

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FEBRUARY 13, 1902

NO. 52

Open for Business....

We will be open for business with a bran new stock of Dry Goods, at the old stand, February 27th.

Watch for us! Wait for us!

The Star Store.

At the Old Stand,

MERKEL, TEXAS.

A Tripple Hanging.

Smith, Brown and Jones hang their hopes of recovery upon Leatham's Laxative Chill Tablets. They will be around soon making hands with friends. 25c. No cure—no pay.

Come and see our new mouldings. Latest styles.
W. P. Browning & Co.

How to Succeed in Business.

Keep your liver in good condition by using Simmons' Liver Purifier (tin box.) It corrects constipation, cures indigestion, biliousness, stops headache, gets your heart in the right place so you can smile at your neighbors.

If you want to increase your trade, advertise.

FARM AND STOCK.

Farm and Ranch.

The indications are that there will be an unusually large crop of corn planted in central and north Texas the coming spring. Corn is one of our most valuable crops and subject to fewer casualties than any other staple, except cotton.

Wheat bran and oats mixed forms an excellent feed for horses or colts, or any other live stock that will eat it. The mixture should be fed moist. The bran causes horses to eat slower, and masticate the oats better, and any horse that will not thrive on this sort of food, needs some sort of medicine "to loosen his hide."

Hogs are omniverous, and as a result are always on the outlook for condiments to neutralize the disagreeable properties of the feed, and enhance the pleasures of the palate. In their search for such condiments, if they cannot find what they need, they will take what they can find, and frequently they take that which is not best for them.

A compound of charcoal, salt, lime and wood ashes has been found to be good for the appetite and digestion of hogs, and if this is supplied in abundance they will not go after other less beneficial substances. This compound should be kept where the hogs can get it whenever they think they need it.

As a rule, fall grown grain, especially oats are not planted ear-

ly enough. If planted by the middle of October there is time for root-expansion and to grow enough top to protect against freezes. But late planting is not the only difficulty in the way of success. Bad, slipshod planting is generally expensive planting. Grain sowed broadcast and disked, or harrowed must have favorable seasons to do well, and favorable seasons will not do to depend on. Drilling is always better than broadcasting. It takes less seed to begin with, and insures a better stand. When the seed is scattered at all depths, from four inches to the very surface, can a good stand be reasonably expected? Press drills put all the seed the same depth and presses the soil about them, so that every sound seed has an equal chance to come up and grow off. It is the plants from shallow planted seed that freeze out, and dry out, having no depth of root, and but little top.

Bones, even dried ones, contain all the elements of fertility required by the soil except potash. This can be supplied by composting the bones with unleached wood ashes and giving the pile a good wetting. Exactly how the ashes operate to disintegrate the bones is not definitely settled, but the fact is well known that the bones are broken down and softened. During the process, however, the compost should be well covered with coarse stable manure, rotted straw, or even sods of surface soil to prevent loss of nitrogen which will be set free by the resulting fermentation. Whether any chemical

change takes place in the phosphate of lime in the bones or not we do not know, but their softening and comminution renders their constituents more available as plant food. It will pay farmers to collect scattered bones whenever convenient, compost them with wood ashes and stable manure, and apply to their fields. It is especially valuable for all grain crops, as well as tree fruits.

They never did fail; they never will fail. What? Cheatham's Laxative Tablets—to cure a cold at once. Carry them in your vest pocket. Always ready. Guaranteed. Price 25 cents.

We have a few Duck Coats, Blankets, Comforts and Ladies' Capes and Jackets to close at a bargain. Don't care to summer them.

J. T. Warren.

Not Received With Approval.

An English professor is predicting, with more or less argument to prove his case, that in the ages to come the human race will be legless. But, as the Philadelphia Times skeptically suggests, he makes no provision whatever for the future standing of the chorus girl.

President Eliot's Tour.

President Eliot, of Harvard, will start on his seven week's trip to the Pacific coast and back along the Gulf, February 20. The tour will be a succession of banquets, addresses and Harvard festivals from one end of the country to the other.

Cow Boys and any Boys try our Hamilton-Brown Shelby Shop Work \$6 Boots.

J. T. Warren.



FROM
12 1-2c
TO
60c
A ROLL

RUST &
PITTARD

Prairie Dog Poison.

We have several different kinds, besides the poisons used in their manufacture, which we can sell in quantities to suit the purchaser. Special prices on large lots. Let us figure with you on your next order.

We Handle

BASS' CARBON STRYCHNINE

RUST & PITTARD.

The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEEMAN, PUBLISHER.

Published Every Thursday.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Office 31
Residence 37

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 number

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

RATES:

For District Offices \$10.00
For County Offices 5.00
For Precinct Offices 3.00

All announcements must be accompanied by the cash; no promise of future payment goes, and no deviation from this rule will be made. The above rates does not include name on ticket. Extra write-ups of candidates appearing elsewhere than in this column must be paid for at the usual rates.

DEMOCRATIC.

(All announcements under this head are subject to the action of the Democratic party.)

For County Treasurer:
J. H. THORNTON.
(re-election.)
JNO. T. TUCKER.

For Sheriff:
J. V. CUNNINGHAM.
(re-election.)

For Tax Assessor:
C. C. JACKSON.
(re-election.)

For County and District Clerk:
S. H. GARRISON.
(re-election.)

For County Attorney:
T. A. BLEDSOE.
(re-election.)

For County Judge:
W. W. KIRK.

For Tax Collector:
BAYLOR CRAWFORD.

For Justice of Peace, Pre. 5, and Commissioner Pre. 2:
J. J. MILLER.
(re-election.)

For Public Weigher at Merkel:
T. F. COMPTON.
T. D. WIMAN.
T. H. CHRISTOPHER.
W. H. BROWN.

Push along the bond issue—it's a good thing.

The great struggle of life is first for bread; then butter on the bread; and last, sugar on the butter.

Lessons in State Government.

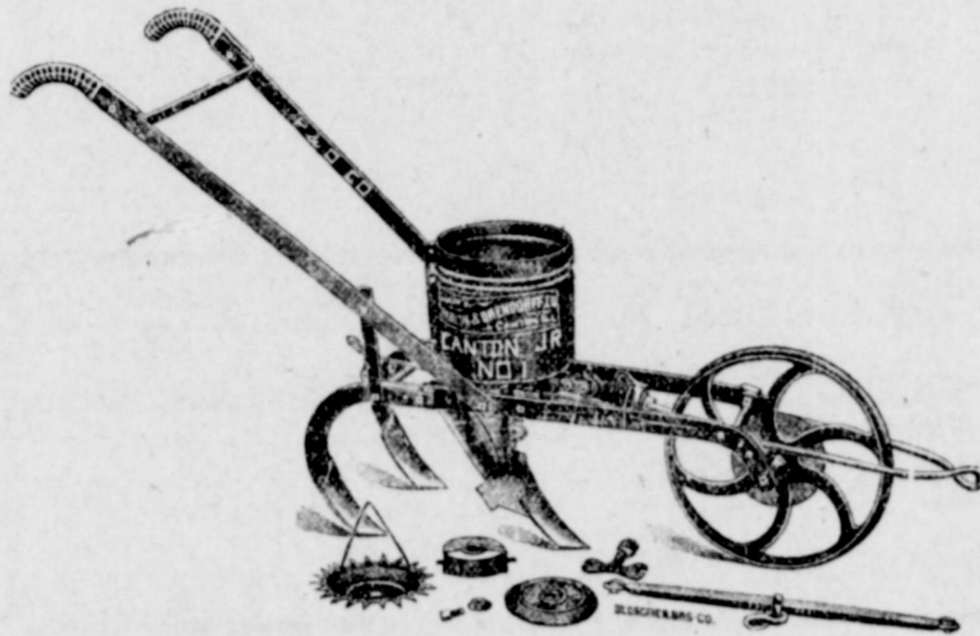
Something About the Functions of State Officers.

Dallas News.

The Secretary of State is appointed by the Governor and receives a salary of \$2,000 a year. It is his duty to keep the original copies of all acts of the Legislature and to publish the same; to cause the publication and distribution of the reports of the various departments of the State Government; to establish a system of literary exchange with other States, the United States, foreign Governments, historical and scientific societies, exchanging public reports with them; to furnish State officers and certain other officers with copies of the laws and statutes of this State; to attest commissions and other official acts of the Governor, and to keep a record of such acts. It is also the duty of the Secretary of State to examine and file the

CLOSING OUT!

