

# THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, APRIL 17, 1902.

NO. 9.

## More Goods and Better Values for Your Money..

That's what you get when you buy from us. The new line of Spring Goods that we have for inspection should be of great importance to purchasers who want the Most and Best for Their Money. We give below a few prices.

### A Few Prices

30 yards Cotton Checks for	\$1.00
Best yd. wide LL Domestic	5c yd
Good quality bleach	5c yd
Mattress Tick	5c yd
Best Feather Tick	12½c yd
9-4 Sheeting	16½c yd
All the best brands Calicoes	5c yd
Good quality black hose for ladies, misses and children only	10c
Stand. apron check Gingham	5c yd

Nice line Zephyr Gingham, French Perdale and Madras suitable for Shirt Waists. A shipment of Shirt Waists just received, all elegant patterns. Others ask 75c for the same grade, but our price while they last is only 50c

### To Cash Customers

We meet all legitimate competition---no one can sell cheaper.

### To credit Customers

We sell you at cash prices with only 10 per cent added. This is right and proper, and customary.

### Discount on Clothing

Our stock is new, well made, and the kind that fits. Our prices are already the lowest, quality considered, but in order to make room for other lines we will give a discount of 10 per cent for the next 30 days on all mens, boys and children's clothing. We have a nice line of dress pants; also the best men's work pants shown in the city.

We have but one price, and that the lowest consistent with sound business principles. The Star Store is permanently located. We will appreciate your cash trade. When your cash runs out we are willing to sell to you on time.

## THE Star Store.

We will be Prepared to Pay the Highest Market Price for Your Cotton this Fall!

### To The Public:

Hereafter people wanting to buy exchange or make remittances to any point in the U. S., we have decided not to make any charges on anything amounting to \$50 or less.

Very respectfully,  
The First National Bank,  
By Geo. S. Berry.

We have the finest line of Carpets and matting ever shown in the town.

W. P. Browning & Co.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

### So Sweet and Pleasing in Taste!

Mrs. C. Peterson, 625 Lake St., Topeka, Kan., speaking of Ballard's Horehound Syrup, says: "It has never failed to give entire satisfaction, and of all cough remedies, it is my favorite, and I must confess to my many friends that it will do, and has done, what is claimed for it—to speedily cure a cough or a cold; and it is so sweet and pleasing in taste." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 bottles at Rust & Pittard's.

Try reading The Mail and see if you don't feel better.

### The Higher Life

He that is habituated to deceptions and artificialities in trifles will try in vain to be true in matters of importance; for truth is a thing of habit rather than of will. You cannot in any case, by any sudden and single effort, will to be true, if the habit of your life has been to be insincere.—Henry C. Potter.

### Faith in the Bible.

"The critical study of the scriptures," says the New York Observer (Presbyterian), "has not undermined the popular faith in their inerrancy. It has shown what is shown in our courts every day, that no two witnesses describe the same thing in precisely the same way with precisely the same coloring. Peter's view is variant from John's, as Peter was a being of far different mold; but no four utterances on the same subject ever practically fitted into each other more neatly and with less suspicion of collusion than do the four evangelists. Paul, who has been the special mark for infidel or agnostic shafts, is as an apostle and an apostle to the Gentiles exactly what we might expect from the circumstances of his birth, education and surroundings, as modified by his sudden and miraculous conversion, and the tremendously important role which he was afterward destined to play in the dissemination of that gospel which once he persecuted. Criticism of the

severest kind, yet conducted in an honest—mark, we say merely honest—not necessarily prayerful spirit, shows that the bible is pre-eminently a natural book. We must believe that God had power to work miracles, and that through his appointed agents, for if we did not believe that much, we could not believe in His power, and we would not really be believing in Him as God at all. But at every turn of holy scripture we see human history involving itself in the most natural way, just as it does in latter days when we boast so much of higher civilization and development."

### Sermon on the Mount.

The Rev. Dr. Dana, Presbyterian, Philadelphia, Pa.

What does men mean in these days when they say they would like to see a certain church whose only creed was the sermon on the mount? Do they mean they would like to see a church composed only of members who live up to the spirit of this sermon? They it would be a church without a single member.

### Grace Always at Hand.

The Rev. J. F. Hanselman, R. C., Washington, D. C.

The grace of forgiveness, of justification and of regeneration, the grace flowing from Calvary, was always at hand for men. No one at any period, in any generation, who called upon the Lord with sincere heart, turned away from his evil deeds and was converted to God but was cleaned

and purified.

### Modern Life.

Bishop Potters, Episcopal, New York City.

Modern life teaches us that loyalty to the divine person was necessary, and that the secret of strength was found in the relation to others, while the real purpose of life was illuminated today and forever in the light of the person and messages of Christ.

### In Right Religion.

The Rev. Dr. Peters, Baptist, Baltimore, Md.

When your heart is in right relation with God you will perform all your religious duties, not because you must, but because you may. A want of religious enjoyment is an evidence of a departed blessedness. You have all the fears and none of the joys of religion.

### The Great Dismal Swamp

Of Virginia is a breeding ground of malaria germs. So is low, wet or marshy ground everywhere. These germs cause weakness, chills and fever, aches in the bones and muscles, and may induce dangerous maladies. But Electric Bitters never fail to destroy them and cure malarial troubles. They will surely prevent typhoid. "We tried many remedies for malaria and stomach and liver troubles," writes John Charleston, of Byesville, O., "but never found anything as good as Electric Bitters." Try them. Only 50c. Rust & Pittard guarantee satisfaction

## Real Estate & Insurance Agency

Liverpool, London & Globe Insurance Company. New Hampshire Fire Insurance Company. Fire Association of Philadelphia.

I represent the above companies and solicit a share of your business.

Farm and Ranch lands bought and sold on commission. If you have any lands for sale list them with me.

I have a block of seven acres in Merkel, south side, which will be sold at a bargain. Good building place. If you are going to build and want plenty of room investigate this.

I write all kinds of Insurance, Deeds, Mortgages, Commercial and Negotiable Papers. If you think of buying property in town, see what I have to offer.

Notary Public in office.

**T. A. JOHNSON.**

Office in First National Bank.

# 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.

(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 Clerk:  
S. H. GARRISON.  
(re-election.)

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

For County Judge:  
W. W. KIRK.  
D. G. HILL.

For Tax Collector:  
BAYLOR CRAWFORD.  
ED DICKERSON.

For District Clerk:  
V. F. WOMACK.  
E. B. BYNUM.  
J. A. CHAPMAN.

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

For Hide and Animal Inspector:  
ROSS G. HALL.

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

### BULL WHIPS LION.

Thousands Drank in the Gory Contest With Ghoulish Relish.

El Paso, April 13.—This afternoon, in the Juarez bull ring, across the Rio Grande, a monster Numidian lion and a ferocious Samalayuca bull from the interior of Mexico fought each other almost to the death. The lion probably will die.

No such exhibition has been given in Christendom since the bloody days of Rome, when lion-bull fighting and other similar contests were in flower, and no other like it will probably be given at Juarez if the quaint and picturesque old border town stands a thousand years. The sanguinity, rarity and uniqueness of the encounter attracted spectators from dozens of States and from all over the Mexican Republic. Gray-haired Mexicans walked four days from the interior of Chihuahua to witness the exhibition.

The slaughter was not wholesale today, as in the conventional bull fight, but death was on the installment plan—sufficiently slow, excruciating, tormenting and entirely destitute of sympathetic kindness and duty to please the most fastidious in all that is inhumane and savage.

