whole volumes in a few words.—Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat.

Dog Day Don'ts.

Don't hurry.

Don't walk on the sunny side of the street if you can avoid it.

Don't wear a heavy black hat and thick stuffy clothes. A light crash suit will mean money in your pocket and comfort in your fame.

Don't drink alcoholic liquors, or beverages rich with fugary

sirops or ice cold water. Pure water, or carbonated mineral water, cold but not icy, is best for quenching thirst and far best for the health. Drink it freely, but in small quantities at a time.

Don't wear a high, tight collar. Even to the fool fashions to which men make themselves slaves will permit you to put on a collar half an inch lower and an half inch longer than you wore in cool weather.

Don't ask your neighbor if it is hot enough for him.

Don't worry.

Don't fill your stomach with rich, highly spiced, carbonaceous food. A bowl of bread and milk is better than beefsteak a l'enfer.

Don't swear at the weather forecaster. He is doing his best.

Don't run to catch a car. Walk slowly and catch the next one, or the one after that.—Ex.

Deserves Contempt.

Weimar Mercury.

A white man in Kansas engaged in a crap game with a lot of negroes and won their money. In retaliation the negroes gave him the "water cure" until he told them where his money was hidden, which was secured by them. Then the white man worked on the feelings of his white neighbors, organized a mob and wanted to "do up" the negroes. They became alarmed and appealed to the governor of the state for protection, which he had promised them even to the extent of sending in state troops. What those white people ought to do would be to take that white man, the original cause of the trouble, out and decorate his carcass with a series of stripes, afterward topping off same with a dose of tar and feathers. The white man who hasn't enough self-respect to abstain from gambling with a lot of negroes deserves the contempt of his race—and has it down in this section.

League Program.

Bible lesson, Rom. 1:1-17.

Reference reading.

Debtors to All Men—Miss Sue Browning.

The Value of Man—Arthur Rose.

How to have Paul's Passion for Souls—Miss Edith Freemon.

Reflections—Elmer Maxwell.

THEDFORD'S BLACK-DRAUGHT THE GREAT FAMILY MEDICINE

Theford's Black-Draught has saved doctors' bills for more than sixty years. For the common family ailments, such as constipation, indigestion, hard colds, bowel complaints, chills and fever, biliousness, headaches and other like complaints no other medicine is necessary. It invigorates and regulates the liver, assists digestion, stimulates action of the kidneys, purifies the blood, and purges the bowels of foul accumulations. It cures liver complaint, indigestion, sour stomach, dizziness, chills, rheumatic pains, sideache, backache, kidney troubles, constipation, diarrhoea, biliousness, piles, hard colds and headache. Every drug-gist has Theford's Black-Draught in 25 cent packages and in mammoth size for \$1.00. Never accept a substitute. Insist on having the original made by the Chattanooga Medicine Company.

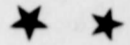
I believe Theford's Black-Draught is the best medicine on earth. It is good for any and everything. I have a family of twelve children, and for four years I have kept them on foot and healthy with no doctor but Black-Draught. A. J. GREEN, Illwaco, La.

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We save you money. Place your orders NOW for FALL delivery. Bank Books a specialty.



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Ed J. Leeman,
Merkel, Texas.

PETTIS CASE

IS AT AN END

Jury Makes the Reward of 9 Years in the Penitentiary—Was a Stubborn Fight.

The Pettis case terminated at Eastland Saturday, and an award of 9 years in the penitentiary was made by the jury. At first it was thought there was a hung jury, as there was a division of opinion, each juror holding out for a different verdict, and the range of justice varying from 3 to 29 years in the penitentiary. However, a compromise was made on 9 years, it is said, after much wrangling.

The Cisco Round-up gives the following account of the trial, which was a stubborn fight from start to finish:

"The last named case is one of the most hotly contested cases that has come up at this term of the District Court. It is a battle of intellect, with Hon. J. M. Wagstaff and S. P. Hardwicke, both of Abilene, leading the defense, and Mr. B. A. Cox, of Abilene, leading the prosecution. The entire council for the State are, B. A. Cox, County Attorney of Taylor County, Bledsoe, G. L. Davenport, and C. D. Spann; the Counsel for the defense are J. M. Wagstaff, S. P. Hardwicke, D. G. Hill, Messrs. Scott & Brelsford.

"Mr. Wagstaff conducted the examination for the defense, while Mr. Cox conducted the prosecution. The trial consisted of continual sparring between the lawyers conducting the case as to the admissibility of testimony and Jude Calhoun displayed remarkable ability in passing upon the questions."

It is not known whether or not an appeal will be taken. Both the defense and prosecution were on a strain the entire week, and, it is said, are very glad the trial is at an end.

Everything Comes

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

Advertising is the secret of success in every business.

You'll Have to Hurry

To Get Some of Our Bargains

The Big Reductions on our Summer Suits are moving them fast. This reduction will last 20 days longer. Ladies' Skirts and Waists at Actual Cost for 10 days. 500 yards of summer Dress Goods that must go, at cost, in the next 15 days. Don't miss the cut price on our men's and ladies' slippers. Come and see. A few bargains in men's negligee shirts for 10 days; don't fail to see them. Our buyer has gone to the market and left us boys to close out the summer goods to make room for the immense stock he is going to buy; so, boy like, we are going to make them go at any old price. See! : : : : :

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|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| You will think we have it for Less | | You will think we have it for Less |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|

Speak the Good Word.

It isn't the thinking how grateful we are
For the kindness of friends come to bless
Our sorrow or loss
'Neath the weight of the cross;
It is telling our gratefulness.

It isn't the love they have in their hearts,
And neglect or forget to reveal,
That brightens the lives
Of husbands and wives;
It is telling the love that they feel.

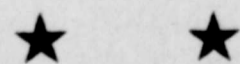
It isn't the thinking of good to mankind
That comes as a cooling drink
To the famishing ones
Of Earth's daughters and sons;
It is the telling the good that we think.

It isn't the music, asleep in the strings
Of the lute, that entrances the ear,
And brings to the breast
The spirit of rest;
It is only the music we hear.

It isn't the lilies we hide from the world,
Nor the roses we keep as our own,
That are strewn at our feet
By the angels we meet
On our way to the Great White Throne,

It isn't the silence of hope unexpressed
That heartens and strengthens the weak
To triumph through strife;
For the great things of life:
It's the words of good cheer that we speak.

—William J. Lampton.



Ustick has just received a large shipment of Fine Jewelry, Hollow Silverware and Cut Glass. See it.