In order to make room for other goods that we expect to buy, we are very anxious to CLOSE OUT what we have on hand as soon as possible. In fact, the sooner we CLOSE OUT what we have the sooner we will buy more. And in order to accomplish this much desired end, we will sell our



.....ENTIRE STOCK AT COST.....

and carriage and a small per cent for ourselves. WE MEAN IT. Come and see our large stock of HARDWARE and GROCERIES; also Buggies, Wagons, Plows, Planters, and Cultivators.

G. F. WEST.

When it comes to Feed, we've got it....

charters of corporations and to issue permits to foreign corporations to do business in Texas, when complying with all the laws and to collect charter fees and franchise taxes from corporations. The business of the State department in respect to charter and franchise taxes has greatly increased during the past two years. The office force of the Secretary of State consists of six clerks, whose salaries aggregate \$7,220, and a porter, who is paid \$360 a year.

The Attorney General is elected by the people. He receives a salary of \$2,000 a year and certain fees not to exceed \$2,000. It is his duty to advise the heads of all State departments concerning the law when requested to do so, to advise District and County Attorneys concerning any suits in which the State is a party. He is required to represent the State in all suits to which it is a party in the Appellate and Supreme Courts. He is required to inquire into the charter rights of all corporations and to bring such suits as he may deem necessary to prevent abuses, and when cause exists to bring suit for judicial forfeiture. Various other duties in line with the above named are required of the Attorney General by the Statutes. Among them is the requirement that he shall at least once a month examine the accounts in the Treasurer's and Controller's office of all officers charged with the collection or custody of funds belonging to the State. This requirement is considered physically impossible to be complied with, and it is said no Attorney General has ever made the monthly examinations called for. The Attorney General is required to pass upon all municipal and county bonds issued in this State and his certificate as to their validity is a prerequisite to their registration by the Controller. The Attorney General's staff consists of a first office assistant Attorney General, who is paid \$2,500 a year; second and third assistant, \$2,000 each; two clerks \$1,000 each, and porter, \$360.

The State Treasurer is elected by the people and receives a salary of \$2,500 a year. He is the chief receiving and disbursing

officer of the State and is charged with the custody of the State's money and of the bonds and notes belonging to its school fund. All officers collecting funds for the State on account of taxes or otherwise are required to deposit them in the treasury on warrants issued by the Controller; payments for lands sold are deposited with the Treasurer; notes for deferred payments on lands sold by the State are held by the Treasurer and he collects interest and principal of same, as well as the rents upon lands leased by the State; he is charged with the collection of interest and principal of the bonds belonging to the State school fund. He is required to keep books, crediting all deposits to the proper funds, and charging all disbursements made upon warrants of the Controller to the proper funds in accordance with the appropriations made by the Legislature. During recent years the business of the Treasurer's department has greatly increased because of the activity in the sale of State lands, and there has at all times been a large amount of money in the treasury. There is now in the treasury \$3,000,000 in money and \$11,000,000 in bonds and \$13,000,000 in notes. The Treasurer's staff consists of seventeen clerks, who are paid \$21,870 per annum, a night watchman \$800 and a porter \$360.

There is sorrow in the editor's home to-day. The wife's mother died yesterday at Abilene after an illness of only a few hours, her death being caused from congestion of the stomach. The interment took place at Waco today, where the body was shipped for burial, and the remains were laid beside those of her husband whom she had never ceased to mourn. Mrs. Herring was in her 59th year. She was a consistent Christian, a devoted member of the Baptist church and withal a fond and loving mother. The Mail extends its most sincere sympathy to the bereaved ones and offers them the consolation that the mother has gone to a better world than this. She is at rest.

The best line of watches ever shown in Merkel: Ustick's.

Bed Rock Prices!

In order to close out present stock to make room for new goods

Saddles, Harness, Etc.,

within a reasonable time, I have marked everything down to Bed Rock Prices.

You will save money by calling on me before buying elsewhere. Respectfully,

Z. F. GREEN.

We handle the New Royal Sewing Machine at \$20.
W. P. Browning & Co.

We have a nice line of carpets. Come and see them.
W. P. Browning & Co.

Smith & Davis can furnish you with what you want to eat.
Phone No. 43.

A WORTHY SUCCESSOR.

"Something New Under the Sun."

All doctors have tried to cure Catarrh by the use of powders, acid gases, inhalers and drugs in paste form. Their powders dry up the mucous membranes causing them to crack open and bleed. The powerful acids used in the inhalers have entirely eaten away the same membranes that their makers have aimed to cure, while pastes and ointments can not reach the disease. An old and experienced practitioner who has for many years made a close study and specialty of the treatment of Catarrh has at last perfected a treatment which, when faithfully used, not only relieves at once, but permanently cures Catarrh, by removing the cause, stopping the discharges and curing all inflammation. It is the only remedy known to science that actually reaches the afflicted parts. This wonderful remedy is known as "SNUFFLES, the Guaranteed Catarrh Cure" and is sold at the extremely low price of One Dollar, each package containing internal and external medicine sufficient for a full month's treatment and everything necessary for its perfect use.

"SNUFFLES" is the only perfect catarrh cure ever made and is now recognized as the only safe and positive cure for that annoying and disgusting disease. It cures all inflammation quickly and permanently, and is also wonderfully quick to relieve Hay Fever or Cold in the Head.

Catarrh when neglected often leads to consumption—"SNUFFLES" will save you if you use it at once. It is no ordinary remedy, but a complete treatment which is positively guaranteed to cure catarrh in any form or stage if used according to the directions which accompany each package. Don't delay, but send for it at once, and write full particulars as to your condition, and you will receive special advice from the discoverer of this wonderful remedy regarding your case without cost to you beyond the regular price of "SNUFFLES," the Guaranteed Catarrh Cure.

Sent prepaid to any address in the United States or Canada on receipt of One Dollar. Address Dept. 1, EDWIN B. GILES & Co., 2301 and 2322, Market St., Philadelphia.

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Something That Will Do You Good.

We know of no way in which we can be of more service to our readers than to tell them of something that will be of real good to them. For this reason we want to acquaint them with what we consider one of the very best remedies on the market for coughs, colds, and that alarming complaint, croup. We refer to Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. We have used it with good results in our family so long that it has become a household necessity. By its prompt use we haven't any doubt that it has time and again prevented croup. The testimony is given upon our own experience, and we suggest that our readers, especially those who have small children, always keep it in their homes as a safeguard against croup.—Camden (S. C.) Messenger. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

G. M. Sharp will have W Sack Bran the last of the w
Call around and leave orders

Try reading The Mail.



Headache

kills, not necessarily suddenly, but SURELY. It preys upon the intellectual powers more than we realize. It consumes the vitality faster than nature can replenish it, and we cannot tell just what moment a temporary or complete aberration of the mind will result. Headache and pain should be promptly removed—but properly. Many pain cures are more harmful than the pain. Beware. If you would be safe, take

Dr. Miles' Pain Pills.

"As a result of neuralgia I lost the sight of my right eye, and the pain I have suffered is incomprehensible, being obliged to take opiates almost continually. A friend gave me one of Dr. Miles' Pain Pills and it promptly relieved me. I then purchased a box and now my trouble is gone. They have also cured my daughter of nervous headache, and I heartily recommend them to others."—W. J. CORLEY, Bremond, Texas.

Sold by Druggists. 25 Doses, 25c.
Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

**A. Johnson's
Real Estate Column.**

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE.....

72 lots in Sheppard addition to Merkel, ranging in price from \$20 to \$50. Call at my office and see plat and select your lots. I have full control of this property.

12 lots, 7 room house, windmill and out-houses. Fine location and an elegant residence. Close in. \$1800.

1 lot, 3 room frame house, east front, well, barn, &c. Close to business part. \$425

3 business lots 25x140, west front, Block 20. Price them.

10 lots, block 26, College addition, \$30 to \$40. Also 4 lots and 3-room residence, same block, east front cheap

1a., good 6-room frame residence, good well, &c., in Southwest Merkel, \$800.

2a. land, 4-room house, good well &c., north side, price \$425.

Lots 3, 4, 5, 6, block 23, College addition, 6-room residence, east front and a bargain at \$650.

1a. land, 3-room frame residence, well and barn, south side. Price \$600.

2 lots, east front, 3-room frame residence, well and barn. North side close to business part. A bargain if taken at once. Price for a short time only, \$325.

160 acres of land adjoining town on east, 80 or 90 acres in cultivation, ordinary improvements. This will be valuable property in a short time and is a good investment for some one.

