

# THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, APRIL 24, 1902.

NO. 10.

## 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 Percale 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

### The Promise.

From the N. Y. Observer.

It is told of Thomas a Kempis that once during his student days his preceptor asked the class: "What passage of Scripture conveys the sweetest description of Heaven?" One answered: "There shall be no more sorrow there." Another said: "They shall see His face." But Thomas, who was the youngest of all, said: "And His servants shall serve Him."

### The Higher Life.

Rev. V. E. Tomlinson, Universalist.

If we are to succeed in the things that relate to the higher life we must be under discipline; the hand that offends must be cut off; the habit that weakens must be given up. It is not a broad and easy way to which we are called any more than the rugged path of knowledge is easy; it is a straight and narrow way, and it calls for those who are in earnest, who are brave, whose faculties are keenly alive.

### Belief.

Rev. Dr. Meeser, Baptist.

Every one of us should encourage and stimulate belief in his own soul; and remember that it is his supreme duty to believe in God. He should meditate on the things improbable, and almost impossible, which God has done. He should cherish the memory of memorable deeds of

grace and power—his own salvation; the conversion of the thousands. The twig of belief should become the sturdy tree of conviction.

### Broad Christianity.

Rev. W. Pardow, R. C.

Men and women who teach broad Christianity apparently do not realize this teaching, if carried out, would bring the idea of religion down to the level of a human theory. It is not that the catholic church is narrow; it is that we believe Christianity is not a human institution. It is not too bad that professing Christians should try to dethrone Christ from his rightful position. The catholic religion is alone supporting and teaching the truths taught by Christ.

### Steeped in Delusion.

Dr. Felix Adler, Ethical Culture.

We are steeped in delusion. We say this is an age of philanthropy, and any contrary instances cited are ascribed to exceptionally abnormal natures. But whatever we may think, the fact remains that oppression does exist. It is imposed not by a Nero or a monster, such as we would suppose, but by men who, at their clubs, present every feature of the perfect gentleman, and who, at their homes, are model husbands and fathers.

### Insincerity.

Rev. J. L. Davies, Congregationalist.

Nothing can atone for insincerity. Men who pose as philanthropists, but who have en-

riched themselves by defrauding their creditors, can cloak their dishonesty from men, but their duplicity is known to God, and the day of disclosure will come, as surely as night follows day. Sins do not come alone. If one commits one sin to please himself, he must needs commit another to protect himself.

### Neglect of Children.

Rev. D. W. Hillis, Congregationalist.

Ours is an age when the home school is grossly neglected and the divinely ordained teachers have become recreant. Parents will not take time to train their children. Fathers overtax themselves in business, and count it enough that they provide their children with food and raiment. Mothers, interested in outside events, allow their children to grow up as ignorant of the principles of Christianity as the savages in the South Sea islands. They leave all Christian instruction to Sunday-school teachers. They farm their children out, as it were, to the church.

"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.

## INSURANCE...



I represent the following Companies....

Liverpool, London & Globe.  
New Hampshire Fire.  
Philadelphia Fire Associa'n.  
and many others.

In fact, I write all kinds of Insurance, Deeds, Mortgages, Commercial and Negotiable Papers....  
Would appreciate your esteemed patronage....

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

## DEMOCRATIC NOMINEES.

- For County Judge:  
D. G. HILL.
- For County Treasurer:  
J. H. THORNTON.
- For Sheriff:  
J. V. CUNNINGHAM.
- For Tax Assessor:  
C. C. JACKSON.
- For County Clerk:  
S. H. GARRISON.
- For County Attorney:  
T. A. BLEDSOE.
- For Tax Collector:  
BAYLOR CRAWFORD.
- For District Clerk:  
V. F. WOMACK.
- For Justice of Peace, Pre. 5, and  
Commissioner Pre. 2:  
W. W. WHEELER.
- For Hide and Animal Inspector:  
ROSS G. HALL.
- For Public Weigher at Merkel:  
T. F. COMPTON.

The Texas anti-trust law still has a show for its life.

How would President Joseph W. Bailey sound?