A kind word may be said about almost anybody, and it is often an inspiration. It is better, then to speak of the good rather than the bad in people. In the second place, we help others by speaking kindly of them. Kind words never leave any stings behind them, but on the other hand they encourage and awaken gratitude and pleasureable emotions. It is therefore a great deal better to encourage than to disparage, to inspire than to oppress, to leave pleasant memories instead of bitter recriminations. Would that we were persistently quick always to see the good and speak of it rather than to hunt for the bad and magnify it.—Ex.

W. W. Wheeler is in attendance upon commissioners court at Abilene this week.

Y. H. Berry will leave with his family next week for a visit to the old home in Arkansas. He will also take a car of horses with him.

LOST—Light brindled Jersey cow, left hind leg has been broken and knot showing above knee, X on hip. \$5 for information leading to her recovery. It S. D. McWhorter.

Miss Belle Adcock returned Tuesday from Hodges. She was accompanied by Miss Ethel Winters who will be her guest for a few days.

Mrs. Warren and children are visiting relatives in Abilene.

J. C. Watkins was unable to be at his place of business this morning, and is confined to his bed.

The condition of Bud Marlow is still serious, and small hopes are entertained for his recovery.

Entertainment.

To be given by U. C. V's., Sons of Veterans and Daughters of the Confederacy, at Court House, Abilene, Texas, from 7 to 11 o'clock p. m., Saturday night, Aug. 8, 1903.

Music—Abilene Brass Band.
Call to order—Capt. L. C. Wise, Ch.

Invocation—Dr. Jno. Collier.
Song: "Bonny Blue Flag"—Sung as a solo to chorus by Miss Pearl Eubanks. Chorus by twenty voices.

Address—Gen. K. M. Van Zandt, Fort Worth.

Music—Band.
Recitation—Mrs. W. T. Christian.

Address: "The Sword and Spirit of the South"—Dr. A. H. Mitchell, Dallas.

Music—Band.
Intermission for reception of members.

Solo—Miss Pearl Eubanks.
Duet—Mesdames Douthitt and Sellers.

Quartette—Messrs. Welch, Baker, Northup and Henson.

Benediction—Dr. J. W. Keeble.
Cream and Sherbet will be served in the Court House Hall. Price 15 cents per saucer, two for 25 cents. Entertainment free.

Mrs. Vickers left this morning for her home at Pecos, after a month's visit with relatives here.

Mrs. Phillips, who had been visiting her sister, Mrs. Burroughs, and other relatives, left this morning for her home at Iatan.

Hope and Wisdom

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

Bi'ths.

Born—To Dr. and Mrs. Adkisson the 1st inst., a girl.

To Mr. and Mrs. Selma Russell the 2nd inst., a girl.

Sterling P. Strong, County Clerk of Montague county, is a candidate for State Treasurer. The present incumbent, Jno. W. Robbins, is a candidate for reelection.

M. M. Norris is reported quite sick, but The Mail hopes for his early recovery.

Time to Advertise.

It is time now for the merchants of Merkel to begin their fall campaign of advertising. No town in this country offers better facilities or greater inducements to the trading public than Merkel, but it must be proclaimed from the housetops. Our fine cotton market must be heralded abroad.

We have something to offer the people and no time should be lost in doing it.

Parties who expect to exhibit anything at the West Texas Fair, to be held at Abilene Oct. 13-17, are assured that there will be ample premiums offered in all departments. Premium lists will soon be ready. If you want one address

2t Max R. Andrews, Abilene, Texas.

Don't send your orders for calendars out of town, but give them to the Mail. We have the prettiest line ever shown in the town and guarantee the prices to be as low as any foreign concern can possibly make.

Mrs. Hoople has moved her millinery into the Woodard place.

Abilene parties are soon to open up a new barber shop in the Grimmett building.

W. W. WHEELER,
Real Estate, Life, Fire and Tornado Insurance Agent,
Notary Public.

Takes Acknowledgements, Draws up Deeds, etc. Office in First National Bank.

J. M. PATE
THE BARBER,

NORTH FRONT STREET.

M. J. PATE,
Tonsorial Artist and
Cranium Manipulator

First class barber work guaranteed. Give me a trial.

DR. J. W. LITTLE,
Resident Dentist.

EXAMINATIONS FREE — OFFICE IN FERRIER BUILDING.

LEEMAN & KING,
Physicians & Surgeons

Diseases of Women and Children a Specialty. Office, Burroughs & Mann's Drug Store.

R. B. USTICK

DEALER IN

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Etc.

Repairing a Specialty

J. J. MILLER,
Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public,
Land and Collecting Agent.

Will practice in all the courts of Texas. All business entrusted to my care will receive prompt attention. Will pay taxes for non-residents, also pay interest on lands for all who may trust their business with me; will make proof of final settlement on homestead and school land property. I solicit your patronage. 6-1pd

HELPFUL READING Some newspapers print matter to fill up space. Much of this is harmful reading. It is the aim of the **WEEKLY NEWS** to give helpful reading. Thousands will testify to its helpfulness to them. Ask your neighbor.

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

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

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

Dr. King's New Discovery

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

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

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

Best Passenger Service

...IN...
TEXAS



"No Trouble to Answer Questions."

DINING CARS

BETWEEN
FORT WORTH and SAINT LOUIS

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

The Merkel Mail

ED J. LEEMAN, Editor and Prop'r.

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

Subscription Rates:

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

ADVERTISING RATES

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

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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

Give the home hunter a grip of welcome.

Taylor County is prosperous, thank you.

Now watch the pops break out in a new place.

A clean town is the way to talk it. And work while you talk.

His Whiskers Sebastian should not get scared so early in the race.

Hog and hominy in plenty—that's the way the farmers are talking it.

As a choice between the devil and Roosevelt's negro policy, we'll take the former.

Bargain seekers always scan the columns of the local paper, and they are nearly always rewarded for their pains.

The feed question in this country is settled for next year at least. Kansas and Missouri corn must hunt other markets.

If there is any virtue in the early bird proposition, then those fellows who have announced for office in Johnson County are assured of a walk-over.

This senatorial district will experience a great political upheaval next year. Already there are rumblings of a disturbance in the political atmosphere.

It is none too soon to begin talking up the Merkel cotton market. Don't exaggerate or enlarge upon the situation, but just tell the people it is the best market in all this country.

There is no use in hagling over local differences. Just pull off your coat and go to work. There should be unity and concert of action, looking to the good of the town above all else.

The Pops' Rip Van Winkle sleep has been rudely disturbed by a meeting of the faithful at Denver. The in-a-sensitive reference-to-the-end is still to the fore, and whereasing and resolving the order of the day.