141 acres, good farm, modern improvements. This is a fine body of land, a fine home and will be a profitable investment. Southwest of and adjoining city.

160 acres, 65 in cultivation, all fenced, 3-room residence, good barn, plenty of water, 2 miles from Nubia. Price \$1350, \$250 cash, plenty of time on balance.

160 acres all under fence, near Stith postoffice, 4-room house, fine water, 70 acres in cultivation. Every acre of this is good farming land. Price per acre, \$13.

640 acres 5 miles southwest of Merkel, all under fence, 50 acres in cultivation and ordinary farm improvements. Other lands adjoining this are held at \$12.50 per acre. This can be bought now for \$8 per acre.

I write all kinds of Fire, Tornado, Life, Accident and Health Insurance. Also Deeds, Mortgages and Contracts of all kinds. All business entrusted to me will be highly appreciated and will receive prompt attention. Office in First Nat'l Bank. Notary Public in office.

Yours truly,

T. A. JOHNSON

To the Merchants.

We have on hand and ready for inspection a complete assortment of Fans and other advertising novelties, and a full line of Sample calendars will soon arrive. We can supply your wants in any kind of advertising matter at offices that can not be by foreign concerns. Our line and let us have orders.

Saved Her Child's Life.

"In three weeks our chubby little boy was changed by pneumonia almost to a skeleton," writes Mrs. W. Watkins of Pleasant City, O. "A terrible cough set in, that, in spite of a good doctor's treatment for several weeks, grew worse every day. We then used Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, and our darling was soon sound and well. We are sure this grand medicine saved his life." Millions know this the only sure cure for coughs, colds and all lung troubles. Rust & Pittard guarantee satisfaction. 50c, \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

Crape on Doors In Spotless Town.

Redfield M. Roach of Boston, the "Spotless Town" bard of sapolito fame, died a few days ago at Montreal. Roach, it is said, was a trolley conductor at Providence, when he suggested one day to a merchant, happening to ride on his car, that advertisements in rhyme could be made more valuable than they ever had been. The submitted samples, which at once took the public fancy, and in a comparatively short time his verses brought him a competency. Roach was a graduate of Trinity college, Dublin, where he won medals and prizes for original Greek verse. He practiced law in England, but gave it up, came to this country, starting life over here on a street car.

"I have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for a number of years and have no hesitancy in saying it is the best remedy for coughs, colds and croup I have ever used in my family. I have not words to express my confidence in this remedy.—Mrs. J. A. Moore, North Star, Mich. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

An 1823 Expert on "Jonah."

The London Lancet the other day reprinted a criticism of a medical lecture given in 1823 upon the power of the digestive organs upon "substances endowed with vitality," a category which includes the prophet Jonah. "How the prophet passed his time in the cavity of the whale's stomach, how far the confinement affected his organs of respiration, are questions of minor importance," we are told. But the main argument "may be thus stated. When Jonah entered the whale's stomach either he was alive or was not alive. If he were not alive the stomach would have had the same power over him as over any other inanimate substance, and the prophet would have been digested in the ordinary way." But since he was not digested, he was alive when swallowed, and, as the argument points out, "must have continued to live." Consequently, when he was thrown up on the fourth day he was deposited on the dry land, "probably without any other inconvenience than some trifling defangement of his canonicals."

The Rise of Munsey.

It took Frank Munsey less than ten years to make a fortune, according to a New York gossip. A poor postoffice clerk in Augusta, Me., he came here, without stoppings at way stations, and began the publishing business with a capital of ideas and nerve. His friends thought he was a reckless gambler against fate when he started a weekly, for young folks. They wanted him locked up in a lunatic asylum when, having made money at that, he invested it in a magazine. Now they are suspending their judgment when he has bought two newspapers, the Times in Washington, the News in New York.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The best and most famous compound in the world to conquer aches and kill pains. Cures cuts, heals burns and bruises, subdues inflammation, masters piles. Millions of boxes sold yearly. Works wonders in boils, ulcers, felons, skin eruptions. It cures or no pay. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

The Best is the Cheapest.

Not how cheap, but how good, is the question.

The Twice-a-Week Republic is not as cheap as are some so-called newspapers. But it is as cheap as it is possible to sell a first-class newspaper. It prints all the news that is worth printing. If you read it all the year round, you are posted on all the important and interesting affairs of the world. It is the best and most reliable newspaper that money and brains can produce—and those should be the distinguished traits of the newspaper that is designed to be read by all the members of the family.

Subscription price, \$1 a year. Any newsdealer, newspaper or postmaster will receive your subscription, or you may mail it direct to

The Republic,
St. Louis, Mo.

Still Dead.

In Washington they are telling this story on a Western representative. During a campaign the statesman met a man on the street of his town and, although he didn't know him, assumed to recognize him, believing he was a voter. "How is your father?" asked the candidate. "He died a year ago," was the reply. The candidate sympathized with the man and passed on. Later in the day he met, as he supposed, another man. The same question about the father was asked, when the man replied, "Oh, he is still dead." Then it dawned upon the candidate that it was the same man.

Tremendous Drop in B. & O.

When John Hopkins left his great fortune in Baltimore and Ohio stocks for the university that bears his name the stock was worth almost \$200 a share. It afterward fell to about \$1.

Czar's Sacred Ring.

The czar wears a ring in which he believes is imbedded a piece of the true cross. It was originally one of the treasures of the vatican.

Treat Your Hair Like a Plant.

A well known hair specialist of Philadelphia, who stands at the head of his profession, has been giving some much-needed advice to his patrons. "Treat your hair as you would a plant," he says, "carefully, tenderly, judiciously. If the plant seems hardy so much the better and so much greater is your chance for keeping it. Hair tendencies are inherited and one should profit by the examples of her ancestors. For instance, if your and your mother's hair was brittle and harsh at 40 your efforts to keep your own hair in good condition must be redoubled.

Four Generations Present.

At Governor Cummins' inauguration, in Des Moines, Ia., last week, four generations were represented, his father and mother, his daughter, who is Mrs. Grace Rawson, and his grandchild, Cummins Rawson. Mr. Thomas Layton, the governor's father, is 79, and his mother is 75. They were both born in Greene county, Pa., where they were married in 1847.

Preacher Wants Applause.

Applause for passages which a congregation approves in a sermon is favored by President Maclean of the University of Iowa.

J. T. Warren, Pres.

S. J. West, V-Pres.

Geo. S. Berry, Cashier.

**THE
FIRST NATIONAL
BANK**

OF MERKEL

CAPITAL, = = = \$30,000
SURPLUS, = = = \$ 4,000

We Guarantee Satisfaction to our Customers, and offer them the Services of a Reliable and Conservative Banking Institution on which is at all times Willing and Able to extend every Courtesy Consistent with Sound Business Principles.

HAVE A LOOK

And you will be convinced we have the best all-around general line in the country, consisting of

- John Deere Walking Plows :: Standard Disc Plows
- John Deere Sulkey Plows :: Standard Cultivators
- John Deere Cultivators :: and
- John Deere Disc Harrows :: Hancock Disc Plows

The Old Reliable

Studebaker Wagons,

Are the Best.

Buggies, Phaetons, Surries and hacks.

All Grades and Kinds. We have some Genuine Bargains.

LOOK at OUR FURNITURE
COOK STOVES
HEATING STOVES
All kinds HARDWARE

Our Motto:—

Prices Below Our Competitors

...GEO. L. PAXTON, Abilene

DR. JOS. H. WARNICK, PRES.
WM. H. DUNNING, CASHIER.

JOS. H. WARNICK,

...BANKER...

Responsibility, = = = \$20,000

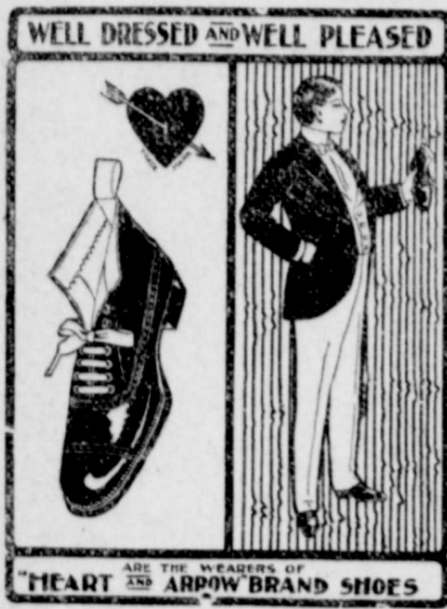
ELLIOTT & MILLER

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.