In the grewsome, the sickening, the bloodshed, the agony and torture of an unoffending beast, mingled with groans and capti-

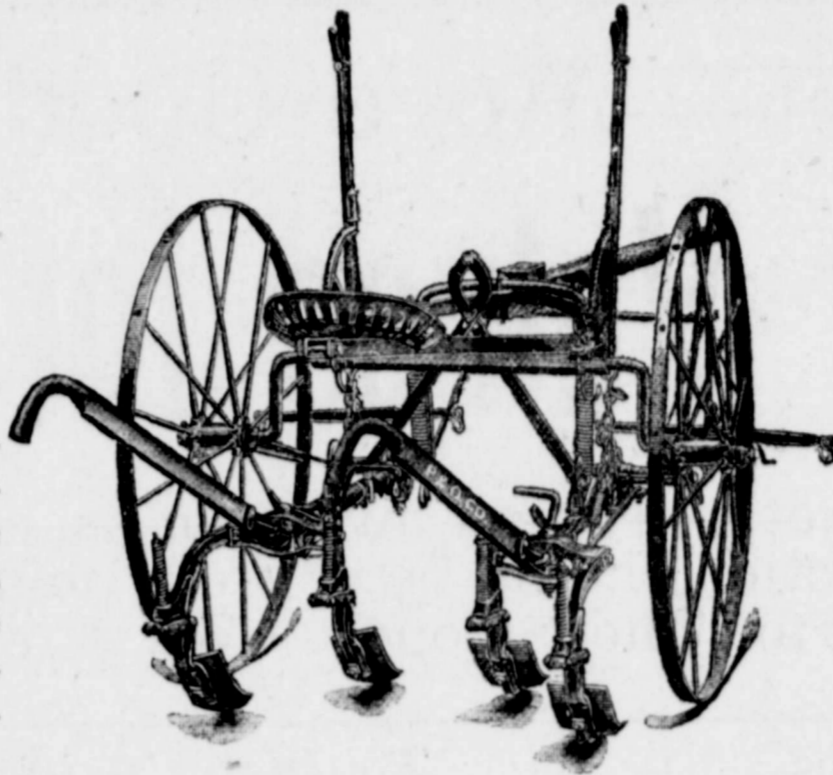
# YOU WANT THE BEST..

When you get anything in the "P. & O. Canton Line" of Farming Implements, you get THE BEST....

....THE....

Success Sulky,  
Canton Single  
Row Planter,  
Canton Two Row  
Planter,  
Victor Cultivator..

Have no equals, as evidenced by their growing popularity. We've handled these goods for 10 years because they are what the successful farmer demands--THE BEST.



We also carry a full line of...

GROCERIES,  
GRAIN and  
FEED.....

If you need a  
BUGGY  
call on us

## G. F. WEST

vating music, the fight was an undisputed success.

The fight was held in an octagonal cage 96 feet in circumference. The cage was securely fastened in the center of the bull ring. The bull was first decoyed into the cage, and directly adjacent to this was placed a smaller cage containing the lion. At a blast of the trumpet the lion was admitted from the smaller to the larger cage, the doors of the lion's and the bull's prison being automatically closed.

Then followed the roaring and bellowing, the crouching and charging, the spring of the lion, the mad plunge of the bull, the lacerating of the bull's flesh and the animal's terrible injury from the biting and clawing of the monarch of the fields.

When the bull first entered and saw the lion crouching to await his coming, he was seized with a great fear. He shivered from head to foot, but this was only momentary. In an instant he realized his danger and began a terrible fight for his life. The lion roared and lashed his tail, and when the bull charged avoided his horns with dexterity.

He crouched close to the floor, crept around his prey in a circle and watched his opportunity. Then came the magnificent spring into the air, and, falling like an eagle from a cliff, the lion landed like a thunderbolt with all his weight upon the bull's back and flanks, his claws burying themselves in the bovine's sides and his long fangs closing on his throat.

The bull shook him off and gored the lion twice in the head. Then the fight continued for an hour, the lion's leg being crushed and his body gored in twenty-five places. The bull threw his adversary three times to the arena and held him pinioned to the ground, then, when the lion was released, threw him backward and upward repeatedly. The arena was bespattered with gore. The bull was not fatally injured. When the lion was completely vanquished in spirit and in physical strength and injured fatally the fight was ordered discontinued by the Mexican authorities.

Thousands of dollars changed

hands, most of the betting being at odds in favor of the lion. Several fights took place between spectators and attendants, but no one was killed.

The lion belongs to A. J. Morrison, who spent nineteen years in South Africa. He reared it from a cub, and the monster is now three years old and one of the finest in captivity. He is a glorious beast to look upon, kingly in mien, and with the grace of his native jungles perceptible in every movement.

The commissioners elected Saturday were the present incumbents, except in precincts 2 (Merkel) and 4. The latter is in the extreme south part of the county and has not been reported.

### Attention, Sons of Confederates!

The management of the Texas and Pacific has promised a special train starting from Big Spgs. to Dallas on account of the reunion. The exact schedule of the time of arrival at points along the line has not been definitely fixed, but it is understood that it will be run on Monday, the 21, and will be just ahead of the east bound schedule time of this date. The round trip fare can be ascertained by applying to the agents. The Abilene Camp is quite anxious to have the Merkel Camp and sons to join with them and make the representation from the west as creditable as possible. Camp Abilene Confederate Veterans expects to send a large delegation, and a jolly good time all around is expected. All who are eligible and expect to attend this grand gathering will receive more courtesy and attention by being member of an organized camp than they will if they are not. So you are most cordially invited to align yourself with the camp.

T. A. Bledsoe, Com.  
W. R. Keeble, Adjt.

The Board of Trustees have again elected Misses Patterson, Evans and Harkrider to positions in the public school. These young ladies are universally popular and have given general satisfaction, which makes their selection eminently proper. The principalship is yet vacant.

Try reading The Mail.

### A GOOD THING.

German Syrup is the special prescription of Dr. A. Boschee, a celebrated German Physician, and is 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.

Advertising is the secret of success in every business.



### A Medicine for Old People.

Rev. Geo. Gay, Greenwich, Kas., is past 83 years of age, yet he says: "I am enjoying excellent health for a man of my age, due entirely to the rejuvenating influences of Dr. Myles' Nervine. It brings sleep and rest when nothing else will, and gives strength and vitality even to one of my old age."

"I am an old soldier," writes Mr. Geo. Watson, of Newton, Ia., "and I have been a great sufferer from nervousness, vertigo and spinal trouble. Have spent considerable money for medicine and doctors, but with little benefit. I was so bad my mind showed signs of weakness. I began taking Dr. Myles' Nervine, and now I am perfectly well."

### Dr. Myles' Nervine

Saved me from the insane asylum," Mrs. A. M. Heifer, of Jerico Springs, Mo., writes. "I was so nervous that I could scarcely control myself, could not sleep nor rest, would even forget the names of my own children at times. I commenced using Dr. Myles' Nervine and it helped me from the first, and now I am perfectly well."

Sold by all Druggists on Guarantee.  
Dr. Myles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

All jewelry is good, bad or indifferent. The kind Ustick has is good—and cheap.

The merchants have gone into an agreement to close their respective places of business at 7 o'clock, p. m., Saturday's excepted, beginning April 14th, and continuing until further notice. Let the people keep this fact in mind so that the agreement can be strictly enforced.

### Political News.

Judge V. W. Grubbs has announced his withdrawal from the race for Governor. He gives as a motive for his candidacy the excuse that he wanted to inject some issues into the campaign, most prominent of which was the system of industrial education in the public schools. We accept his apology, for surely he had no hopes of landing in the chair.

A. S. Hardwicke is making a clean canvass in the race for District Attorney, which is calculated to impress the people favorably to his candidacy. Senate is worthy of the honor.

Does Mr. Bryan want to be returned to the Legislature? If so, let him shy his political castor into the ring and liven things up. The people want to know what he has done and what he is going to do.

The contest for Congressman from Hill County was won by Beall against Wooten, which practically insures his nomination. It was a hot fight.

Judge Smith of Colorado carried Eastland County for Congress in last week's primary by 45 plurality. This is Maxwell's own bailiwick, and it looks very much like Smith is going to win out.

Dean, for Congressman from this district, is perambulating around, but that is all. Just what excuse he has for running has not been made public.

T. J. Coggin shipped several cars of cattle from his Fisher county ranch this week, their destination being Hall county, where they will be put on grass.

**A Nearly Fatal Runaway**

Started a horrible ulcer on the leg of J. B. Ornerl Franklin Grove, Ill., which defied doctors and all remedies for four years. Then Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured him. Just as good for boils, burns, bruises, cuts, corns, scalds, skin eruptions and piles. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

**And the Greatest Rhyme Unrhymed.**

The greatest thought is still unthought,  
The greatest sage is still to rise;  
But is the greatest fight unfought?  
Ah, let us hope 'tis otherwise.  
The greatest song is still unsung,  
The greatest day is still to dawn,  
But, though the world is very young,  
Its primitive, rough edge is gone.  
The highest done is still unplanned,  
The sweetest voice has not been heard,  
But the foulest plots are finished, and  
Man's said his coldest, meanest word.  
The fairest maid is yet to pass  
Where men's admiring gaze is fixed;  
Great times are coming, but, alas!  
The deadliest cocktail's still unmixed.