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

Roosevelt's negro policy will prove a main factor in undoing the Republican party next year. Effects of the policy may already be noted in Indiana and Illinois, scenes of the recent race riots, and there is a constant upheaval of these differences in other Republican strongholds. The anthracite differences, which have

had the effect of opening the eyes of the labor organizations, will also prove a stumbling block in the way of the administration. Republican promises can hot hold out against stubborn facts.

The hog industry is growing in this country, and the farmers have begun to realize that there is big money in raising hogs, both for market and for home consumption. We have kept our smoke houses in the north long enough. Plant hogs.

W. P. Brown of New Orleans, who has made millions in spot cotton by bulling the market, is still master of the situation, having last week bid fifteen cents for July option, with no tenders. If the gentleman can control the situation until the 1903-4 crop is out of the farmers' hands he will have earned their everlasting gratitude.

The Colorado Spokesman pertinently remarks that it is not better laws that we need, but officers who will enforce the laws we already have. That is a self-evident proposition. One law enforced is worth a hundred unenforced. The day is now when good men only must be put in office—men who hold principle above aspiration.

Justice Brewer's tirade against those who are crying out against the "injunction craze" is both untimely and unwise. Nobody desires to take away the power of injunction; the abuse of this power only has been criticised. It is wrong to interfere with the conceded rights of an individual. It is wrong to impose a burden upon the many in order to gratify the appetite of the few, as has been done in many instances and particularly in the case of the anthracite miners, who were denied the succor of friends and left to starve or submit to unjust demands. The abuse of the power of injunction has been so widespread that it has fallen into disrepute and is made to serve as a cloak to cover infractions of the laws of the land. Hence, there can be no justification of the use and abuse of this restraining power.

Every paper, almost, that you pick up is urging the people to stay with and patronize home and home people in preference to foreign concerns; but in the face of this we find that the very ones who would be the beneficiaries under this policy are the first to break over. It is all very well to stand up for home, but there should be a head and foot mark. The merchants, at least, should practice what they preach. In looking over the Colorado Clipper we find a mild roast of the Texas and Pacific Telephone company. This company has received a vast amount of free advertising from the press, and yet when it needs a small amount of stationery the order is placed with a Dallas house. The Clipper has offered to duplicate the work and prices and was entitled to the work. The newspapers must fight this practice to the bitter end, for it is sapping at the very vitals of newspaper prosperity. Very few newspapers in Texas could hold up without their job department, and the leakage must be stopped or the papers will be forced to leave the field to the city dailies. Can the business men afford this? Are they willing to buck against the mail order houses without the protection of the weekly press?

WITH THE PRESS GANG.

If prohibition kills won't there be dead towns to burn in North Texas! And still the municipal suicide goes bravely on.—Taylor County News.

If prohibition kills, then Texas had just as well wipe out and start anew. The march of prohibition has been steadily forward and there is no telling where it will end.

Some business men take their troubles home with them and their joys down town.—Alvord Budget.

And some take their ads out of the papers and leave an aching void at both places.

The political ghost of Grover Cleveland has again been brought before the democracy of the country.—Snyder Light.

A disoriented politician is the wrong proposition to back against a real live Republican of the Roosevelt variety. But the Light needn't be scared; there is no danger of the Democratic party centering on Grover the Dodger.

It is said that there are those in Comanche who delight to visit other peoples' chicken coops after the somber shades of night have fallen.—Visitor.

The Visitor should be more explicit. What is the result of these moonlight excursions? If no harm is done, then the Visitor should be charitable; but if such prowlings portend trouble for the barnyard, it should raise Cain and make the night hideous with its wailings.

What with a gum-bile on our nose, another one on our underlip, we haven't been in good shape to receive company this week.—Forney Messenger.

That is no doubt the best place a gum-bile could possibly break out on Mary Jane. There is no danger of disfiguring her(?) looks, however much it may upset her(?) equanimity.

Kaufman County farmers have organized an anti-weed crusade of their own, and they are slaying weeds by the million.—Terrell Transcript.

Same over here, and more. Farmers are offering a premium to any person that can scare up a weed in their crops. This year has been a deadener on weeds, anyway.

There are lands in Texas richer than the lands of Cass County, but we doubt if there is a section anywhere where a living can be made easier than here, or where there is a finer field for speculation.—Atlanta Citizens Journal.

Take Horace Greely's advice and come west, young man, and you will then change the meter of your song. Good corn without rain has been made in this county this year, and the outlook is bright for other crops. Show your hand, brother.

Perhaps wife's pie would taste as good as those mother used to bake if we had the same kind of digestive apparatus we had when mother was doing the baking.—Alvord Budget.

The only trouble about this is, there is no stuffin' to go in the pie, and a pie without stuffin' is like a bunghole without a barrel. Our digestive apparatus hasn't cried "too much."

One result of the closing of the saloons is now plain. No vulgar or indecent language can be

Just Returned

From the eastern markets with a good big stock of

NEW - GOODS

We can make you a Saddle or set of Harness to order. You tell us what you want and we will make it. Yours for Business,

TRY
M E.

R. L. HUDSON.

heard on the square and a lady may with safety pass in front of any building in town.—Erath Appeal.

The Appeal was not a partisan on either side in the recent prohibition campaign in Erath, and, therefore, can view the situation from the view point of an interested looker on. Note the first impression.

Prohibition Matters.

The prohibitionists captured Parker County Saturday by over 500 majority. Parker County was "dry" before this election, and the usual injunction effort will hardly be attempted there.

To offset this victory of the pros., Hamilton County retained its saloons by 200 votes in Saturday's election. There were only three "wet" precincts in Hamilton before this election.

A prominent worker tells a story of a mother who won a silver cup at a euchre party; on displaying the same next morning, her son, a lad in his teens, confidently told her that he had done better than that by winning ten dollars at the pool table the night before. She could not condemn the lad, but it taught her a lesson not soon forgotten.

Time to Advertise.

It is time now for the merchants of Merkel to begin their fall campaign of advertising. No town in this country offers better facilities or greater inducements to the trading public than Merkel, but it must be proclaimed from the housetops. Our fine cotton market must be heralded abroad.

We have something to offer the people and no time should be lost in doing it.

Simmons College, Abilene, Texas.

Is an endowed educational Christian Institution.

The twelfth annual session will begin on Monday, September the fourteenth, 1903, and close on Thursday, June the Sixteenth, 1904. The departments are Academy (four years), College (four years) Music-any instrument (two to six years), Painting and Drawing (two to four years), Oratory (two years), Commercial Science, and Military Tactics (two years). Yale, Berlin, Univ. of Chicago, and ten other colleges and universities are represented in the Faculty.

The standard of scholarship in the several departments is that of the best institutions in the United States.