To the Trading Public!



IN ORDER TO CLOSE OUT PRESENT STOCK TO MAKE ROOM for Advance Shipments of New Goods, soon to arrive, we have placed all Winter Goods on the Bargain Counter. They must go. Most of the goods will do for Summer Wear, and the prices are

SPEEDY MOVERS!

Come in and get suited before the stock is entirely picked over.

SHOES!

We **NEW** just received a large shipment of Fine Shoes for Men, Women and Children. This gives our largest stock of Good Shoes for Little Money in the town. We can suit you in Style, Quality and Price, and should be glad to show them to you.

Respectfully,

FITTS & SMITH.

SPOT CASH MERCHANTS, - Merkel, Texas.



THE MERKEL MAIL.

ED J. LEEMAN,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

Entered in 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		8.50
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 nom de plume under which they write. This is required merely as a guarantee of good faith. Obituaries, Cards of Thanks, etc., are inserted at one-half the regular advertising rates. Positively no deviation from this rule.

A great many people believe that the abolition of the quarantine line would work a hardship on stock interests of Texas and decrease the value of every herd in the state. The tick theory is one that is uppermost in the thoughts of the people of the west, and they cannot be too thoroughly educated along this line. The Mail believes that the quarantine line is a good thing if not abused. Whether or not there is anything in the theory that ticks produce fever is a question yet to be settled. But certain it is that the people of the north are riding the hobby, and if the quarantine line is abolished it will to a certain extent cut off the outlet for Texas cattle and scare off the northern buyer. This can but result in a stagnation of the cattle industry. On the other hand, if the quarantine line is maintained and an open season granted at any time during the year when cattle are found free of ticks and contagi-

ous diseases, it seems that this ought to be satisfactory to the hotheads on each side of the line. There is always a way to administer the law equitably if fair means are employed. Let the people think long and seriously before joining in a move to do away with the quarantine line.

What benefits one man benefits all. Then we need unity and concert of action, to the end that all interests may be harmonized. It would be one of the most beautiful sights imaginable if every citizen would pull off his coat and join with his neighbor in promoting the industrial interests of the town, and it would be the greatest thing for the town and entire country that could be accomplished. In unity there is strength. Then let the people get together on the school house proposition and work harmoniously for its best interests. Don't consider self altogether, but have an eye to the future growth and prosperity of the town, and by so doing you will indirectly work to your own interests. We must build a school house. Would it not be better to pay a few dollars of extra tax every year for a certain number of years than to pay it all at once? And by voting bonds we have the assurance that non-residents and those who will settle here in the future will help to pay for the house from which they will derive a direct benefit. There are many sides to this question. The Mail hopes that the people will investigate thoroughly and weigh all the evidence before voting against the bond issue.

The Mail tips its sombrero to the Stephenville Appeal for the following kind words: "The

Merkel Mail is a lively factor in the growth of that town and is working manfully for progress. The value of such a wide-awake newspaper to a town cannot be overestimated and every citizen should give it substantial support." The trouble is that people do not appreciate the papers as they should and are too prone to censure rather than commend. It is the duty of every reputable newspaper to work for its town, and they do it freely and gladly, but then it is hard work when the people look on with indifference and take no interest whatever. A word of encouragement thrown in here and there would help out wonderfully.

There are two classes of people in this country—the pessimist and the optimist. The pessimist is the fellow who complains that everything is for the worse; that this year will be the hardest the country has ever experienced, and that we are fast going to the demnition pow-wows. On the other hand, the optimist takes a cheerful view of the situation and asserts that the rains will come in time and that the harvest will be bountiful. Between the two men there is no comparison. One is a croaker, while the other dispenses the light of God's own countenance and is a benediction to his fellowmen.

It is a great mistake to set up our own standard of right and wrong and judge people accordingly. Every man has a God-given right to express an opinion according to his own standard, and it ill becomes any of us to question his right to do so. The man who bemoans or belittles another for daring to cross his views has fallen very low in the

scale of humanity. Accord to every man the same freedom of speech that you yourself would enjoy.

The Mail does not aspire to be the greatest paper in the world. If we can be to the people a source of pleasure and comfort and occupy, singly and alone, the little niche of our present sphere of usefulness, the height of our ambition will have been reached. We want to make The Mail strictly a local paper. To that end we earnestly solicit communications and items of interest from every source.

Half the inhabitants of Baxter, Fulton, Sharp and Izard counties of Arkansas are said to be practically destitute and 74 per cent are in need, the distress being caused from drought. Appeals for aid have been made. And yet there are people in this country, which the Lord has smiled upon, who are continually yelling hard times.

There is a disposition on the part of the Texas Democracy to exclude the negro from a voice in primary elections and in many towns "white men's primaries" are being held. This is right. If white men are to hold office the negro should have no voice in their selection. There are too many illiterate voters in Texas.

Boundless enthusiasm is bound to get a rebound sooner or later. If we can get up any enthusiasm on that school house proposition, it will rebound to the honor and glory of Merkel. Let's do it.

The county primary is to be held on April 12. This will give every candidate a chance to see the dear people before the busy season comes on.

A New Tin Shop and Galvanized Iron Works.

Patronize home industry, and buy your Tinware, Well Casing, Well Buckets, Guttering, Spouting Roofing, Flues, Ventilators, Rain Proofs, Galvanized Iron Cisterns, Filters, Stock Tanks—in fact, everything usually kept in a first class Tin Shop. Repairing a Specialty.

Yours for Business,

REGISTER & BELL.

If the people of Texas desire a man for governor who will give them a conservative, economical administration, they could do no better than to rally to the support of Col. Lanham.

There's a young man of Abilene, Who tried to court a Merkel queen, But the girl's papa Thought him too raw, And he hasn't since been seen.

The Seymour Banner ought to be a success. It has a Taylor to trim the garment and a Bellows to blow it up. The combination is hard to beat.

The Congressional campaign is livening up. There are four candidates in the race so far and other aspirants are straddling the fence.

Love and Kauffman, candidates for comptroller, are talking glibly about each other.

Denton captured the prize of the State industrial school.

Peruna is still the chief of age in Merkel.

THE CITY OF NUBIA.

any Improvements Recently Made in that Blooming Little City.

A Mail representative was at Nubia Saturday, it being our first visit there during the past year, and we were agreeably surprised at the many improvements noticeable on every hand. It now boasts of five stores which includes a general line of farm and ranch supplies, etc., and would do credit to a more pretentious town; a gin, blacksmith shop, public school building, barber's shop, physician and a number of handsome cottages. The I. O. O. F. and Woodmen have well organized lodges there.

Altogether Nubia is well on the road to future greatness, and being situated in the most fertile part of the country, it is destined to make a good county town.

The reporter is under special obligations to Messrs. Toombs & Shaffer and J. F. Tipton & Co., for courtesies while there.

When pain or irritation exists on any part of the body the application of Ballard's Snow Liniment will give prompt relief. 25 and 50c at F. M. Davis'.

FOR SALE.

4 good male calves at \$25 each. At my barn till Feb. 25th.

J. T. Warren.

W. C. Calvert visited his aunt (?) at Dallas a few nights ago.

CORN at West's. Prices right. Corn sound.

Mrs. Chas. Mann left Sunday night for Sulphur Springs in response to a telegram stating that her father, Mr. Strother, was seriously ill. We hope she will find him much improved.

FEED—4 carloads—at West's. 'Twill be to your interest to see them before buying.

Trustees' Meeting.

The recently elected school board met Saturday evening and organized, electing officers as follows:

J. H. Warnick, Pres.

John Elliott, Sec.

J. T. Warren, Treas.

I. S. Allen, Assessor and Col.

The qualification papers were signed and sent to Austin for approval and upon their return, which will perhaps be the last of the week, another meeting will be held and some action taken on the bond question.

The election as above should be eminently satisfactory to the people, as every man on the board is an enthusiastic worker for school interests.

See F. P. McGuffin for fresh meats. Fish Saturdays and Sundays. Phone No. 61.

A Conservative View.

Mr. J. W. Daniel, one of our best known stockmen, is an enthusiastic supporter of the quarantine line, and he believes in an open season the year round, allowing cattle to pass at any time when free of ticks and contagious diseases. To do away with the line now, he says, will result in great loss to stockmen throughout the State. Mr. Daniel has been a resident of the west almost 25 years and his opinion should carry some weight. He is not a believer in the tick theory of distributing diseases common to cattle, but recognizes its weight in the north and firmly believes that cattle will decline \$2 per head if the line is killed.