—Selected.

**League Program.**

APRIL 25.

Opening song.  
Scripture reading and prayer.  
Song.  
Roll call, answer by literary quotation.  
Recitation—Duncan Browning.  
Reading—Comer Clay.  
Song.  
Recitation—Ross Jennings.  
Reading—Sue Browning.  
Duet—Maud and Lydia Counts.  
Paper—Carrie Hargrove.  
Recitation—May Williams.  
Song.  
Sketch from reading course—Luther Heizer.  
Reading—Kate Barnes.  
Closing song.

**Wields a Sharp Ax.**

Millions marvel at the multitude of maladies cut off by Dr. King's New Life Pills—the most distressing too. Stomach, liver and bowel troubles, dyspepsia, loss of appetite, jaundice, biliousness, fever, malaria, all fall before these wonder workers. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Rev. Chaney, who is travelling in the interest of the National Prohibition Society, lectured to a large audience at the Baptist church Tuesday night. Every man, woman and child in Merkel should have heard that sermon. It would make them better.

**The Effect Spoiled.**

A Philadelphia preacher tells a story of a young man who took his best girl to church, and when the time for "collection" came round, rather ostentatiously displayed a \$5 gold piece. Presuming upon the engagement to marry, that had been made by her, the young woman placed a restraining hand upon the arm of her fiance. "Why, don't be so extravagant, George!" she exclaimed. "Oh, that's nothing," he replied. "I always give \$5 when I go to a strange church."

Just then the deacon came with the plate, and George dropped a coin. Everything seemed favorable, and the young man beamed with a sense of generosity. Then the minister made the announcement of the day's collection. "The collection today," said he, was \$3.75." George hadn't much to say all the way to his fiance's home.

**Satisfactory Excuses.**

A girl absent from school for half a day brought the following satisfactory excuse: "Miss teacher—dotter's absents yesterday was unavoidable. Her shoes had to be half-soled and she had a sore throte. Her konstitushun is dekleit and if she is absent any more you can know that it is en account of un-avodabel sickness or something else." A boy absent for half a day laid the following explanation on his master's desk: "Dear sir, please excuse Henry. He went to grand-papa's funeral with me this afternoon. I have been promising him for several weeks that he might if he was good, and he has been very good, so I kept my word."

**Grant and Sherman.**

The committee in charge of the statute of General W. T. Sherman ordered on behalf of the New York Chamber of Commerce and now completed, has declared in favor of a site in Riverside drive, 300 feet south of Grant's tomb, and immediately facing it. William E. Dodge, chairman of the committee, speaks of this place as the ideal situation, and adds: "There is, indeed, a certain fitness in placing a statute of General Sherman near that of his greatest leader and personal friend." No decision has been yet made. Other sites have been suggested. The matter now goes to Mayor Low and the Municipal Art Society.

# THE GLOBE

Is Now Located in Merkel

And we cordially invite you to come and see us when you are in town. We are prepared to sell you everything you need==

## DRY GOODS, GROCERIES and HARDWARE

And would appreciate your business very much. Our motto is, FAIR DEALING and HONEST VALUES, and you can't go amiss by giving us a trial. We are also prepared to extend accommodations until fall, and if you feel that you would like to be accommodated in this way we would be glad to have you call on us.

Below we quote you a few prices on Dry Goods to hold good until May 10. Remember these prices are strictly cash


Best standard prints 4c	Best quality apron gingham for 4 1/2c a yard.	Simpson's standard 3/4 percale, worth 8 1/2c, on sale for 5c a yard.
Yd wide brown domestic 4c	We have on sale the best 50c summer corset for 25c all sizes.	See our ladies' kid shoes in lace or button, worth \$1.75, now on sale for only \$1.25.
Good qual cotton checks 3 1/2c	All our 10c fancy lawns just the thing for your new dresses, on sale for 7 1/2c.	Best ladies' common sense, low quarter \$1.50 shoe on the market, now on sale for \$1.25.
Extra good qual toweling 4c	We have on the counters for this sale the best white lawn on the market for 10c a yard.	We have many bargains.
Yard wide bleached domestic worth 7 1/2c on sale for only 5c		
Extra good mattress tick on sale for 5c		
Misses' oil grain solid shoes all sizes, at only 75c; worth \$1.25.		

We have numerous other Bargains to offer you and would be pleased to price you through the house. We can save you money on Groceries as well as Dry Goods.

# THE GLOBE,

MERKEL TEXAS

**Old hunters say The MARLIN**  
has so many things to commend it. The top of the action is always closed, the mechanism the most simple, the finish elegant, the form attractive. It seems to throw its bullets a little more accurately and plant them with a little more force than any other rifle. For deer take a 38-55 or 30-30. 120-page catalog, 200 illustrations, colored cover by Remington. For 3 stamps. MARLIN FIRE ARMS CO., NEW HAVEN, CONN.



**PHOTOS ALL KINDS**  
My new gallery is now complete, in which I am prepared to do all kinds of Photo and Button work from Stamps up, at prices to suit the times. All work guaranteed, and remember I am here to stay. Call and see my fine line of samples. Gallery north of J.P. Sharp's store, Merkel.  
**W. A. Barnhill.**

**Half-Sick**  
"I first used Ayer's Sarsaparilla in the fall of 1848. Since then I have taken it every spring as a blood-purifying and nerve-strengthening medicine."  
S. T. Jones, Wichita, Kans.  
If you feel run down, are easily tired, if your nerves are weak and your blood is thin, then begin to take the good old standard family medicine, Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It's a regular nerve lifter, a perfect blood builder. \$1.00 a bottle. All druggists.  
Ask your doctor what he thinks of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. He knows all about this grand old family medicine. Follow his advice and you will be satisfied.  
J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

For the Annual Reunion Confederate Veterans to be held at Dallas, Texas, April 22 to 25, inclusive, 1902, the Texas & Pacific Railway Company will sell round trip tickets from stations on its line in Texas at exceedingly low rates, in fact at lower rates than have been announced to Dallas for a long time. Tickets will be on sale from points in Texas, also Shreveport and Greenwood, La., on April 21, 22 and 23, 1902, limited for return to leave Dallas April 26, 1902. Any one of our agents will be glad to arrange for sleeping car accommodations and explain to you any points connected with the trip, or we will be glad to have you write direct to us for further information.  
H. P. Hughes, E. P. Turner, T. P. A., G. P. A., Ft. Worth, Tex. Dallas, Tex.

The wheat and oat crops are almost too far gone to be benefited by the rains.

**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.  
Burrel Wheeler and Zade Polk went to Memphis this week with a car of cattle.

**A Valuable Medicine For Coughs and Colds in Childrnn.**  
"I have not the slightest hesitancy in recommending Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to all who are suffering from coughs or colds," says Chas. M. Cramer, Esq., a well known watch maker, of Colombo, Ceylon. "It has been some two years since the City Dispensary first called my attention to this valuable medicine and I have repeatedly used it and it has always been beneficial. It has cured me quickly of all chest colds. It is especially affective for children and seldom takes more than one bottle to cure them of hoarseness. I have persuaded many to try this valuable medicine, and they are all as well pleased as myself over the results." For sale by Rust & Pittard.  
Mrs. Pettus, wife of Capt. T.F. Pettus, died at the family home in Albany, last week. She was a stepmother of J. J. and Frank Pettus, formerly of this place.

# 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 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.

It is a sad commentary upon the intelligence of a community when the suffrage of its people is sought by questionable means. Only the vote of an ignoramus or a man who has fallen very low in the scale of humanity is susceptible to bribery. Whiskey on election day is a menace to public interests and should be set down on with a dull, sickening thud. The people of Merkel are not afraid to fight this evil. They have spoken in no uncertain tones on the whiskey traffic, and to quietly submit to the imposition of whiskey upon the community, even for campaign purposes, which is the rottenest kind of injustice to say the least of it, goes mightily against the grain. The people of Merkel should resent this blot upon its fair escutcheon and re-associate in like measure at the affront cast at the people. Even designing politicians should be made to respect the sentiment of the people manifested against the whiskey traffic. If we mistake not, this evidence will accumulate to the detriment of certain aspiring individuals, who have more conceit than brains and more brute strength than physical manhood.