All expenses for the session (exclusive of the fine Arts-music, painting, and oratory) amount to two hundred and fifth dollars. Each course in the fine arts costs fifty dollars for the session. The session is divided into three terms and fees for each Term are payable at the beginning of the Term.

Simmons College doubled its enrollment and had no case of serious illness on its campus last session.

The College has seven brick buildings and fourteen instructors.

For catalogue or other information write to

Oscar H. Cooper, LL. D.,
President.

Isaac N. Taylor is moving up from Abilene and will again locate in Merkel. We are glad to have him with us, and hope the change will prove beneficial.

RACINE BUGGIES

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

GENUINE COMFORT AND DURABILITY

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

We invite you to call at our buggy repository.

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

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

ED S. HUGHES & CO.,

Distributors, - Abilene, Texas.

The Death Penalty.

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

A Sad Death.

The entire populace was greatly shocked Friday morning when the announcement was made of the death of Mrs. W. L. Clay. She had been sick only two or three days from some heart affection, and her death was sudden and came without warning. Few of her nearest neighbors knew of her serious condition.

Funeral services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. R. B. Young, at the cemetery Saturday morning. The floral offerings were many and very beautiful, and the funeral procession was the largest ever seen in the town, reaching very nearly from the family home to the cemetery, a distance of a mile.

Mrs. Clay was a good woman in all the term implies. She was a consistent Christian, a good neighbor, loyal to her church and friends, and above all a true wife and mother. Her reward will be great.

To the husband and five children who survive her The Mail tenders its deepest sympathy. The home is dark and lonely now, and the family circle is broken; but the thought of her life and the good that she did here should be a solace to them. May God watch over the little ones and shield them from all harm, and may He enter the now desolate home and by His presence dispel the gloom that hangs like a pall of darkness, shutting out the light, happiness and mother love and leaving desolation in its stead.

Friends of the family have been faithful in their ministrations, and every act of theirs shows the high esteem in which this good woman was held. May her life be an inspiration for good to the husband and children.

Brother Leeman of The Merkel Mail is putting in some good work for wide rows and a better yield of crops. He is also doing some fine missionary work for the settlement and improvement of our fertile but vacant lands. The truth about the advantages of this country is good enough.—Reporter.

Clyde Cranston and Miss Ethel Winters spent Sunday in the city. Miss Belle Adcock returned with them and will spend a few days as the guest of Miss Winters.

For Sale—No., 2 Caligraph typewriter, cash or reasonable terms.
2t G. E. Comegys.

C. W. Bacon left Tuesday for St. Louis to lay in the fall stock of goods for Watson & Bacon.

Eight or ten wagon loads of machinery were hauled out to Stith Monday for the new gin.

Tilden Brown of Van Alstyne, who has been prospecting here for some time, left Tuesday for his home. He was favorably impressed with the country and will move here if he can dispose of his Grayson county holdings.

The Reporter states that the Pettis case will be appealed.

Judge Miller visited Abilene Monday.

Bargain Counter!

We have placed on a certain counter in our store a few items to be sold under value. The goods are new and are all right every way. We found we were overstocked and preferred taking our loss now rather than at the end of the season. We mention a few RARE BARGAINS NOW ON THE COUNTER: ∴ ∴ ∴

Men's Canvas Shoes, were 1.50, now\$1.19
Boys' Canvas Shoes, 3s to 5s, were 1.50, now 1.04
Boys' Canvas Shoes, 13s to 2s, were 1.25, now93
Boys' Canvas Shoes, 8s to 12s, were 1.00, now82
Ladies' Patent Leather Slippers, 2.00 kind..... 1.48
A few pair men's 1.00 Gloves at..... .88
Ladies' Fancy Hose, 20c kind..... .13
Ladies' Fancy Hose, 10c kind..... .07
35c matting now 25c. 30c kind at 22c. 25c kind at 18c
One lot of about 50 Wash Skirts—Crash, Covert and Duck—were 1.50, now 1.18

J. T. Warren.

Not Over-Wise.

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

Just to see what happens, try Chase & Sanborn's Teas and Coffees, when you are tired. Sold by

J. T. Warren.

Strayed—One sorrel mare about 13 hands high, branded B H L (connected) on thigh. \$2.50 for information leading to her recovery.
2t Jos. A. Tuckness.

Buy a summer lap spread off Warren's Bargain Counter.

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

In the catalogue of Baylor University Medical College at Dallas we notice the name of Dr. J. H. Florence as member of the faculty, being Professor of Obstetrics. Dr. Florence was formerly a resident of this place. Dr. Samuel W. Leeman of Honey Grove, a nephew of Dr. J. A. Leeman of this place, is Professor of Medicine. The medical college is now under the control of Baylor University of Waco.

Mrs. W. A. Cozart has returned from a very pleasant visit to her brother at Muskogee, I. T.

End of Bitter Fight.

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

W. A. Cozart returned from Eastland Saturday, where he was a "star" witness in the Pettis trial. W. A. always manages to get caught—always knows too much.

Miss Valley Hill returned from Abilene Friday where she attended the normal.

Mrs. J. C. Hamm and Miss Florence Collins visited at Sweetwater Sunday.

H. C. Burroughs left Sunday night for Arlington to see his mother, who is still in a critical condition.

The two children of L. P. Ligon of Abilene, while playing on the bed Saturday, found a pistol under the pillow, and in some way the weapon was discharged, the ball entering the head of the little girl, aged 7 years, and causing instant death. The boy, in whose hands the weapon was discharged, was only 5 years old.

Attention of Mail readers is called to the ad of J. O. Hamilton on last page.

County court is in session at Abilene.

John R. Hutto and Miss Rebecca Nelson and Al G. Searcy and Miss Nannie Nelson were married at Abilene Sunday.

Mrs. Chas. Mann returned from a visit to her parents, at Sulphur Springs, Tuesday.

Puts an End to it All.

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

J. T. Warren has placed on sale a nice line of saddles from \$16.50 to \$35.

To The Public.

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

Don't send your orders for calendars out of town, but give them to the Mail. We have the prettiest line ever shown in the town and guarantee the prices to be as low as any foreign concern can possibly make.

To Ice Consumers.

Orders for ice should be given not later than 10 o'clock for morning deliveries and by 5 o'clock for evening deliveries. This will enable us to make deliveries promptly and satisfactorily. Please bear this in mind.
J. W. & L. M. Watkins.

No prizes go with our high grade coffees and teas—nothing but cream, sugar and satisfaction.
J. T. Warren.

For Sale—Registered Berkshire male, two years old, cash or trade.
2t E. D. Sherman.

Don't fail to read Warren's Bargain Counter ad.