Daniel has lost only 13 of cattle this winter and is sure that the loss will be light now on.

You can help any one whom you find suffering from inflamed throat; laryngeal trouble, bronchitis, coughs, colds, etc., by advising the use of Ballard's Horehound Syrup; the great remedy for coughs and colds. Price 25c and 50c at F. M. Davis'.

Phone G. M. Sharp when you want feed.

F. E. Allyn was down from Eskota Thursday, and reported things very dull up there.

When you want meats, vegetables or fruits 'phone 43.

Will Berry was down from Sweetwater Sunday.

When wanting anything to eat 'phone 43.

Miss Lona Hale of Anson is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Pittard.

Top prices paid for green and dry hides.

F. P. McGuffin.

W. P. Thurmond is in Chicago ransacking the market for goods for the new store.

BRAN at West's. Best and cheapest.

W. H. Brown announces this week as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for public weigher at Merkel. Mr. Brown is a pioneer of the county, a good Democrat and would no doubt give general satisfaction if elected. Give his candidacy due consideration.

The Mail's 'phone is 31. If you know any item of news, or if friends or relatives are visiting you, or if you are going or have been off on a visit, please let us know. It will be a great favor.

The Mail is in receipt of an invitation from Sheriff Cunningham to attend the next term of district court. Thanks.

HAY at West's. Price it. Try it.

Sam Eason has bought his old barber shop again. Sam is worthy of success and The Mail hopes he will make a pot of money.

T. F. Compton and B. J. Riney have returned from San Antonio. The I. O. O. F. grand lodge will be held in Dallas next year.

J. T. Warren is showing some nice things in Men's Fine Shirts, which he has just received from the McDonald Factory.

Irving Jennings was up from Abilene Sunday.

East Texas and Louisiana Ribbon Cane in 1 gal. cans, 5 gal. kegs and 50 gal. barrels.

J. T. Warren.

Frank Rucker was up from Abilene Sunday.

We sell Hamilton & Brown Shoes exclusively. They are best and cheapest in the end.



J. T. Warren.

A New Business.

The Merkel Mercantile Co. is the name of the new dry goods establishment which will open for business Feb. 27, capital \$15,000. A charter has been applied for and incorporation papers are expected this week. The company embraces men of considerable capital and business sagacity. W. P. Thurmond and G. E. Comegys are the principal stockholders and will have active management of the business, which will be known as the Star Store.

The Mail is glad to see these gentlemen on their feet again and takes pleasure in calling the attention of its readers to their advertisement.

IT'S THE CUT MAKING QUALITY OF GOODS



That Creates the Demand for

McDonald Fine Shirts, Work Shirts, Overalls, Jumpers.

We have just received from the factory quite a shipment of these goods. We are better fixed on Men's and Boys' Fine Shirts than ever before, and are glad of a chance to show them.

J. T. WARREN

There is probably no disease or condition of the human system that causes more suffering and distress than piles. Tabler's Buckeye Pile Ointment cures them quickly, without pain or detention from business. Price, 50c in bottles, tubes 75c, at F. M. Davis'.

We are now in a position to remit money for you direct to the State Treasurer or General Land Office. Please call at this bank when wanting to transact business of this kind.

The First National Bank.

The Mutilation of Money.

Less than a year ago the First National Bank of Merkel received an issue of currency in denominations of \$20 and smaller, and the money was rapidly put in circulation. Last week a letter was received from the Treasury department stating that \$900 of the money was in the hands of the treasury, and that upon receipt of exchange \$500 of this amount would be returned. The remaining \$400 was so badly mutilated that a new issue would have to be made.

It seems strange that people will mutilate money. The above was in circulation less than a year, when it turned up at the Treasury in a condition that prevents its recirculation except in duplicate form. It is against the law to mutilate money, but the trouble is that the perpetrator is never caught up with.

Peace-Maker Flour never gets old. It sells too fast.

J. T. Warren.

See G. M. Sharp for your seed oats, free of Johnson grass.

Don't let the hand of time paint wrinkles on your face. Keep young, by keeping the blood pure and the digestive organs in a healthful condition. Herbine will do this. Health is youth, disease and sickness brings old age. Price 50c at F. M. Davis'.

Go to G. M. Sharp's for your bran, oats and wheat chops.

The snow which fell Thursday of last week had not melted on the mountains and in the lowlands south of town by Saturday evening. One and two foot drifts were common. The fall in that section was much heavier than here, and the moisture was much deeper.

FOR SALE.

240 acres, 7 1/2 miles northwest of Merkel. 150 acres in cultivation, 2 good wells, 3-room house, barn, orchard, and other improvements. Price \$10.00 per acre, \$1500 cash, balance on easy terms. Apply to

T. B. Story.

It is reported at Abilene that 50 head of cattle froze to death, in a pen at or near this place, during the late freeze. We have been unable to run down any such item.

Plenty of corn now at G. M. Sharp's.

Prof. S. W. Pettus of Wortham, who is being solicited to stand as representative of Freestone county, is a brother of J. J. and Frank Pettus of Sweetwater, formerly of this place. He is a bright young man.

Buy your Grain, Hay and Salt from G. M. Sharp, the only exclusive Grain Dealer in Merkel.

Are you nervous, run down, weak and dispirited? Take a few doses of Herbine. It will infuse new energy, new life into the exhausted nerves, the overworked brain or muscular system, and put a new face on life and business. Price 50c at F. M. Davis'.

B. J. Riney was up against a "light fingered gent" at San Antonio and was touched for his pocketbook and all the money he had. We did not learn the amount of his loss, but it was not large. Mr. Riney has always believed that he was impervious on this point, but he has changed his mind and says there is at least one man who can get into his pocket without his knowledge.

Lewis Martin has bought the Clark stock of groceries, and would be pleased to have his friends call on him. He promises courteous, generous treatment.

Millions Put to Work.

The wonderful activity of the new century is shown by an enormous demand for the world's best workers—Dr. King's New Life Pills. For constipation, sick headache, biliousness, or any trouble of stomach, liver or kidneys they're unrivaled. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

J. W. Daniel called around Monday and subscribed for four papers through the Mail. His subscription to this paper is already four or five years in advance. This is the kind of man the printer loves. May his shadow never grow less.

H. L. Propst of Trent was around renewing his allegiance to The Mail and Dallas News.

An Ideal Trading Place...

New Goods Arriving Daily. Stock is Complete...

People Who Trade Here

Go away Satisfied at the treatment received at our hands. They are delighted at the Prices, too, and the Quality of the Goods sold them, and are almost sure to come again. If you are not satisfied with your present trading place, come to us. **WE STRIVE TO PLEASE...**

J. P. SHARP & COMPANY.

TOWN and COUNTRY..

ABILENE.

Commissioner's court has been the chief attraction at the court house the past week. As this is the first regular term for the year quite a lot of business is up before the court.

The following road overseers have filed their reports: J. B. Lilly, W. T. Reddell, John Prichitt, R. G. Eain, J. T. Vandringham, W. J. Floyd, J. E. Rummond, C. D. Sears, Charles Asminger, Will Stanford, Fred De Bach, Ed Sherman, W. H. ... J. J. Toombs, L. B. Elliott, J. P. Crow, C. A. Cox, Oscar Martin and Henry Stein.

The following is the docket with orders made: J. K. Fuller et al., petition to create voting box.

Petition of T. P. McCasland et al., petition for new school district; granted and designated as No. 41.

John H. Shaffer et al., petition for new school district; granted and designated as No. 42.

M. L. Morris et al., petition asking for an election for a special school tax in district 24. March 29th is the day set for the election and F. J. Robinson, G. B. Walden and T. P. McCasland were appointed election managers.

Mrs. Elizabeth Burns made application for pension.

J. A. Leeman et al., petition for special road district.

B. I. Lowe et al., petition for road denied.

B. I. Lowe et al., petition for third class road granted and the following jury of view appointed: J. P. Cyphers, Will Newberry, Claud Reid, Bob Johnson and T. J. Patton.

T. P. Gibson et al., reported as jury of view.

C. P. Warren et al., petition for road.

J. M. Wagstaff et al., petition for second class road granted and the following jury of view appointed: C. M. Bradshaw, U. Phillips, P. M. Morgan, W. P. Crow and S. D. McWhorter. The petition of George Fisher et al., covered about the same ground as the Wagstaff petition and was granted with the same jury of view appointed.

The report of G. W. Cox et al., jury of view, was filed.