The Democratic executive committee of Taylor County met at Abilene Saturday and canvassed the returns of the primary held a week previous. Before adjourning the committee called conventions for the different precincts of the county to be held on June 14, to send delegates to the county convention which is called for June 21.

Primary conventions are uncalled for and out of order, from a Democratic standpoint. Democracy does not mean that the few shall dictate to the many. It is broader and deeper and has a firmer footing than is embodied in that thought. Usually conventions are manipulated by scheming politicians who have a nest to feather in the deal, and the people are ruthlessly imposed upon. The Democratic party will never gain the ascendancy as long as scheming politicians have the fixing of its destiny. The name of every candidate, from State offices down to those of precinct, should be submitted to the primaries, and the primaries should be uniform throughout the State. This is Democracy, pure and simple.

The Attorney General has made a late ruling invalidating the action of trustees of independent school districts (districts incorporated for school purposes) in electing teachers before the first Saturday in May. This is the day set apart to hold trustee elections in independent districts—the others are held a month earlier—and the Attorney General has ruled that the old trustees have no right to assume the responsibility of the election of teachers in advance of this election, or for any term not included in their school year. The Board of Trustees for this district was elected only a short time ago and their term of office will not expire for a year yet, dating from the election in May, but it is pre-

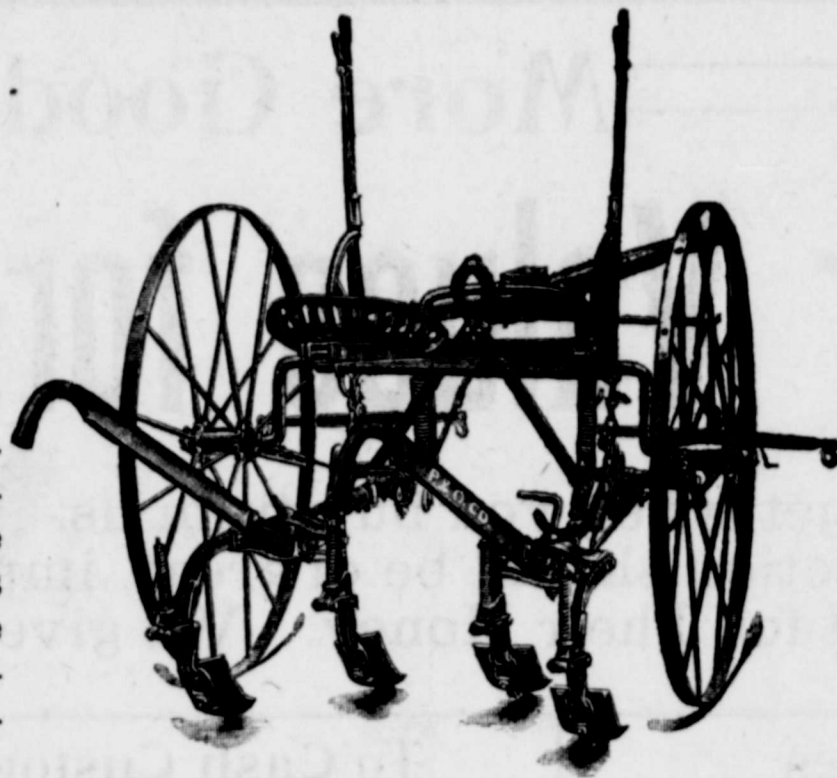
# YOU WANT THE BEST.

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**

sumed that the ruling is applicable in this case also and that the selection of teachers will again have to be made. This ruling does not effect other districts.

### POLITICAL NEWS.

Hon. R. B. Allen of Dallas has withdrawn from the race for Lieutenant Governor.

Hon. O. T. Maxwell of Cisco will contest the result of the primary election held in his home county, which gave a majority of 45 votes for Judge Smith of Colorado. He alleges that illegal votes were cast, but says that he will withdraw from the race if upon examination the results show that Judge Smith carried the county. Mr. Maxwell is a clean man in every sense of the word.