Will Hamilton left for Abilene Monday, where he will study law under one of Abilene's best law firms. Will graduated from the law department of State University last year, and has his sheep skin. Abilene people should treat him kindly, for he is a deserving young man and worthy of implicit trust and confidence.

Physician and Druggists.

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

T. P. Gibson and family left Monday night for Fairport, Miss., on a visit to Mr. Gibson's sister, whom he has not seen for sixteen years. They will be absent about a month, and The Mail wishes them a very pleasant visit.

A refreshing shower fell southeast of town, in the Rock Crossing neighborhood, Sunday evening.

The Methodist protracted meeting at this place will begin on the third Sunday. The pastor, Rev. Young, has just closed a successful revival at White Church in the Canyon.

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

Bynum & Muir,
Abilene, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Walden left last week for Dublin to spend a few weeks with the latter's parents.

J. S. Cordill, of the Roscoe Lumber Co., of Roscoe, was here Friday.

W. L. Grogan of Sweetwater informed a reporter Saturday that he would more than likely be in the race for the Senate next year. He has not formally announced, however.

If you want a cut of your building, either residence or business house, in The Mail, bring around a picture and \$2.50 in money.

Advertised Letters.

Following letters remain uncalled for in the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, and if not called for will be sent to the Dead Letter office Aug. 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

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

If you have a buggy that needs painting take it to J. C. Watkins. He has a nice room in the rear of his store fitted up for that purpose. He also buys or sells on commission anything you may have to dispose of.

Ustick has just received a large shipment of jewelry, embracing many new and up-to-date goods. See them.

It is easier for a man to go to heaven on a full stomach than on an empty one. Now is the time to advertise.

Wagon for sale, cash or fall time.

J. H. Warnick.

A fine line of cut glass to arrive soon at Ustick's.

Things Not To Do.

- It is bad to make remarks about the food at dinner.
- To talk about things which only interest yourself.
- To contradict your friends when they are speaking.
- To grumble about your home and relatives to outsiders.
- To say smart things which may hurt one's feelings.
- To dress shabbily in the morning because no one will see you.
- To be rude to those who serve you, either at shop or at home.
- To think first of your own pleasure when you are giving a party.
- To refuse ungraciously when somebody wishes to do you a favor.
- To behave in a street car or train as if no one else had a right to be there.
- To speak disrespectfully to any one older than yourself.—Gem.

Pretty Tough to Scratch.

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

Mrs. R. L. Hudson is quite sick with slow fever, though is not seriously ill. We hope for her early recovery.

J. T. WARREN, PRES.
G. F. WEST, VICE PRES.
T. A. JOHNSON, ASST. CASHIER.

**THE
FIRST
NATIONAL
BANK,
—OF—
MERKEL, TEXAS**

**Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits \$65,000
Shareholders' Responsibilities over \$100,000**

We are always in a position to take care of our friends and customers. We want your business and will treat you right and make it to your interest.

GEO. S. BERRY, Cash.

There is a farmer who is Y's
Enough to take his E's
And study nature with his I's,
And think of what he C's.
He hears the clatter of the J's,
As they each other T's;
And sees that when a tree D K's
It makes a home for B's.
A pair of oxen he will U's
With many "Haws" and "G's"
And their mistakes will be X Q's
While plowing for his P's.
In raising crops he all X L's,
And therefore little O's;
And as he hoes his soil by spells,
He also soils his hose.
—Texas Farmer.

Follow Your Bent.

Professor Slosson of Wyoming university says: "If a boy shows a talent for culinary art or for dressmaking he must not be debarred from training in these arts, for he may get a larger salary and possibly even contribute more to human happiness as an Oscar or a Worth than as an engineer or a lawyer. If a girl shows a taste for mechanics let her have the necessary opportunity to develop her genius. The world needs great inventors so much that we must not miss any chance, however slight, of getting one. In a coeducational college, where freedom of election is allowed, the two sexes largely segregate into different lines of work according to their tastes and capacities, but to force them into some particular form of education because of sex is dangerous."

For Merkel Boys to Read.

There is a boy in this town about 15 years old who is working every day in the hot sun for 50 cents a day and he don't have to work for a living either. His father has plenty of money and plenty of property, but this boy has been trained up in the way he should go, and when school was out he went to work. We are informed that he already has a bank account of several hundred dollars, which he has accumulated out of his earnings. He is always ready to do a job of work, but no one ever saw him loafing around town cursing and smoking cigarettes, and every one respects him. The name of this boy is Clifton Roper.—Mt Pleasant Review.

The New Drug Law.

The substance of the law is that any person within this State cannot sell or cause to be sold or give away or cause to be given away, any morphine, opium, cocaine, chloral or any of the derivatives thereof, unless upon written prescription of a doctor permitted under the law to practice in Texas. The person so giving or selling shall be fined not less than \$25 nor more than

\$250, and in addition may be imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by such fine without imprisonment. All prescriptions must be filed and such file must be subject to public inspection, and failure to file and keep subject to inspection shall subject person to a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$100. Any physician or other person who shall give any prescription to any person known to be a habitual user of any said drugs, except in case of actual sickness, shall be fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$250, and in addition may be imprisoned not exceeding six months, or by such fine without the imprisonment. This does not include proprietary medicines sold by druggists or others, which may contain any of the above named drugs or their derivatives, unless compounded and sold for evasion. The law also provides that no druggist or other person is allowed to re-fill any prescription for any of the drugs above named.

The Power of Habit.

As the habits are formed in early life so must the pathway of all years be conformed. It is with the young man himself to determine what his future life is to be by the character he develops in his youth. The man who has reached thirty years of age without more than a well-settled character of integrity and habits bids fair to make a success.

The man, on the other hand, who has, at thirty years of age, contracted habits of shifty expedience, although fate may have richly endowed him with apparent success, has builded his house upon the sands, and the winds of adversity will overwhelm that house when it is too late to put foundations under it.

Reckon not without the power of habit, oh ye who think to change your courses from evil to uprighteousness. There is found a demon that knows no cessation of terrible pressure toward the paths that have been made familiar. Avoid the conflict that is inevitable to him that goes wrong, thinking that some day he will change his course. It is easy to form good habits, but it is a life and death struggle to break away from bad ones.—Austin Daily Statesman.

Asked to be Excused.

A little 6-year old boy of this day who had been taught by his mother to say "excuse me" when interrupting conversation, was saying his prayers the other evening. Clad in his night robe from under which his bare feet peeped, his little sister could not withstand the temptation to tickle the soles of his feet. Where-

upon the little fellow stopped and said:

"Please, God, excuse me while I kick the stuffin out of Nellie."
—Ex.