Besides allowing pay for quite a number of scalps and approv-

NEWS

WEEKLY BUDGET OF HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY...

ing the various county and precinct officer's reports nothing so far has been transacted up to the time we go to press.

This, however, is the term at which the taxes for the year are to be levied which will be done today or tomorrow.

C. C. Tate filed a petition in bankruptcy here Monday. The assets are placed at \$18,463.90, liabilities \$16,950.19, exempt assets \$330. Mr. Tate has been conducting a dry goods business here for the past several years.

The county campaign was opened by the candidates Tuesday evening at Borders Chapel.

NUBIA.

News very scarce. T. J. Walker went to Abilene Monday.

Oscar Walker and wife visited T. J. Walker Sunday.

Joe Brown was in Nubia Tuesday.

Chas. C. Brown has returned from Abilene, and there seems to be smiles on a certain young girl's face. Wonder why.

Misses Cattie and Rhoda Leslie were in Nubia Saturday.

E. M. Blackburn and wife visited at J. M. Blackburn's Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Edith Freemon of Merkel is visiting Dr. J. W. Martin's this week.

A. R. Toombs went to Abilene Tuesday.

Walter Boden and wife visited at T. J. Toombs.

H. H. Toombs visited at P. R. Demery's Sunday.

Bud Cozart made a pleasant call at Wm. Perry's Sunday.

Ross Harris was in Nubia Monday.

Jossie Reynolds was in Nubia Tuesday.

Rosebud.

DORA.

On account of the bad weather last week Kat Klaw failed to write, but will try and write a few dots this week.

The mail carrier failed to go last week on account of the bad weather.

Several of the young people enjoyed a party at Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes' Friday night.

R. W. Ground carried the mail Friday.

Preaching Sunday by Rev. Bates.

Tom Wyatt was up from the

Canyon Sunday.

Olin Holland and Arch Wash were here Sunday from Valley Creek.

Weaver Sanders returned to Sweetwater Monday where he is going to school.

Jasper McCoy went to the Canyon Monday.

Grandma Sanders, who has been sick for some time, is up again, we are glad to learn.

Miss Nettie Hawkins returned to the Canyon Monday where she is teaching music.

Kat Klaw.

Quaint New England Notions.

"I have just returned from one of the most interesting communities I ever visited," said a Pennsylvania man to an interviewer. "I am in the slate business, and have been up in Vermont looking over some of the properties of my firm. I visited one little town there which is the limit for quaint New England customs and stories. Here is a sample of the kind of stories one hears there every day—true stories, too: The oldest inhabitant, Clark Merritt, was on his deathbed. You know it means a great deal to be the oldest inhabitant up there. Every town has one. The next to the oldest inhabitant, a Dr. Smith, was also very low. Merritt was 96 and Smith 92 years old. Merritt's wife was dead, but Mrs. Smith was only about 85. As true as I'm smoking this cigar, gentlemen, Dr. Smith, who was taken suddenly worse and died one night, made his wife get on her knees beside his bed, and with his last, dying breath, he extracted from her a promise that she would not marry Clark Merritt, his old rival for the title of oldest inhabitant. Why, for ten years both those old fellows had been staying alive because they wanted to outlive each other. This was shown by the fact that Merritt died but a short time after Smith."

Overshadowed.

It is mentioned in connection with the announcement of the death of John Howard Bryant, William Cullen Bryant's last surviving brother, that he might have had more fame as a poet but for the greater achievements of his more distinguished brother in that direction. He seems to have shared something of the fate of all but one member of the Tennyson family, concerning whom Alfred Tennyson's biographer has written that Alfred was the fourth of twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, most of whom wrote poetry that might have attracted attention but for Alfred's easy pre-eminence.

The Higher Life

He Knows.

Just why I suffer loss
I cannot know
I know my Father
Wills it so.

He leads me in paths I cannot understand;

But all the way I know is wisely planned.

My life is only mine
That I may use
The gifts he lendeth me
As he may choose.

And if in love some boon He doth recall,

I know that unto Him belongeth all.

I am His child, and I
Can safely trust:
He loves me, and I know
That he is just;

Within His love I can safely rest,
Assured that what He does for me is best.

—Edith Virginia Eradt in Presbyterian Journal.

An Evolution of Christianity.

Clinton Rowell in the Commonwealth.

That the methods and observances of the church have changed with the necessities of our own advancement does not prove that it is falling into decay. The puritanic observance of the Sabbath may not continue as in the early days of a primitive people; some intelligent men and cultivated women may not be as observant of the forms of church service as were their fathers; they may claim to worship their maker in the forests and on the river banks of the Sabbath, instead of in the church, but this is rather indifference and self-indulgence than unbelief. They still seek the services of the church in marriage and when they put their loved ones away, is some tribute to the cause. Luxury and wealth may lead to self-indulgence and excess, as well as indifference to religious duties, but it is no evidence that the assaults upon the Christian religion and the exultant claims of the promoters of unbelief have undermined the fundamental basis of all that is good and pure in our civilization, which has its origin in and is maintained by the church of the Divine Master. The temporal power of the church has passed away. Some of its influences may no longer exist, but it was and is and will be more and more the most powerful element that controls the destinies of man.

THE HOME GOLD CURE.

An Ingenious Treatment by Which Drunkards are Being Cured Daily in Spite of Themselves.

No Noxious Doses. No Weakening of the Nerves. A Pleasant and Positive Cure for the Liquor Habit.

It is now generally known and understood that Drunkenness is a disease and not weakness. A body filled with poison and nerves completely shattered by periodical or constant use of intoxicating liquors, requires an antidote capable of neutralizing and eradicating this poison, and destroying the craving for intoxicants. Sufferers may now cure themselves at home without publicity or loss of time from business by this wonderful "HOME GOLD CURE" which has been perfected after many years of close study and treatment of inebriates. The faithful use according to directions of this wonderful discovery is positively guaranteed to cure the most obstinate case, no matter how hard a drinker. Our records show the marvelous transformation of thousands of drunkards into sober, industrious and upright men.

Wives, cure your husbands! Children, cure your fathers! This remedy is in no sense a nostrum, but is a specific for this disease only, and is so skillfully devised and prepared that it is thoroughly soluble and pleasant to the taste, so that it can be given in a cup of tea or coffee without the knowledge of the person drinking it. Thousands of drunkards have cured themselves with this priceless remedy and as many more have been cured and made temperate men by having the "CURE" administered by loving friends and relatives without their knowledge in tea or coffee, and believe today that they discontinued drinking of their own free will. Do Not Wait! Do not be deluded by apparent and misleading "improvement." Drive out the disease at once and for all time. The "Home Gold Cure" is sold at the extremely low price of One Dollar, thus placing within the reach of everybody a treatment more effectual than others costing \$25 to \$50. Full directions accompany each package. Special advice by skilled physicians when requested without extra charge. Sent prepaid to any part of the world on receipt of One Dollar. Address Dept. 1, EDWIN B. GILES & Co. 2339 and 2342 Market St., Philadelphia.

All correspondence strictly confidential.

E 126

DRUGS..

EVERYTHING NEW!

I have opened up a stock of Pure, Fresh Drugs, Patent Medicines, Paints, Oils, Wall Paper, Sundries, Etc., next door to First National Bank, and invite the patronage of all.

All Prescription Work is done by a Registered Pharmacist, insuring best results

Nicest line of Druggists' Sundries in the town.

F. M. DAVIS.

NOTICE.

I will do your scavenger work, clean your yard and plow your garden.

Would be glad to do your work and will appreciate it.

GEO. WORKMAN

'Phone the news to No. 31.

A GOOD THING.

German Syrup is the special creation of Dr. A. Boschee, a noted German Physician, acknowledged to be one of the most fortunate discoveries in medicine. It quickly cures Coughs, Colds and all Lung troubles of the severest nature, removing, as it does, the cause of the affection and leaving the parts in a strong and healthy condition. It is not an experimental medicine, but has stood the test of years, giving satisfaction in every case, which its rapidly increasing sale every season confirms. Two million bottles sold annually. Boschee's German Syrup was introduced in the United States in 1868, and is now sold in every town and village in the civilized world. Three doses will relieve any ordinary cough. Price 75c at Rust & Pittard's. Get Green's Prize Almanac.

A Hugging Society.