Not a few Republicans, Populists and Independents helped to swell the vote at the primary Saturday, but in every instance they swallowed the pledge, asserted their allegiance to Democratic principles, and vowed to support every nominee of the party at the general election. What are you going to do about it? asked one. Nothing. When a man swears he is a Democrat and will support its ordinances we can only applaud him for his good taste, give him the right hand of fellowship, and initiate him into the mysteries of the order with becoming dignity. An oath is too sacred a thing to doubt a man's sincerity in its acceptance.

The death of General Wade Hampton, the Confederate hero and statesman, is peculiarly sad at this time. A few days longer lease of life and he would have been permitted to mix and mingle with his old comrades at their annual reunion. But the ranks are thinning fast, the call to arms comes with heart-rending regularity, and soon, very soon, all will be called to that bourne from whence no traveller ever returns. God bless the heroes of the Lost Cause, and grant that their memory will be kept green through all the ages.

There was one objectionable feature of the primary election ticket. It should have included the names of all candidates for state and district offices as well as those of the county and pre-

dict. This is much the fairest way, and then it does away with the several conventions which are usually manipulated by politicians of the gutter-snipe variety. Let the people select their own candidates, either in primaries or at the general election.

Ten thousand people are said to be on the verge of starvation as a result of the continued drouth in Starr and Zapata counties, and unless relief is provided it is stated that a majority of them will die before summer fairly begins. Gov. Sayers is investigating the situation and will call for aid if it is needed. Grand old Texas will respond to this cry for aid.

The day of election bribery is a thing of the past in this country. The people are honest and intelligent enough to distinguish between right and wrong, and they have come to understand that county affairs are of too much importance to trust to incompetent hands.

Texas has opened her arms to the octopus. He has full consent to pillage to his heart's content. It is impossible to make a law that will pass muster at the shrine of combined capital backed by the Supreme Court.

At least there is the consolation that Taylor County is largely Democratic, and we can congratulate ourselves upon the growth and prosperity of the country, as evidenced by the very large vote polled.

The generous rains of the past week have been a God-send to the country. They have revived drooping spirits as well as drooping vegetation, and the country has responded with a glad awakening.

Hyphenated names or those parted in the middle don't stand any more show than the common run of names, and not as much as the one that Bledsoe freely in anticipation of the plum.

Dictator Roosevelt is the whole cheese now, but time works many changes. Such a strenuous life as he it leading will come to an abrupt ending.

Tucker ran a good stout race, but he failed to take a Tuck(er) in Thornton's coat tail at the outset and the pace was too fast.

What's the use of all this grumbling when you hear them clouds a rumbling; don't you know it's going to rain—soon?

The merit system should be applied to all offices of public trust. If a man is worthy of an office let him prove himself.

The sentiment in favor of a new depot for Merkel is practically unanimous. The only thing wanting now is the depot.

The boat up Salt River will have the largest list of passengers with which it has ever embarked from this county.

All of us have three kinds of friends—friends who love us, who are indifferent and who hate us.

Miss Hellen M. Stone, the heroine of Bulgarian captivity fame, is again on American terra firma.

A Hill is a hard thing to go around, especially when it has spread out in every direction.

Merkel is still conspicuously to the front when it comes to showing up brutal majorities.

# THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL

J. T. WARREN, PRES.  
G. F. WEST, VICE PRES.  
GEO. S. BERRY, CASHIER.  
C. M. COGGIN, ASST. CASHIER.

YOUR PATRONAGE WILL BE HIGHLY APPRECIATED

CAPITAL, - \$30,000  
SURPLUS, - \$ 5,000

The detail of Accounts receive the personal attention of an officer of the bank. We guarantee prompt, accurate, and economical service, and as liberal accommodations as are warranted by the account and prudent banking. Correspondence and personal interviews invited.

## THE PRIMARY ELECTION

LARGE VOTE CAST THROUGH-  
OUT THE COUNTY.

Election Was Hotly Contested and  
All the Old Officers Were  
Nominated.

The Democratic primary election held Saturday marked the ending of one of the warmest campaigns since the days when Populism was at its zenith, but everything passed off smoothly and quietly. It was a warm baby and very interesting, and in many respect the results are surprising, especially to some of the defeated candidates. The returns are now in the hands of the Executive Committee and will not be canvassed until Saturday; hence, we will not be able to give a tabulated statement until next week.

In the race for County Judge Hill has a small lead over Kirk. Abilene gave Hill a magnificent majority, something like 400 votes, but this was largely offset by the country.

Garrison for County Clerk, Cunningham for Sheriff, Jackson for Assessor, Hall for Inspector and Riney for Surveyor had no opponents and of course were successful.

Bledsoe for County Attorney carried the county by practically a unanimous vote.

The race for County Treasurer was a one-sided affair, Thornton going in for a third term.

Crawford is far in the lead for Collector.

Womack for District Clerk ran like a scared wolf, distancing his three competitors in the race by several lengths.

In this precinct Compton is again Public Weigher and Woodward Constable. The race for Commissioner and Justice of the Peace was quite spirited, Wheeler leading by something like 50 votes.

The vote throughout the county broke all previous records. In this precinct it exceeded the vote at the last general election by 38, the vote being 310 against 272. This is a large increase when it is considered that many did not vote and also that 40 or 50 votes were cut off into the new voting box at Caps.

Now that the election is over and the choice made for the Democratic ticket, let the people lay aside all personal differences in the matter of the men selected and as loyal citizens and good Democrats join hands in congratulations all around. The ticket as a whole is a good one, all the nominees being honorable and intelligent men, and we can conscientiously support every one of them. Some of us may have been disappointed in the selections made, but that does not lessen the importance of the obligation assumed in voting the ticket. Therefore, stand by the pledge.

## 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

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

## JOS. H. WARNICK,

...BANKER...

Capital = = \$15,000.00  
Surplus and Profits \$ 1,707.53

We will appreciate your business, however small, and guarantee satisfaction to every customer. Give us a trial.

The following is the way a young man of a neighboring town sizes up his girl: "There's a gladness in her gladness when she's glad—there's a sadness in her sadness when she's sad; but the gladness of her gladness, nor the sadness of her sadness, is nothing to her madness when she's mad."

An exchange hits the nail on the head in the following, which is peculiarly appropriate at this time: A man who undertakes to rise through the misfortunes of another rather than by merit of his own is like the hermit crab which crawls into the shell of a whelk and then degenerates into a weakling and dies without issue. The laws of human conduct are based upon the eternal principles of right, and he who basely violates the code may seem to prosper for a time, but must go down, "and when he falls, he falls like Lucifer, never to rise again."

The new school building will soon be under course of construction. Good.

Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, the great Presbyterian divine, is dead.

Grand, glorious old Merkel and the Merkel Country.

The hardware trust is a hard proposition.

Now a long, strong pull for the town.

## 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,

J. R. REGISTER.

## Millinery..

Latest Styles,  
Newest Designs  
Most Stylish  
Effects

I can suit you  
in Price, Quality,  
and Style.

MRS. F. B. HOOPLE

**Retrospective.**

Mr. John Hamm Sr., got in a reminiscent mood Sunday and gave some interesting history about the early days of Merkel. Mr. Hamm has been here a long time. He has seen the town grow from a mere railroad siding to a commercial center whose progress and development is such as to command the admiration of all. When Mr. Hamm first landed here it was a barren wilderness with few inviting qualities. There were no railroad facilities except a switch, no churches, no school house—not even a saloon. The first school had an enrollment of only 13 pupils and was taught in one room of a residence in South Merkel. J. V. White, now of Roscoe, taught the third term. But the people in those days were thrifty, hardy pioneers, and by giving suppers, dances and other entertainments and inviting cow-boys for miles around they were soon able to build a school house 20x20 feet on the site from which the present building was removed, and the school was maintained the full term by voting the special tax of 20 cents on the hundred dollars now in vogue. This was followed by the organization of church societies and Sunday schools and later on by houses of worship, until now we have three magnificent buildings. The first saloon in the town, Mr. Hamm says, was shipped here from Llano county. The quiet, peaceful little village was then transformed into a typical western town, with the usual embellishments of gun plays, fist fights and poker games. The seed of discord was then sown and stagnation set in. Very little growth was experienced—in fact, the town "went back," property declined in value, and the settlement of the country was materially checked. A few years later, however, the saloons were voted out. Since that time few towns have enjoyed a more substantial growth and the marks of progress are visible on every hand. Mr. Hamm is an interesting conversationalist, and while we differ with him on the school house proposition and believe its completion will mark the greatest era in the development of the town, we can but admire his pluck and perseverance and susceptibility to conviction. May he live long and prosper.