Rather an unusual state of affairs has come up at Granger, in Williamson county. During the canvass the larger portion of the merchants and business men made the plea that farmers would not do business there if the saloons were voted out. Granger gave the anti nearly two to one majority. Now some of the neighboring farmers reply by saying they will make an agreement to withdraw their trade from Granger and go to other towns. An agreement to this effect is circulating and the first day had about fifty signatures.

Stamford and the Rock Island.

The field work of the Rock Island railroad survey from Graham to Stamford has been completed to Stamford. The office work necessary to be done to put the survey in shape to be presented to the Rock Island railway officials, will require about ten days more time. From what Col. Dunvall tells us, there can be but little doubt about the Rock Island accepting this as the best and most practicable route from Graham westward. The coal fields through which it passes is said to be immense, and it is much superior to the Thurber coal, and much greater in quantity. This route also passes through the heart of the finest farming country between Graham and any point west of that place.—Stamford Courier.

As a Medium of Enterprise.

John Wanamaker, the merchant prince, who chiefly through judicious advertising has made millions, makes the following statement:

"A newspaper whose columns overflow with advertisements of business men has more influence in attracting attention and building up a town than any other agency that can be employed. People go where there is business. Capital and labor go where there is an enterprising community. No power on earth is so strong to build up a town so well as a paper well patronized, and its power should be appreciated. The man who overlooks his town paper injures himself by injuring his town and towneman."

Of all the insidious little habits that creep and sneak upon man there is none more useless or less profitable than that which fastens itself upon his moods and makes a doleful prophet of him—one who goes about looking for the worst, preaching the gospel of gloom and foretelling dis-

aster. The cheerful man who looks the part, who makes the most of the present and leaves the future to work out its own destiny is an asset to any community. But the doleful individual, the bilious, jaundiced, unwholesome creature who goes about exhaling direful forebodings from bottomless caverns of gloom is a neighborhood nuisance for whom there is hardly room in any well established community.—Yoakum Times.

Political Assassinations.

Assassination as a political weapon has figured largely in the history of Europe, and of our own country. The following is a partial list of rulers removed by being murdered:

- 1801—Paul, Czar of Russia.
- 1801—Sultan Selim of Turkey.
- 1854—Charles III of Parma.
- 1859—President of Hayti.
- 1860—Danilo, Prince of Montenegro.
- 1865—President Lincoln.
- 1868—Prince Milos of Servia.
- 1872—Col. Balta of Peru.
- 1872—Moreno, President of Ecuador.
- 1873—Gutheriex, President of Peru.
- 1876—Sultat Abdul Azic, Turk.
- 1881—Czar Alex. III, Russia.
- 1881—President Garfield.
- 1894—Pres. Carnot, France.
- 1896—Shah of Persia.
- 1896—Queen of Korea.
- 1898—Empress of Austria.
- 1900—King Humbert of Italy.
- 1901—President McKinley.
- 1903—King and Queen Servia.

Associates.

Selected.
I believe if worldly people would allow themselves to be thrown into Christian company they would grow better every day of their lives. No matter whether you want to be influenced for good or evil or not the company you are thrown in will draw you in under all circumstances.

Gamblers go with gamblers; drunkards go with drunkards; thieves go with thieves; Christians with Christians, and so on. "Birds of a feather flock together." We should all try and select company that would be a credit to us, and we could gain knowledge from, in place of some that would be debasing. No person is so good but that they can be made better. So it is with the reverse. We live and learn all the time. There is not anything sweeter than to be thrown in Christian company. They cause you to elevate your thoughts and plant a noble purpose in your lief, which is the means of making you into true men and women. We all have a battle before us. We are all tempted, and if we do not fight against it we are sure to fall a victim to the world's traps. Now let each of us select some good Christian associate so we may gain knowledge, strength and power and be a great help to others.

More than one-ninth of the big state of Texas is situated west of the Pecos river and is known as the trans-Pecos country. When compared with other political divisions this part of Texas is an empire, being greater than eleven states of the Union—New York, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, greater in area than the combined area of Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. It is greater in area than either of the states of West Virginia or South Carolina; greater in area than the Indian Territory, and nearly as great as the state of Maine.

Hump Back
SCOTT'S EMULSION won't make a hump back straight, neither will it make a short leg long, but it feeds soft bone and heals diseased bone and is among the few genuine means of recovery in rickets and bone consumption.
Send for free sample.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists,
409-415 Pearl Street, New York.
50c. and \$1.00; all druggists.

Vehicles!

I have the best line of Buggies and Wagons on the market. The prices speak for themselves. Come and see

W. H. Dickson

ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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The Home.

A home? It is the bright, blessed, adorable phantom which sits highest in the sunny horizon that girdeth life! When shall it cease to be a glittering day dream and become fully and fairly yours?

It is not the house, though, that may have its charms, nor the fields carefully tilled and streaked with your own foot-paths; nor the trees, though their shadows be to you like that of a great rock in a weary land, nor yet is it the fireside with its sweet blaze play; nor the pictures that tell of the loved ones; nor the cherished books; but more than all these—it is the presence! The altar of your confidence is there; the end of your worldly faith is there; and adorning it all and sending your blood in a passionate flow is the ecstasy of conviction that there at least you are beloved—there you are understood; that there your errors ever will meet with gentle forgiveness; that there your troubles will be smiled away; that there you may unburden your soul free from harsh unsympathizing ears; and that there you may be entirely and joyfully yourself.—Selected.

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HOUSE COLD TIRE SETTER

A Machine That Does the Work.

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

Moon & Hargroves,

Uncle Sam's Expenses

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Laugh and the World

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

Take Your Home Paper.

Do the city papers say anything in regard to your locality? Do they contain notices of your schools, churches, improvements and hundreds of local matters of general interest which your home papers publish? Not an item. Do they say a word calculated to draw attention to your own town and country? Not a line. And there are men who take contracted views of this matter, who think unless they are getting as many square inches of reading matter in their home paper they are not getting the worth of their money. It reminds us of the man who took the largest boots in the box because the price was the same as the pair that fitted him. Take a city paper if you want one, but don't let it crowd the local paper out of your home.—Ex.

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Next to rejecting the proposal of a man she doesn't want to marry, a girl gets the most enjoyment out of snubbing another girl that isn't in her seat.

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Special to The Mail.

Baird, Tex., Aug. 5.—During a drunken row at a house of ill fame in this city yesterday evening at 6 o'clock, O. S. Geisert shot and mortally wounded Ruby Opal, an inmate of the house. After shooting his victim three times he then placed the pistol to his own breast and pulled the trigger. Both will die. Geisert is a railroad man recently from Topeka, Kansas.

Card of Thanks.