A young lady of Merkel, who takes a great interest in all religious work, has been studying up plans by which money can be raised for church purposes, and the plan of organizing "hugging societies" has appealed to her as "the very thing." The schedule of prices was taken from those adopted by a similar society at Belle Center, Ga., and is as follows:

"Girls under fifteen years of age, fifteen cents for a hug of two minutes or ten cents for a short squeeze; under 20 years, fifty cents; from 20 to 25, seventy-five cents; schoolmarm, forty cents; other men's wives, \$1.00; old maids, three cents each and no limit to time."

The Mail appreciates the young lady's knowledge of a "good thing," and the "devil" said amen! with a fervor that jarred a galley of type to the floor. We are for anything that will aid in promoting the religious interests of the town. The motion is seconded and a secret ballot proceeded.

If you want the best of everything in the jewelry line, go to the best.

B. F. Longacre was around yesterday and to show his appreciation of the paper subscribed for five copies which he sends to relatives and friends at a distance. The Mail would like to have a thousand such subscribers.

The nicest line of Valentines ever shown in Merkel at Rust & Pittard's.

Fix it if you can, but if you can't, take it to Ustick. All kinds of fine watch repairing.

Dr. Smith, Specialist of Weatherford, is in the city today.

Bad Coughs

"I had a bad cough for six weeks and could find no relief until I tried Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Only one-fourth of the bottle cured me."

L. Hawn, Newington, Ont.

Neglected colds always lead to something serious. They run into chronic bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma, or consumption. Don't wait, but take Ayer's Cherry Pectoral just as soon as your cough begins. A few doses will cure you then.

See sizes: 25c., 50c., \$1. All druggists.

Consult your doctor. If he says take it, do as he says. If he tells you not to take it, then don't take it. He knows it with him. We are willing. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

Hardware, Implements.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS:

I carry the best lines that money can buy. They are the best on the market. The prices are right.

A few of our specialties: Bible and Lansing Wagons, Bement Cultivators, Bement Planters, Yellow Kid Disc Plows, Bridge and Beach Stoves, Crockeryware, Queensware, Glassware, etc.

WE KNOW HOW TO APPRECIATE YOUR TRADE.....

W. H. DICKSON

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

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

- Brady, Beulah
- Creek, L I
- Gallagher, Mrs T
- Hollingsworth, Jess
- Jones, Mrs Lula
- Miller, Minnie
- Nowell, Roxie
- Russell, F T
- Sartain, J B
- Warden, Mrs Carrie

INSURANCE—Some facts to remember. All insurance worth investing in is founded on a scientific and mathematical basis.

All insurance is simply protection, and not a money making scheme. A dollars worth of insurance will cost you a dollar, done up in any kind of package you choose. A local agent can furnish as good an article for as little money, as you can get elsewhere, and benefits you on other lines, taxes, churches and schools. To verify these facts see,

H. C. Williams.

G. W. Wilson, the tombstone man of Decker, was in the city yesterday and renewed his subscription to The Mail.

S. H. Basham is at Dora this week.

J. T. Warren's delivery horse took a spin around the town Friday, finally bringing up at the rack in front of the store. No damage done.

The French Method.

Ambassador Cambon has given away a method used by the minority of the French chamber of deputies to attract attention. During Cambon's visit to Albany last week Assemblyman McKeown was asked by the French ambassador: "How much in the minority are you?" "Oh, so much that the speaker can run the whole thing," said Mr. McKeown. "Well, in France," said M. Cambon, "when the chamber does not like the ruling of the presiding officer, they have a method of expressing their disapproval in a forcible way." "How do they do it?" asked Mr. McKeown, with some eagerness and a beam of hope. "They have desk lids which make a very loud noise when slammed, and they slam them until the speaker's gravel oftentimes can not be heard above the din."

THE FACTS IN THE CASE.

When you read a thing you like to feel that it's the truth. The Dallas Semi-Weekly News gives the facts in the case.

SPECIALLY EDITED.

If you'll read The News a while you'll like it. It holds the attention. It is specially edited, that's why. Brains and not haphazard go into the makeup of The News.

TWO PAPERS YOU NEED.

You need The Merkel Mail, because it's your local paper. It gives a class of news you can't get elsewhere. You need The News because it gives you all the State news. The Merkel Mail and The Semi-Weekly News one year for only \$1.75, cash in advance.

The News is promptly stopped at expiration of time paid for.

GOOD ADVICE.

The most miserable beings in the world are those suffering from Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint. More than seventy-five per cent of the people in the United States are afflicted with these two diseases, and their effects; such as Sour Stomach, Sick Headache, Habitual Costiveness, Palpitation of the Heart, Heart-burn, Waterbrash, Gnawing and Burning Pains at the Pit of the Stomach, Yellow Skin, Coated Tongue and Disagreeable Taste in the Mouth, Coming up of Food after eating, Low Spirits etc. Go to your Druggist and get a bottle of August Flower for 75c. Two doses will relieve you. Try it at Rust & Pittard's. Get Green's Prize Almanac.

Mr. Wheeler Got Rid of His Rheumatism.

"During the winter of 1891 I was so lame in my joints, in fact all over my body, that I could hardly hobble around, when I bought a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. From the first application I began to get well, and was cured and have worked steadily all the year.—R. Wheeler, Nortewood, N. Y. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

P. D. Brown returned from the east Wednesday.

F. B. Hoople came in from the Plains country Monday. He reports his cattle in good shape and none have died so far.

F. P. Hamm has The Mail's thanks for financial assistance.

Talk That Talks...

It's nice to do business with plenty of nice, new goods and plenty of appreciative customers. We have the

Right Goods at Right Prices!

Our stock of General Merchandise is complete, and we should be glad to show and price it to you.

J. O. HAMILTON.

Big Cut In Lumber Yard!

We have moved and remodeled our old sheds, erected a new one in center of yard and have filled all with a brand new stock of Lumber, Shingles, Sash Doors, Brick, Lime, Cement Building Paper, etc.

This cut has widened our yard driveways all around, which enables us to serve as many more of our customers at the same time with the best material ever brought to Merkel.

Our Lumber is of all dimensions—short, wide and long. Thick, but dry and bright, these things it takes, you know; To make your home good tight and strong— It is to your interest to buy of Burton-Lingo.

BURTON-LINGO CO.,

Lumber Dealers

J. S. Barnes,

Manager

ARE YOU DEAF? ANY HEAD NOISES?



ALL CASES OF DEAFNESS OR HARD HEARING ARE NOW CURABLE

by our new invention. Only those born deaf are incurable. **HEAD NOISES CEASE IMMEDIATELY.**

F. A. WERMAN, OF BALTIMORE, SAYS:

Gentlemen:—Being entirely cured of deafness, thanks to your treatment, I will now give you a full history of my case, to be used at your discretion.

About five years ago my right ear began to ring, and this kept on getting worse, until I lost my hearing in this ear entirely. I underwent a treatment for catarrh, for three months, without any success, consulted a number of physicians, among others, the most eminent ear specialist of this city, who told me that only an operation could help me, and even that only temporarily, that the head noises would then cease, but the hearing in the affected ear would be lost forever.

I then saw your advertisement, accidentally in a New York paper, and ordered your treatment. After I had used it only a few days according to your directions, the noises ceased, and to-day, after five weeks, my hearing in the diseased ear has been entirely restored. I thank you heartily and beg to remain Very truly yours, F. A. WERMAN, 730 S. Broadway, Baltimore, Md.

Our treatment does not interfere with your usual occupation. Examination and advice free. **YOU CAN CURE YOURSELF AT HOME** at a nominal cost. **INTERNATIONAL AURAL CLINIC, 596 LA SALLE AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.**

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NORTH FRONT STREET.
A genteel shaving parlor for
genteel people.

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Nitrous Oxide Gas Administered.
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Justice Peace and Notary Public
Also fire insurance agent. Will write deeds,
acknowledgments, pay taxes on land, fur-
nish abstracts of title and transact all other
business entrusted to him.

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No. 355 meets every Friday
night. Visiting brethren cor-
dially invited to attend.
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Takes Acknowledgments, Draws up Deeds, Etc.
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4-IMPORTANT GATEWAYS-4



NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

*No Strakes
cleanest
and best line
to use from
Dallas points*

R. TURNER,
GEN'L PASS'G AND TICKET AGENT,
DALLAS, TEXAS.

Nervous children are almost
always thin children. The "out-
-ood-boy" is a seldom nervous.
White's Cream Vermifuge is the
best preventive of nervousness.
It strengthens the system and
assists to that sort of flesh, which
creates strength and power of
endurance. 25c at F. M. Davis'.

The Mail reaches a class of
folks that read advertisements.