Look at our French Balbriggan Underwear at \$1.00 a suit. No better made for the money.  
J. T. Warren.

The dinner given by the ladies of the Baptist church Saturday was quite a success, the proceeds amounting to several dollars. The editor and family are under special obligations to the kind ladies for substantial recognition.

Miss Carrie Woodard, who attended school here the past session, left Saturday for her home at Roscoe. She will be greatly missed by her many young friends.

Buy "Topsy" Hosiery.  
J. T. Warren.

Rev. H. A. Boaz, formerly pastor of the Methodist church at Abilene and well known here, has accepted the presidency of Polytechnic College at Fort Worth. He is a brother of Ed-  
Boaz of Anson.

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.

Milo Maize and Red Top Cane seed at  
J. T. Warren's.

For Sale—Cooking stove, dining table, iron bedstead, all as good as new. See  
S. W. Sheppard.

Mrs. J. W. Taylor of Midland is visiting Mrs. Dr. Leeman.

John Raspberry was in from near Eskota this week.

3 pound Standard Tomatoes 10c per can.  
J. T. Warren.

Dr. J. H. Grace, charged with the murder of Miss Mollie Lane at Stamford a few months ago, was tried in the District Court at Anson last week and found guilty of murder in the second degree, the verdict assessing his punishment at five years in the penitentiary. The crime was a most revolting one and the punishment is very light.

A cyclone struck Aspermon last Thursday, demolishing two residences, a restaurant, the Presbyterian church and badly damaging the Star office. Numerous other houses were blown from foundations, and the jail was almost completely wrecked.

You can exchange eggs for dry goods or groceries at J. T. Warren's.

Many Merkel people are making preparations to attend the reunion at Dallas

We have Thompson's Glove Fitting Corsets in the following Styles:

Short Hip (Paris Style.)

Ventilating

Militant (straight front.)

True Fit Girdle

Nursing



- The Thoroughbred for \$3.00
- The Statesman for \$2.50
- The Mound City for \$2.00
- The Globe for \$1.50

You don't have to be a judge of Hats to buy intelligently here. Price and quality conform at this store.

**J. T. WARREN**



**Cures Sciatic Rheumatism.**

Mrs. A. E. Simpson, 509 Craig St., Knoxville, Tenn., writes, June 10, 1899: "I have been trying the baths of Hot Springs, Ark., for sciatic rheumatism, but I get more relief from Ballard's Snow Liniment than any medicine or anything I have ever tried. Enclosed find post office order for \$1.00. Send me a large bottle by Southern Express." Sold by Rust & Pittard.

Sixteen ounces of satisfaction in every pound of Peace-Maker Flour at

J. T. Warren's.

**School Closed.**

The Merkel Public School was brought to a successful termination last Friday at noon, after a seven months' term. There was no graduating class this year, if we have been correctly informed, but substantial progress has been made in every branch, and it is believed that the term was profitably spent.

Prof. Chastain as superintendent and Prof. Sewell as principal have been earnest and zealous in their efforts for the good of the school, while the young lady teachers, Misses Evans, Patterson and Harkrider, have been equally as faithful. All have done their best and are deserving of the unstinted praise of the community. Prof. Chastain did not apply for a second term, and we have not been informed as to the desires and intentions of the other teachers, but whether they remain here or whether they seek other fields, the best wishes of The Mail will abide with them.

**Hand Wanted.**

Farm and ranch hand wanted. Inexperienced hands need not apply.

Sam Butman,  
Nubia, Texas.

Now and then little errors, which are calculated to injure the feelings of some one, creep into the papers, however carefully they are sought to be avoided. Last week in the article on school matters we unintentionally cast a reflection on other teachers when it was stated that Prof. Evans was "head and shoulders above every other competitor for superintendent." We do not know who had applied for the position and hasten the correction. Prof. Evans is an able man, but there might have been others after the place who are equally as efficient. We intended to say that he has few peers in the profession.

Smiling faces are numerous since the rain. What a blessing it was, anyway.

Prof. Chastain and family left last week for Eastland. The best wishes of their friends go with them.

The national bank examiner was here Monday and checked up the business of the First National. The bank was congratulated upon its showing, few banks surpassing it in the west, which should be a source of congratulation to the management.

**Second-Hand Store and Tin Shop.** Second hand store and tin shop: Wants to repair tinware. Will pay cash for all second hand goods. All kinds of goods sold and exchanged. Sewing machines and attachments. Come and see. JNO. B. BELL, Jr.

Elder L. A. Dale, Evangelist of the Christian church, will begin a protracted meeting Sunday, April 20th, at the Presbyterian church. Everybody invited.

**Children's Coughs and Colds.**

Mrs. Joe McGrath, 327 E. 1st St., Hutchinson, Kan., writes: "I have given Ballard's Horehound Syrup to my children for coughs and colds for the past four years, and find it the best medicine I ever used." Unlike many cough syrups, it contains no opium, but will soothe and heal any disease of the throat and lungs quicker than any remedy. 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

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

Olin Balch has purchased the Adkisson residence in East Merkel, consideration \$600.

Mrs. J. A. McMahan has returned to Abilene.

When you want grain or any kind of field seed, see G. M. Sharp.

Mrs. W. A. Barnhill is reported quite sick with pneumonia.

Mrs. Olin Balch is visiting her parents in Johnson county.

Call on G. M. Sharp for cane seed.

Miss Laura Evans will leave for her home at Eddy this week. She was one of the efficient teachers in the public school.

Miss Opal Harkrider, who taught in the public school the past year, has returned to her home at Abilene.

McDonald Jumpers for working men. They save shirts as well as washing.  
J. T. Warren.

J. J. Pettus and family were in the city Monday.

**A Physician Writes.**

"I am desirous of knowing if the profession can obtain Herbine in bulk for prescribing purposes? It has been of great use to me in treating cases of dyspepsia brought on by excesses or overwork. I have never known it to fail in restoring the organs affected, to their healthful activity." 50c bottles at Rust & Pittard's.

It is reported that G. W. Boyce has purchased the 80-acre tract of land adjoining the town plot on the south, which is now in use by J. T. Warren as a pasture. The consideration is \$25 per acre.

Jud Sheppard returned from points in New Mexico Sunday night. Jud says Merkel and the Merkel country is good enough for him, and he seems willing to remain.

McDonald Overalls fit like Sunday pants.  
J. T. Warren.

W. A. Davis, formerly editor of the Graham Leader, but now traveling in the interests of the American Anti-Saloon League, was in the city Monday and lectured at the Presbyterian church that night.

For sale at a Bargain:—Our large iron safe.  
The Star Store.

Mr. Collier of Abilene has purchased an interest in the Davis drug store and moved his family up last week.

M. A. Marcus of the Globe is in the city.

Asa Sheppard left Monday night for Memphis.

# The War In South Africa..

## Cuts No Ice at This Store.

Our sympathies are for the people of this Country. We realize the fact that you have had a short crop year and must buy goods **CHEAP**; therefore, we have reduced the prices on our goods in every department. Come in and see us and inspect our goods. We will save you money on everything you buy at this store.

## J. P. SHARP & CO.

### TOWN and COUNTRY.. NEWS

### WEEKLY BUDGET OF HAPPENINGS THRO' OUT THE COUNTY...

#### ABILENE.

Abilene, Texas, April, 16.—The election is a thing of the past, also several candidates. Abilene polled the heaviest vote last Saturday in the primary that she ever did before.

Evangelist Fife, continues daily and is greeted with large crowds at each service. Sunday morning he asked the people of Abilene for a donation for the drouth sufferers in Zapata county and in a short time \$438.15 was subscribed. The service will continue through this week and the evangelist goes to Midland Monday.

Miss Katie Clayton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Clayton, who live four miles east of town was found dead in bed Monday by members of the family. She had been complaining for a few days but was up Sunday and said she felt much better than common. He death was quite a shock to the community.

Mrs. Geo. W. 'Edey, wife of Weather Bureau Observer Edey died at the family residence here late Friday afternoon and was buried in the city cemetery Sunday afternoon. She was a sufferer of consumption.