W. L. Clay and children request The Mail to extend their sincere thanks to the kind friends who so nobly administered to them in their great trial. They are profoundly grateful and will ever hold their deeds of kindness in loving remembrance.

MERKEL HIGH SCHOOL.

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

Merkel High School opens Sept. 14, 1903, and continues nine months. All who wish to transfer their children to Merkel school should do so at once. There is every reason for believing that the next year will be the most successful year in the history of the school. It is the aim of all concerned to give the pupils attending Merkel High School advantages equal to those afforded by the best schools in the State.

You will make no mistake if you enter your children in Merkel High School. 3t

We now have a Turning Lathe and can turn out anything in woodwork; also have installed a feed mill and can grind your corn, etc., at reasonable prices. See us when in need of anything in our line.

Parker & Willingham.

Dysentery Cured Without the Aid of a Doctor.

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

If Andrew Carnegie wants to die poor, we would advise him to buy a country printing office, and endeavor to run it to please everybody. There is no surer road to poverty, to jail, to the grave and to the devil. Andrew Carnegie would soon have his hands so full of libel suits that it would require more money to pay lawyers than he has; the money being gone he would have to go to jail, there he would die of grief; then his spirit would wing its way to Fiddlers Green, as liars never go to heaven—and it is necessary for editors who try to please everybody to be liars.—Stephenville Empire.

See the new line of silverware at Ustick's.

If you need anything in the saddle and harness line you should see R. L. Hudson before buying. He is making up a fine stock.

SALE DAY AT MERKEL.

Fourth Saturday in Each Month is Trade and Sale Day.—Do Not Fail to Come.

Bring in your marketable horses, mules, and such property that generally changes hands on such days. Stuff will be sold at auction, and cash buyers will be on hand to take you up on all reasonable cash propositions.

Don't fail to attend. Ample accommodations can always be had at Story's Wagon Yard.

Suicide Prevented.

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

Rev. A. A. Baker, instead of Rev. T. N. Lowery, officiated at the McCarty-Hargroves wedding last week. We don't want to deprive Bro. Baker of that honor, hence this correction.

A Kaufman county farmer sued his neighbor for nine dollars' worth of oats. The suit was contested and the plaintiff paid out \$28 for lawyer's fee, costs, etc., and the defendant \$12.20. Pending the settlement of the suit the oats were spoiled by the rain. Thus the evidence accumulates that the fool killer is out of business.—Sulphur Springs Gazette.

The Methodist church now has 51 colleges and universities, 55 classical seminaries, 9 institutions exclusively for women, not including foreign mission schools. These institutions contained 51,606 students last year. The valuation of the property devoted to education, with endowment, is \$40,000,000.

What's the Trouble

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

ISAAC N. TAYLOR,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW AND NOTARY PUBLIC.

Offers his professional services to the people of Merkel and surrounding country. Prompt and reliable attention to all favors granted him.

The Mail gives all the news.

A TICK TEST

Fred Robinson of Audra, Tex., fed Bass' Medicated Stock Salt to two work horses which ran in a very ticky pasture with cattle. All were almost covered with ticks. He noticed one horse ate the salt and other did not. In a few days no ticks were on the salt eating horse, but were as bad as ever on other horse. He then examined the cattle and all in the pasture with Bass' Salt were clear of ticks, but none except ones eating Bass' Salt were clean.

W. M. Horn, Hodges, Tex., says: "My cattle were dying with fever, and ticks were on them, when I began with Bass' Medicated Stock Salt. Not one was sick afterward and in two weeks could not find a tick."

Geo. W. McDaniel lost 5 out of 70 head in two or three days. On the day he began with Bass' Medicated Salt no more were sick.

Mack Merchant fed Bass' Medicated Salt to his cattle, not thinking of ticks. In a month the ticks were gone, but he does not know how long before. Some say it was hot weather and some Bass' Medicated Stock Salt.

J. T. Warren sells it; see for yourself.

Is Money Any Object to You?

You like to save money, no matter whether you are worth ten dollars or ten thousand.

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

We have inaugurated a scheme that will make money saving easy for all who take advantage of it. The scheme is this: All Dry Goods, Shoes, Hats, Pants, Shirts, etc., will be sold during August at a **HEAVY DISCOUNT!**

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

J. O. HAMILTON

The Farmer's Column.

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

The most successful way to develop insect pests on a farm is to continue to plant the same crops on the same ground year after year. Each different crop has its special destructive parasites, and these pests, if supplied with their favorite host crop will increase until the host crop is overwhelmed, and then the farmer curses his luck. Rotation will do more to abate insect pests than sprays or the introduction of parasitic enemies.

Don't stop the cultivators because the weeds and grass have been exterminated in the cotton fields. Not knowing how dry it may be before the cotton and corn is matured. It has been demonstrated that "laying by" time comes too early, and that this event ought to be postponed two or three weeks beyond the time usually adopted. Late cultivation is often the best for the crops.

One of the most valuable machines used on a farm is a good pair of horses or mules. These are the machines that make other machines go, and they should be taken care of for they are too valuable to be worn out with hard or rapid work, or permitted to rust from exposure, or to look for the oil and fuel contained in good oats and hay.

The boll weevil has developed recently in many sections of the State. The following description of the pest will enable any one to identify it: Color brown or blackish. When in natural position, the beak hangs down like an elephant's snout. When dead or when feigning death, the weevil's general appearance suggests a baby elephant. Many weevils have beaks and, in size and color resemble the boll weevil, but one marked feature of the boll weevil can be relied upon to identify any specimen—note the hooked enlargement of the upper joint of the first pair of legs in the grown weevil. This can be easily seen with the naked eye and other weevils do not have it.

If wheat and oat stubble is turned under and planted with cow peas, and a large lot of ex-

cellent pea vine hay made and also a lot of the peas gathered for seed for next year's planting, or for sale at \$2 per bushel to those who do not plant cow-peas, or who planted too late to make seed, and thereby ten bushels of corn, or 200 pounds of seed cotton be gained on next year's crops, would it not be profitable? We wonder how many farmers have tried this experiment. All reading and observing farmers know that this practice is an excellent one for it improves the land while growing a profitable crop. The mystery about this practice is that any farmer should refuse to adopt it as a regular system.

Words of Jefferson.

These "Words of Jefferson" live today. Are you interested in them?

He said the judges should not be dependent upon any man or any body of men.

The law of the majority is the natural law of men.

It is better to abolish monopolies in all cases than not to do it in any.

I am not among those who fear the people. They, and not the rich, are our dependence for continued freedom.

The whole art of government consists in the art of being honest.

Where the press is free, and every man able to read, all is safe.