Hunt's Cure is not a misnomer.
It does cure iten, ringworm, ecze-
ma, tetter and all similar skin
diseases. A wonderful remedy.
Guaranteed. Price 50 cents.

The Biggest Claim in the World.
"There is a family in Italy which
has a claim against the British gov-
ernment that there is not money
enough in the world to pay," said a
man from Rome, who is now tour-
ing this country, to an interviewer
the other day. "This sounds pretty
big, but it is true, nevertheless. It
is the Peruzzi family. The princi-
pal of their claim is \$12,000,000,
and it has been running since 1340.
With a fair rate of interest, the to-
tal claim to date would require
twenty-six figures to write. Of
course, the family never expects to
be settled with in full, and would
be delighted, no doubt, to accept a
sum even less than the principal. In
the early part of the fourteenth
century the Peruzzis were promi-
nent bankers of Florence, then the
banking center of Europe. Edward
III. lost money heavily in fighting
the Scotch, and found it necessary
to replenish his coffers. He turned
to the Peruzzis, who loaned him
money because he was the King of
England. When he had got into
their debt for \$12,000,000 they ven-
tured to ask for their pay. He im-
mediately issued a royal proclama-
tion declaring that the government
was compelled by the stringent
times to indefinitely postpone the
payment of all debts. Ever since
then, 1340, the descendants of the
Peruzzis have tried in vain to col-
lect their claim. The family still
occupies a prominent position in
Italy and hopes some day to secure
settlement. This is said to be the
biggest claim in the world."

Weir's Dinner Surroundings.
More than 25,000 New Yorkers
dine every day in the underground
restaurants, now so important a
feature of the city's life. In fact,
ancient looking rattskellers and
weirdly decorated dungeons one or
more stories underground are said
to be rapidly becoming New York's
most popular form of restaurant.
Vast sums have been spent in fit-
ting up these unusual interiors.
There are dungeon restaurants in
New York to suit every taste. One
may dine in a prison cell, served by
a waiter in prison stripes and be
free to leave the place when the
dinner is over. Large parties may
be served in elaborate papier mache
dungeons behind grated doors.

General Grant's Music Ear.
Rudolph Aronson, once the New
York Casino manager, has never
had so much faith in opera and
very little luck in it, Victor Smith
says, since General Grant refused
to go to hear "Erminie." "I don't
know anything about music," he
said to Aronson, "and I wouldn't
sit through an opera for \$1000."
General Grant's ear for music was
so bad that all his life in the army
he never could tell the bugle calls
apart.

For the Purchase of Palestine.
At the request of influential lib-
erals of New York a bill has been
introduced in the state legislature
for the incorporation of the Federa-
tion of American Zionists. The pur-
pose of this organization is the pur-
chase of Palestine from the Tur-
kish government, so that it may be
open to such Jews as may desire to
go there from any part of the
world and make it their home. It
is stated that many rich men are
interested in this measure, and that
money can be raised to any needed
amount, provided the people is will-
ing to accept the proposition for a
sale.

A Legacy of the Grip
Is often a rundown system.
Weakness, nervousness, lack of
appetite, energy and ambition,
with disorderly liver and kidneys
often follow an attack of this
wretched disease. The greatest
need then is Electric Bitters, the
splendid tonic, blood purifier and
regulator of stomach, liver and
kidneys. Thousands have proved
that they wonderfully strengthen
the nerves, build up the system,
and restore to health and good
spirits after an attack of grip. If
suffering, try them. Only 50c.
Perfect satisfaction guaranteed
by Rust & Pittard.

Bryan's Unnecessary Scare.
"Bryan told me a good story up-
on himself last summer," said Rep-
resentative Shafroth, of Colorado,
recently. "He said that when he
began his political career he stump-
ed Nebraska against the republi-
can candidate for governor. He
uttered all manner of harsh things
against the republican nominee,
and felt that if he should ever
meet him, it would be embarrass-
ing. After the campaign was over
Bryan accepted an invitation to
make an address at Omaha. He
was somewhat disconcerted when
he saw the governor on the plat-
form, and dreaded meeting the
man whom he had so savagely de-
nounced. The chairman of the
committee on program introduced
the singers and speakers to the
governor, who, in turn, presented
them to the audience. 'Introduce
William J. Bryan,' suggested the
chairman to the governor, when
Bryan's turn came. 'I have the
honor,' said the governor, 'to pre-
sent you William J. Bryan—'
The governor paused. He did not
know what to say next. Then he
leaned over to Bryan. 'Are you a
singer or a speaker?' he asked. 'I
speak,' said Bryan. 'Who will now
make an address,' added the gov-
ernor as he again faced the audi-
ence with an air of relief. The
governor afterward told Bryan that
he had never heard of him nor of
the speeches which Bryan thought
had stirred the entire state."

Her Necessary Man.
A society woman whose entera-
inments are uniformly successful
declares that she is always careful
to invite three kinds of men—the
dancing men, the supper men and
the corner men. "The dancing
man," said this matron, "is usually
a trifle callow and generally does
not care a great deal for anything
else. The dinner or supper man
is nearly always a good talker—
knows the opera, the play, the lat-
est novel and other timely topics.
He does not allow conversations to
lag—quite an invaluable person,
my dear. Then, the corner man
has a knack of making himself gen-
erally useful, looks after the chap-
erons and runs handy little errands.
The other men don't think very
much of him, but he is a great com-
fort to the hostess."

Odd Circumstance.
Some one has called attention to
the singular coincidence that in a
novel by Clara Morris, "A Paste-
board Crown," which is to be pub-
lished soon, one of the principal in-
cidents is an accident in the Forty-
second street tunnel. The resem-
blance to the real catastrophe in
New York is said to be remarkably
close.

Generous General Palmer.
General William A. Palmer has
donated 100 acres of ground and
\$50,000 to found a sanitarium in
Colorado Springs. The institution
will accommodate two classes of pa-
tients, those who can pay a fair
price for treatment and those who
are unable to pay anything.



All in One

The Upper part contains
a 50-lb flour bin with sifter,
a moulding board,
a tilting sugar bin, with
close fitting lid,
three drawers, one with 6
partitions for spices.
In the lower part are
3 large drawers for table
linen, groceries, etc.
ample cupboard room for
cooking utensils. Shelves, brackets, mirror and top piece
make the Cabinet as handsome as it is convenient. It is
mounted on the finest ball bearing casters. If you have any
reason to believe that your kitchen work would not be less-
ened and that you would not feel better and happier with a
Hoosier Kitchen Cabinet than without it, won't you kindly
tell us what is the reason? If there is none, may we not
have your order?
Yours truly,
ED S. HUGHES & CO.
Abilene, Texas

S. W. SHEPPARD

Groceries
Vegetables
Fruits
Country
Produce
and Fresh
Meats, etc.

We sell almost
everything afford-
ed by the market,
and sell at reason-
able prices. Come
to us for your gro-
ceries....

**Now Is THE TIME
TO KILL PRAIRIE DOGS**

AND BASS' PRAIRIE DOG POISON is the principal a-
gent of extermination. It is prepared especially for
the man who does not have enough dogs to employ an
expert. It is easy to use and costs about 1c per acre for the
poison. The dogs are easier to kill this winter than usual,
and you cannot afford to neglect them. A \$1.00 bottle pois-
ons a pece of grain. Ask your druggist for it.

Bass Bros. Drug Co.
Abilene, Texas....

Liver Wrong—All Wrong. It is im-
possible
to have good health with a bad liver. It is nearly as impossible to have had health with a good
liver. It may be, as you think, that the stomach, the bowels, the kidneys or the
blood causes your bad health, but the liver
is back of every one of them, and in
nine cases out of ten, if you correct
the liver you correct

Herbicine

Is as sure
to correct the liver
as it is sure you have one.
Through the liver it cures Indiges-
tion, Constipation, Malaria and those ail-
ments which arise from a lack of proper digestion
and assimilation of food. At druggists, 50 cents per bottle.

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Dr. King's New Discovery,
...FOR...
Consumption, Coughs and Colds
Than By All Other Throat And
Lung Remedies Combined.**

This wonderful medicine positively
cures Consumption, Coughs, Colds,
Bronchitis, Asthma, Pneumonia, Hay
Fever, Pleurisy, LaGrippe, Hoarseness,
Sore Throat, Croup and Whooping
Cough. **NO CURE. NO PAY.**
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burns, bruises, cuts or sprains.
The most penetrating and heal-
ing liniment known. Guar-
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