The board of pharmacy of this judicial district met here Tuesday and had some 10 applicants to examine for registration.

Recent rains have about filled Lytlelake for the first time in over a year. The spill-way has been raised and the lake will hold much more water than formerly.

#### NUBIA.

The old Canyon has been blessed with one more good rain, and it is still threatening.

There were many of the Nubia boys looking sad over Sunday. All on account of Sunday the boys had great sport. One tossing up a tin can and the rest throwing rocks at it.

There is Sunday school at Bethel every Sunday at 11 and at the Butman school house at 4 o'clock in the evening.

Mrs. Mary Blaekburn and daughter made a pleasant call at Dr. Martin's Sunday.

Saturday was the grand election day, and Nubia was crowded with men.

Misses Rhoda and Cottie Leslie and Miss Nellie Clark were in Nubia Saturday.

#### Learn Lomething from Everybody.

One of the most useful success-habits one can form is that of learning something from everybody with whom he comes in contact. No information which can be acquired is too trivial to be ignored.

Constantly measure yourself with the men you meet. You will find that everyone can teach you something which you did not know before, and which, perhaps, you would never have a chance to learn it again if you did not acquire it of him.

Daniel Webster once made a great hit, in arguing a case before a jury, by repeating a story he afterwards said he had not thought of since he heard it fourteen years before. But Webster was always picking up something for future use. His famous reply to Hayne, the greatest speech ever delivered on the American continent, was largely made up of little reverses which he had picked up here and there in his reading, from studying men, and from observation.

Many a prominent novelist has collected material for his stories by making notes of his conversations with those he has met and by observation. Charles Dickens got a great deal of the matter for some of his novels in this way.

One young man will go to a lecture, and, after spending an hour listening to the helpful, inspiring words of some prominent man, will leave the hall or lecture room without having derived any benefit from the address. Another young man will attend the same lecture with an ambition to learn something. He will drink in the speaker's sentences as if he never were to hear such words of encouragement and inspiration again. At the conclusion of the address, he will determine that he will make more of his opportunities in the future; that he will read more, think more, study more, be more than he ever was before. Such a young man has a purpose and is determined to learn something from everything he comes in contact with, and from everybody he talks to. The other has no ambition, does not throw himself into what he does, lets his mind wander hither and thither, so that he never wholly understands

what people are saying, and therefore never derives any benefit or information from those with whom he converses.—Orison Swett Marden, in April "Success."

#### In Memory.

February 27th, the beautiful spirit of little Emma May, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chastain, after an illness of ten days of scarlet fever, took its heavenly flight. The pearly gates of the golden city never went ajar to receive a lovelier and purer soul. She was indeed all that was good and pure and noble in a child and intelligent to a degree far in advance of her tender years. Ever gladsome, a little sunbeam brightening everything with which and with whom she came in contact; the ideal of papa and mamma; a frail, delicate flower of the sweetest and tenderest nature! No wonder she withered and was gone before the touch of the first rude blast. Too fragile for earth; fit only for heaven. Farewell, little Emma May, but not forever. We will meet again in that bright world of tearless joy where adieus and farewells are sounds unknown. Truly they can say

We miss thee dear one from our home,  
We miss thee from thy place;  
Oh, life is very dreary now  
Without the sunshine of thy face.

We stood beside the casket,  
And tears unbidden flow;  
To see our precious jewel  
Taken from us here below.

There your baby will be waiting,  
When you reach the other shore;  
Then will be the happy meeting,  
And the parting never more.

A FRIEND.

#### Notice.

For the benefit and satisfaction of all concerned, I will state that all of the U. C. V.'s are expected to go to Dallas together, in order to register, receive badges, etc. All will be in charge of the Commander, whose duty it is to attend to this, on arrival at Dallas.

Respectfully,  
J. A. Leeman, Adjt.,  
Merkel Camp No. 79, U. C. V.

#### Heredity.

A special study of hereditary drunkenness has been made by Prof. Pellman, of Boston University, Germany. His method was to take certain individual cases, a generation or two back. He thus traced the careers of children in all parts of the present German empire until he was able to present tabulated biographies of the hundreds descended from some original drunkards. Notable among the

persons described by Prof. Pellman is Frau Ida Jurka, who was boarn 1740, and was a drunkard, a thief and a tramp for the last forty years of her life, which ended in 1800. Her descendants number 834, of whom 709 were traced in local records from youth to death. One hundred and six of the seven hundred and nine were born out of wedlock. There were 144 beggars, and 62 more who lived from charity. Of the women, 181 lived disreputable lives. There were in the family 65 convicts, 5 of whom were sentenced to murder. In a period of some 75 years this one family rolled up a bill of costs in almshouses, prisons and correctional institutions amounting to at least 3,000,000 marks, or about \$1,250,000.—Ex.

#### A Doctor's Bad Plight.

"Two years ago, as a result of a severe cold, I lost my voices," writes Dr. M. L. Scarbrough, of Hebron, Ohio, "then began an obstinate cough. Every remedy known to me as a practicing physician for 35 years, failed, and I daily grew worse. Being urged to try Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption, coughs and colds, I found quick relief, and for last ten days felt better than for two years." Positively guaranteed for throat and lung troubles by Rust & Pittard. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

#### Believed He'd Like the Job.

A Philadelphia judge was trying a case when an old man who, it was plain, had never been in a court room before was called to the witness stand to testify. He came forward and went straight up the steps leading to the bench, instead of turning off and going into the witness box. One of the court officials promptly brought the man down and showed him the proper place. The judge smiled at the man's mistake and asked: "Did you want to come up on the bench and be a judge, sir?" "I don't know, your honor," answered the man; "I'm getting old now, and I guess that's all I'm fit for."

#### "Nazareth" Acted.

The Lambs' Club gave a private performance in the Garrick theatre in New York last Sunday of Clay M. Greene's drama of the crucifixion entitled "Nazareth." It was written by him for the Jesuit college at Santa Clara, Cal., and acted there by the priests and students last year. Christ is not a visible character in the play, though His presence is several times indicated. The performance of the professionals is said to have been careful, dignified and in the main impressive.

## 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.

## Groceries...

I have purchased the Smith & Davis stock of Groceries, which has been added to and enlarged and is now most complete. I am in a position to save you money on your monthly bill of supplies.

Give me a trial order.

'Phone 39...

C. E. DAVIS

#### 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 awhile you'll like it. It holds the attention. It is specially edited, that's why. Brains and not hap-hazzard go into The News' make-up.

#### TWO PAPERS YOU NEED...

You need THE MERKEL MAIL, because its 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. Subscribe now.

Come and see our new mouldings. Latest styles.

W. P. Browning & Co.

Fine

**MERKEL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE**  
List of Subscribers.

- A**  
Adkisson, Dr J A res. . . . . No. 24  
Allen, I S, res. . . . . 48
- B**  
Burton-Lingo Co. lumber yd. . . 81  
Bank, First Nat. . . . . 33  
Bank, Warnick's. . . . . 18  
Berry, Geo S res. . . . . 73  
Browning & Co. furniture. . . 68  
Browning, W P res. . . . . 16  
Bennet, B A res. . . . . 9  
Bell, Jno B res. . . . . 6  
Bell, Jno B tin shop. . . . . 61
- C**  
Clay, W L res. . . . . 35  
Cats, E D res. . . . . 38  
Counts, J H res. . . . . 1  
Compton, Will res. . . . . 22  
Coggin, C M res. . . . . 4  
Coggin, T J res. . . . . 54  
Counts, Emmet res. . . . . 7
- D**  
Davis, C E grocery. . . . . 39  
Davis, C E res. . . . . 89  
Dickson, W H hardware. . . . 51  
Dyer, Walter res. . . . . 41  
Dyer, Walter pool hall. . . . 32  
Dennis Bros. grocery. . . . . 66

- E**  
Eason, Sam res. . . . . 36  
Elliott, John res. . . . . 28  
Elliott & Miller windmills. . . 11

- F**  
Freemon, S A res. . . . . 19  
Freemon & Hughes, livery. . . 2

- G**  
Globe, store. . . . . 69  
Grimmet, W N M res. . . . . 50

- H**  
Hamm, J C res. . . . . 23  
Hamm, J C lumber yard. . . . 40  
Hamm, Frank res. . . . . 17  
Hoople, Frank res. . . . . 49  
Hill, Andrew, res. . . . . 8  
Hamilton, J O store. . . . . 59  
Hughes, J H res. . . . . 14  
Hunt, Sam res. . . . . 42  
Hotel, Alsobrook. . . . . 64  
Hotel, South Side. . . . . 55  
Hand, Chas res. . . . . 52