If a nation expects to be ignorant and free in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be.

Those who bear equally the burdens of government should equally participate of its benefits.

Wealth acquired by speculation and plunder is fugacious in its nature and fills society with the spirit of gambling.

Do not be frightened into the surrender of true principles by the alarms of the timid or the croakings of wealth against ascendancy of the people.

What a cruel reflection that a rich country cannot long be a free one.

If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretense of taking care of them, they must become happy.

I think we have more machinery of government than is neces-

sary, too many parasites living on the labor of the industries.

Take not from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned.

The persons and property of our citizens are entitled to the protection of our government in all places where they may lawfully go.

Whenever there is in any country uncultivated lands and unemployed poor it is clear that the laws properly have been so far extended as to violate natural rights.—Chicago American.

Cotton At 15 Cents.

New Orleans, La., July 30.—The Brown-Hayne bull clique bid 15c for July cotton today, and before the day's trading had closed at the New Orleans Cotton Exchange they had offered to take everything in sight at that figure for July delivery. Not a bale was tendered.

W. P. Brown stood at the ring-side and shouted a bid of 15c for 5,000 bales of July. Not a bale came forward. Frank B. Hayne shouted another and another. Then intense excitement followed but no cotton was offered. It was the record bid at the New Orleans Exchange.

When analyzed, today's stand of the bull cotton clique means that it was the last step in its gigantic scheme. It meant the consummation of the greatest cotton corner in the history of the world. It meant that the Brown pool had so effectually cornered the market in raw July cotton that when it offered the phenomenal price of 15c per pound not a single bale was at hand to be tendered it; neither was there sufficient cotton to be tendered by tomorrow, the last day of the month. The whole transaction becomes important in cotton history. The Brown forces had been waiting for it. They sprang the offer and no one called it. They stood masters of the situation, absolute, complete. It means that the Brown people have actually bought and paid for between 250,000 and 300,000 bales of cotton, and that they have paid out the enormous sum of \$20,000,000.

Watch For a Chill.

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

A Worm Killer.

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

In this day sobriety has come pretty nearly to mean total abstinence. As a cool business proposition, great corporations and private firms are enforcing practical abstinence. They demand such a condition of their employes that practically any drink at all becomes too much drink. Science has come from another direction to support the same end. The old idea of the

efficacy of moderate drinking finds no support in modern medical science. So both "business" and science agree in an inhibition that, while not defined as total abstinence, amounts to that practical every day affair, and thus these great forces are making against the drink evil.—Indianapolis News.

Parties who expect to exhibit anything at the West Texas Fair, to be held at Abilene Oct. 13-17, are assured that there will be ample premiums offered in all departments. Premium lists will soon be ready. If you want one address

Max R. Andrews,
Abilene, Texas.

Cured Paralysis.

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

A CARNIVAL

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



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

HANCOCK DISC PLOWS
STANDARD DISC PLOWS
HARDWARE and TOOLS

GEO. L. PAXTON,

ABILENE, TEXAS.

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MERKEL HIGH SCHOOL.

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

Merkel High School opens Sept. 14, 1903, and continues nine months. All who wish to transfer their children to Merkel school should do so at once. There is every reason for believing that the next year will be the most successful year in the history of the school. It is the aim of all concerned to give the pupils attending Merkel High School advantages equal to those afforded by the best schools in the State.

You will make no mistake if you enter your children in Merkel High School. 3t

We now have a Turning Lathe and can turn out anything in woodwork; also have installed a feed mill and can grind your corn, etc., at reasonable prices. See us when in need of anything in our line.

Parker & Willingham.

Dysentery Cured Without the Aid of a Doctor.

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

If Andrew Carnegie wants to die poor, we would advise him to buy a country printing office, and endeavor to run it to please everybody. There is no surer road to poverty, to jail, to the grave and to the devil. Andrew Carnegie would soon have his hands so full of libel suits that it would require more money to pay lawyers than he has; the money being gone he would have to go to jail, there he would die of grief; then his spirit would wing its way to Fiddlers Green, as liars never go to heaven—and it is necessary for editors who try to please everybody to be liars.—Stephenville Empire.

See the new line of silverware at Ustick's.

If you need anything in the saddle and harness line you should see R. L. Hudson before buying. He is making up a fine stock.

SALE DAY AT MERKEL.

Fourth Saturday in Each Month is Trade and Sale Day.—Do Not Fail to Come.

Bring in your marketable horses, mules, and such property that generally changes hands on such days. Stuff will be sold at auction, and cash buyers will be on hand to take you up on all reasonable cash propositions.

Don't fail to attend. Ample accommodations can always be had at Story's Wagon Yard.

Suicide Prevented.

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

Rev. A. A. Baker, instead of Rev. T. N. Lowery, officiated at the McCarty-Hargroves wedding last week. We don't want to deprive Bro. Baker of that honor, hence this correction.

A Kaufman county farmer sued his neighbor for nine dollars' worth of oats. The suit was contested and the plaintiff paid out \$28 for lawyer's fee, costs, etc., and the defendant \$12.20. Pending the settlement of the suit the oats were spoiled by the rain. Thus the evidence accumulates that the fool killer is out of business.—Sulphur Springs Gazette.

The Methodist church now has 51 colleges and universities, 55 classical seminaries, 9 institutions exclusively for women, not including foreign mission schools. These institutions contained 51,606 students last year. The valuation of the property devoted to education, with endowment, is \$40,000,000.

What's the Trouble

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

ISAAC N. TAYLOR,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW AND NOTARY PUBLIC.

Offers his professional services to the people of Merkel and surrounding country. Prompt and reliable attention to all favors granted him.

The Mail gives all the news.

A TICK TEST

Fred Robinson of Audra, Tex., fed Bass' Medicated Stock Salt to two work horses which ran in a very ticky pasture with cattle. All were almost covered with ticks. He noticed one horse ate the salt and other did not. In a few days no ticks were on the salt eating horse, but were as bad as ever on other horse. He then examined the cattle and all in the pasture with Bass' Salt were clear of ticks, but none except ones eating Bass' Salt were clean.

W. M. Horn, Hodges, Tex., says: "My cattle were dying with fever, and ticks were on them, when I began with Bass' Medicated Stock Salt. Not one was sick afterward and in two weeks could not find a tick."

Geo. W. McDaniel lost 5 out of 70 head in two or three days. On the day he began with Bass' Medicated Salt no more were sick.

Mack Merchant fed Bass' Medicated Salt to his cattle, not thinking of ticks. In a month the ticks were gone, but he does not know how long before. Some say it was hot weather and some Bass' Medicated Stock Salt.

J. T. Warren sells it; see for yourself.