- L**  
Largent C M ranch. . . . . 58  
Leeman, Dr J A res. . . . . 70  
Leeman, Ed J res. . . . . 37

- M**  
Merkel Mail, office. . . . . 31  
Merkel Meat Market. . . . . 43  
Martin, L E grocery. . . . . 75  
Miller, R A res. . . . . 34  
Mann, J L res. . . . . 5  
Myrick, Sam, res. . . . . 12  
McCord, W H res. . . . . 27

- O**  
O'Zee, W J res. . . . . 26

- P**  
Pittard, J K res. . . . . 3

- R**  
Rust, Dr E M res. . . . . 30  
Restaurant, Blue Front. . . . 60  
Rust & Pittard, drug store. . . 62  
Richardson, Dr G H res. . . . 20  
Reed, J L grocery. . . . . 63

- S**  
Senter, D M res. . . . . 53  
Sheppard, S W grocery. . . . 74  
Sharp, G M feed store. . . . . 44

- W**  
Warnick, Dr J H res. . . . . 15  
Warren, J T store. . . . . 65  
Warren, J T res. . . . . 29  
Warren, C P ranch. . . . . 56  
West, G F res. . . . . 10  
West, G F hardware. . . . . 72

Preserve this list.  
If at any time any subscriber feels that he has cause for complaint, if he will kindly report it to me it will have prompt attention. We appreciate your patronage and will take pleasure in giving you the best possible service.  
I. S. ALLEN, Man.

Miss Eva Martin returned to her home at Roscoe yesterday after a pleasant visit with friends here.

# Farm Implements...

If you want to know what kind of Implements are THE BEST, call on W. H. DICKSON. He has handled the Bement goods for over 12 years, and they have stood the test. They are unquestionably the BEST. Call and see me and I will take a delight in explaining their merits.

## 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 May 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

- Barton, T L Barrett, J H  
Barrett, Mrs Eula Brown, J R  
Cunningham, J C Elliott, Arthur  
Hightower, T P Mathish, John  
McGiboney, Mrs Nellie  
Privett, Miss Julia Shelton, J W  
Smith, Miss Moriland  
Walraven, James

**Good for Rheumatism.**

Last fall I was taken with a severe attack of muscular rheumatism which caused me great pain and annoyance. After trying several prescriptions and rheumatic cures, I decided to use Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which I had seen advertised in the South Jerseyman. After two applications of this remedy I was much better, and after using one bottle, was completely cured. Sallie Harris, Salem, N. J. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

G. E. Comegys had a fine milk cow to die on his hands Tuesday, and an autopsy held by Herbert Browning revealed the fact that her death was due to pneumonia. Nine-tenths of the deaths among cattle at this time can be traced to this disease, for all of them die in pretty much the same manner.

**Stamp Photos.**

We have secured the plates of the Chicago Photo Co. All who had stamp pictures taken can now have them made at 10c per dozen. Leave orders with H. West.

Leeman & West.

'Phone the news to No. 31.

**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.

**THE CONFEDERATE REUNION**

The Dallas News to Print a Mammoth Illustrated Edition on That Occasion.

On Wednesday, April 23, The Dallas Morning News will issue the largest paper ever printed in Texas. It will be fully equal to the great Confederate Reunion taking place in Dallas at that time.

It will contain a magnificent historical account of the reunion, and many special articles peculiarly appropriate will be printed. There will be hundreds of illustrations in fine half tone, and to meet the demand The News has just installed its own photo-engraving plant.

There will also be a splendid illustrated write-up of Dallas, besides special articles exploiting the resources and advantages of Texas in general.

It will be the aim to make it the finest paper in all particulars, ever printed in the Southwest.

The demand for it will be unprecedented, and will tax the great capacity of the presses of The News to the utmost in getting it out.

It is important that those who wish copies of the paper should send in their order in advance so as to be sure to get them.

Notwithstanding the magnitude of the paper the price will be only 5 cents a copy. Anyone wishing copies should remit for them at once, giving their address plainly written. Address orders to Reunion Department of The News, Dallas, Texas.

We have a nice line of Go-Carts and Baby Buggies.

W. P. Browning & Co.

"A neighbor ran in with a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy when my son was suffering with severe cramps and was given up as beyond hope by my regular physician, who stands high in his profession. After administering three doses of it, my son regained consciousness and recovered entirely within twenty-four hours," says Mrs. Mary Haller, of Mt. Crawford, Va. This remedy is for sale by Rust & Pittard.

**THE DROUTH BROKEN.**

**A Heavy Rain fell Thursday--Seems to be General.**

The long looked for rain came Thursday of last week, and the additional charge of a nickel for shaving long faces has been discontinued by the barbers. But it was a generous rain, putting a good season in the ground and filling all the water holes and tanks full to overflowing. In the immediate vicinity of Merkel the fall was none too heavy, but the entire trade territory was plentifully submerged. In every direction the country was blessed, reaching to just beyond Midland on the west and including the whole of the State on the east and south. In South Texas the fall was the heaviest since the Galveston flood. At many points terrific hail storms were reported, beating vegetation into a jelly, while at others the wind reached the velocity of a cyclone and much property was destroyed.

The rain here was hard for a couple of hours, but settled down to a slow, steady gait, which it has kept up at intervals the past week. It is hoped that it will yet break up with a trash mover and gully washer.

The rain, however, will be worth thousands of dollars to the country. All crops had begun to suffer, but it will come a-whooping now, and grass will grow like magic. At least, it will restore confidence in the country.

**Why We Do Not Need the Philippines.**

Our American republic has no business with an empire 6,000 miles from its nearest port. Already the Philippines have cost us more than we can possibly realize from them, and they will continue to cost us dearly in lives and money as long as we try to hold them. In Manila, few seemed friendly to the civil government. Some even expressed a

wish that the Spaniards might return to power, while the majority desired Filipino independence. If possible, we should give them that blessing; but, in any event, we should no longer pay money in a mad effort to end a war which can never be stopped.

There are several ways in which we might exchange the islands for territory nearer our borders. If England would cede us a portion of her Northwest Territory, and take in exchange the Philippines, it would be a good bargain on both sides. While the eastern islands are of no account to us, England could use them to her advantage as an addition to her colonies in that part of the world. Manila would grow to a tremendous size if it could have free trade with all the British colonies in its neighborhood, and all the islands would be rapidly developed. The Northwest Territory would make a valuable addition to our northwestern states and would broaden our development along the Pacific Coast, adding greatly to the commerce of San Francisco and other ports. If we hadn't already as much trouble as we can handle in the West Indies, I would suggest that we exchange the Philippines for the British West Indies, for those islands are near enough to be desirable.—Congressman De Armond, in Success.

**Notice.**

All persons interested are hereby notified that all of the obligations given for Grimes County School Lands, have been placed in my hands for collection. I have positive instructions from the Commissioner's Court to bring suit on all notes upon which the interest remains unpaid. All persons who have failed to pay interest will be sued if the interest is not paid within the next 30 days. As a number of owners of this property are in arrears, it will be well for them to look into the matter at once.

Respectfully,  
Haynes Shannon,  
County Attorney, Grimes County, Texas.

Forty-eight out of 119 counties in Kentucky are entirely "dry," and twenty-one others have only one point at which liquor is sold. In seventeen others liquor can be obtained only at two points. There are only seven out and out "wet" counties in the whole state.

**EASON & HILL,**  
(STAR STORE BUILDING.)  
**THE MERKEL BARBERS.**  
Razors sharp,  
Towels clean.  
Bath room in connection.  
Your patronage solicited.

**J. M. PATE, BARBER.**  
NORTH FRONT STREET.  
First class work and prompt and  
polite attention to all.

**J. J. MILLER,**  
**Justice Peace and Notary Public**  
Also fire insurance agent. Will write deeds,  
take acknowledgements, pay taxes on land, fur-  
nish abstracts of title and transact all other  
business entrusted to him.

**I. O. O. F. LODGE**  
No. 355 meets every Friday  
night. Visiting brethren cor-  
dially invited to attend.  
N. HARRISON, N. G.  
CHAS. CRAVEN, Sec.

**DR. T. S. HOLLIS,**  
**THE DENTIST—**  
Office over Harris' Drugstore, Abilene, Texas.

**H. C. WILLIAMS,**  
**Real Estate and Insurance Agent**  
Notary Public  
Takes Acknowledgments, Draws up Deeds, Etc.  
OFFICE AT WARNICK'S BANK

**J. A. LEEMAN**  
**Physician and Surgeon.**  
Office, Davis' Drug Store.

**G. H. RICHARDSON**  
**Physician and Surgeon.**  
Residence, West Merkel.

**JR. E. B. GILBERT**  
**SPECIALIST**  
Practice limited to the EYE, EAR,  
NOSE AND THROAT.  
Office over Harris' Drug Store, Abilene, Texas.

**BEST**  
**PASSENGER SERVICE**  
**IN TEXAS.**  
4-IMPORTANT GATEWAYS-4



NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

*The Starkest  
I have ever  
seen from  
Texas*

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

**MORE LIVES ARE SAVED**  
...BY USING...

**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.**  
Price 50c. & \$1. Trial Bottle Free.

**The Old Trouble Again.**

"What is the difference," broke  
out the exchange editor, without a  
moment's warning, "between a coal  
box and John L. Sullivan?"

"One's a bin and the other is a  
has-been," retorted the information  
editor, bristling up. "Why is a  
dog's tail—"

"Because it works both ways.  
What is the dif—"

"Stop it. Why is a dog's  
tail—"

"Because it isn't a-waggin' when  
the dog's sulky."

"Nothing like it. Why is a dog's  
tail like a rich man's pocketbook?"

"Full of bones. Or, it's bound  
in dogskin. I don't think much of  
that one. What's the difference—"

"One's a straight gate and the  
other's a great state. Why—"

"Is it all right to cut yourself with  
a lawn mower? Because all flesh  
is grass. What are the points of  
difference between four roads—"

"Dead easy. One's an acre, and  
the others are ichor, ochre and  
euchre. Made that up myself years  
ago. Why is a bottle of cham-  
paign—"

"It isn't, if you get it at a res-  
taurant. It's baked sawdust. Why  
is a railroad like a baseball pitcher?"

"You ought to know. You never  
got on to the curves of either with-  
out a pass. What's the difference  
between money and trouble?"

"The difference is that you can  
borrow trouble, but you can't bor-  
row money from anybody, that  
knows you."

It was at this point that the fi-  
nancial editor thought it time to in-  
terfere.

**Four of a Kind.**

"An amusing incident occurred  
the other evening, said a Philadel-  
phia lawyer during a recess in one  
of the local courts. "My name is  
Charles F. Van Horn, and as it hap-  
pens, there is another Charles F.  
Van Horn in this city, an insurance  
man. Our names have been the  
cause of more than one amusing in-  
cident. I was walking along an  
uptown street recently, accompanied  
by my son, whose name is also  
Charles. Coming toward us was  
my double—as far as cognomen is  
concerned—and with him was a  
young man, his son, another Charles  
F. Van Horn. We chatted for a  
few moments and had a good laugh  
over the singular incident. Four  
Charles Van Horns, the only ones  
in the city!"

**Willing to Swim With Him.**

When General Funston went to  
see President Roosevelt the two had  
a long talk. As they were parting  
the president said: "By the way,  
Funston, I have an extra horse in  
the stable. Come around this after-  
noon and have a ride with me."  
"No," replied Funston, "I don't  
particularly care to ride, but if you  
agree we will go down and swim  
across the Potomac."

**More Smallpox.**

Dr. S. Dana Hubbard, of the  
New York board of health, ad-  
vances the interesting theory, that  
the mortality of smallpox in this  
country is increasing. In his opin-  
ion, the old smallpox infection in  
America had practically died out  
when, two or three years ago, the  
country was reinfected from the  
Philippines.

**Turks at Roanoke College.**

Two young men from Turkey in  
Asia, Manong Khildichian, an  
Armenian, and Yani Mardides, a  
Greek, will enter Roanoke college,  
Salem, Va., next autumn, and after  
their graduation from that institu-  
tion will take a theological course  
in this country with a view to be-  
coming missionaries in their own  
country.

**Balem's Wife Painted the House.**

Mrs. Willis Balem is the wife of  
a well-to-do property owner in  
Amityville, N. Y., and lives in a  
handsome house. Some weeks ago  
she suggested to her husband that  
the house would look all the better  
if painted outside. Balem was quite  
busy at the time and said he could  
not attend to the matter, so his bet-  
ter half determined to do the work  
herself. She procured the paint  
and then dressed herself in her son's  
overalls and jumper. With a wide  
straw hat on her head she mounted  
a ladder and began at the eaves.  
Town Marshal Stratton, who was  
passing, mistook Mrs. Balem for  
her son and called out: "Don't  
leave any brush marks, Will." Mrs.  
Balem waved her hand, but did not  
answer and the marshal proceeded  
to the postoffice, where he met the  
son. Then he made some inquiries  
and soon the youth was at home  
helping his mother. Mr. Balem  
says he will pay his wife \$20 a day  
for her work.

**The Knack of Swimming.**

"It isn't everybody that can learn  
to swim," said a Philadelphia man  
who has patented a device which  
he is trying to introduce into nata-  
toriums. "I can't swim myself, and  
that may strike you as being very  
strange, in view of the fact that I  
have invented a machine to aid the  
beginner. Still I know the theory  
perfectly, and my appliance has sur-  
vived the tests of experts. I think  
the fact that I could never learn  
to swim is what suggested the idea  
to me in the first place. As I said  
before, there are people who are so  
constructed physically that they  
can not keep afloat in the water,  
just as there are others whose abili-  
ty to swim seems innate. Nearly  
all my life I have been trying to  
learn and can't. I'm not built for it.  
My father couldn't swim. I have  
given this matter considerable re-  
search and I find that this trait usu-  
ally runs in families."

**Not Homely Enough for That.**

Honors have been easy for some  
time between Representative Eddy,  
of Minnesota, and Representative  
Cushman, of Washington, as to  
which is the homlier man. The par-  
tisans of Cushman tell this story to  
prove that Cushman wins. Once  
in his district in Minnesota when  
Eddy was making a canvass for  
election he dropped into a hotel in  
a little country town where some  
friends lived. The man who ran  
the hotel was the big politician of  
the district. A very old man living  
in the hotel came into the room  
where Eddy and his friends were  
sitting and looked Eddy over care-  
fully. "I'll swow!" said the old  
man, "that's the homeliest man I  
ever did see. Who is he?" "Hush!"  
cautioned the man who ran the ho-  
tel, "that's Mr. Eddy; he's the can-  
didate for congress in this district."  
"Well," squeaked the old man, "I  
knew he was too good looking to  
be a Democrat."

**Unreconciled.**

General Fitzhugh Lee, who dis-  
tinguished himself in the Confed-  
erate service and is now on the reg-  
ular army retired list as a brigadier-  
general, recently went on a visit to  
West Virginia, as the story goes.  
While there he met an old comrade  
in arms whose reception was some-  
what frigid. "Well, what's the mat-  
ter?" said General Lee. "Oh, noth-  
ing much," was the non-committal  
reply. "There is something wrong,"  
persisted the general. "Out with it!  
What do you want?" After being  
strenuously urged the old comrade  
said: "Well, I want to die at least  
half an hour before you do. I want  
to be in the other world when you  
arrive there just to hear what Gen-  
eral Jubal Early says when he sees  
you in a blue uniform."

**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....

**..NEW GOODS..**

We are receiving our New  
Spring Goods. They embrace  
all the latest creations on the  
market, and we are pleased  
to announce that our stock is  
the largest and best selected  
we have ever carried. Come  
and see for yourself....

**J. O. HAMILTON**

**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 assort-  
ment 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.

**WINCHESTER**  
FACTORY LOADED SHOTGUN SHELLS  
"New Rival" "Leader" "Repeater"

IF you are looking for reliable shotgun am-  
munition, the kind that shoots where you  
point your gun, buy Winchester Factory  
Loaded Shotgun Shells: "New Rival," loaded with  
Black powder; "Leader" and "Repeater," loaded  
with Smokeless. Insist upon having Winchester  
Factory Loaded Shells, and accept no others.  
**ALL DEALERS KEEP THEM**