### SWEETWATER UNFORTUNATE.

Again the Victim of a Disastrous Fire and Mineral Wells Hotel is in Ashes.

For the third time during the last six months, Sweetwater was the victim of a disastrous fire Tuesday night, in which its best hotel, The Mineral Wells, was totally consumed. The fire originated from the explosion of a gasoline lamp between sundown and dark, and the house being a wood structure and no fire protection in the town, the building was soon consumed. The fire was plainly visible from here, a distance of twenty-five miles and really seemed only a few miles off. Many thought it was at Trent.

The hotel was built a few years ago at a cost of \$4,800, and the furniture and fixtures were valued at \$1,000. Insurance is reported as follows: On building, \$2,000; on furniture, \$500. The nearby residence of Mr. Daniel was damaged about \$150. Only about \$50 worth of goods was saved from the hotel.

Sweetwater has been most unfortunate in the matter of destruction of property by fire the past few months, but her people have met the reverses with smiling faces, and seem determined that the progress of the town shall not be retarded or its growth stunted by the losses sustained. We admire their pluck.

### THAT NEW DEPOT IS ASSURED

Two Carloads of Material Are Now on the Sidetrack, and it is a Sure Thing.

A car of lumber for the new depot was side-tracked here yesterday at noon and a large number of doors and windows also arrived, which has given rise to the rumor that "the building crew is just over the hill." This makes a little better than two cars of material at hand, but none of the heavy timbers are here and much myre material is yet to arrive if the structure is completed as contemplated.

The construction gang is now at Strawn rebuilding the depot which was destroyed by fire a few weeks ago. They may be headed this way, but well informed railroad men say that work will hardly commence before July, in order that the building will be completed just in time for the fall rush of business. That will be soon enough, for at that time work will be fairly under way on the projected school building if no hitch occurs in the proceedings.

The people of Merkel should be prepared to give three cheers and a tiger.

Mrs. Hoople left last night for Duncan, I. T., in response to a letter which stated that her mother, Mrs. Witt, was quite sick. The family is well known here, where they formerly lived, and it is hoped that Mrs. Hoople will find her mother doing nicely.

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

J. A. Sosebee says rain is badly needed in his settlement, north of town. They had a good rain two weeks ago, but very little evidence of it is to be seen now. Corn is not doing well and its growth is greatly hampered by the dry weather, sand storms and web-worms.

Geo. S. Berry was in Abilene yesterday.

Dr. Adkisson and Elv Telford were among the reunion visitors.

Stragglers from the reunion have begun to arrive.

### 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 TERRIFIC HAIL STORM.

Late Reports Show That it Was Very Destructive—Much Damage Done.

W. P. Thurmond received a phone message from J. J. Pettus of Sweetwater this morning giving particulars of the hail storm there last night. It was stated that few houses on the north side have any window lights left, and that nearly all the new business houses were flooded. Mr. Pettus' stock of goods was damaged considerably. The rain was very heavy, amounting almost to a waterspout.

Late reports from north of town state that in the river settlement, near the Huffman farm, the hail storm was the heaviest and most destructive that has visited that section for years. All crops that were up were literally pounded into the ground and nothing was left of them. Reports are meager, but it is stated that crops will have to be replanted. Owing to the scarcity of seed of all kinds this will work a great hardship on the farmers. We have not learned how much country was covered by the storm, but it did not cross the railroad, seeming to confine its work of destruction to the north side. The atmosphere was very chilly this morning, which is an indication that the hail storm covered a large territory.

The west bound passenger has been late every day this week, and the mail service has been very unsatisfactory. We need not expect the regular schedule until after the reunion is over.

A small shower of rain fell here last night, but not enough to amount to anything. A good rain must have fallen beyond the mountains, south of town, and down about Buffalo Gap. At Sweetwater a terrific hail storm is reported which did considerable damage. Its full extent has not been learned, but it is thought that the storm covered only a small scope of country adjacent to the town.

Come and see our new mouldings. Latest styles.

W. P. Browning & Co.

## Head-ache.

Sick headache, nervous headache, tired headache, neuralgic headache, catarrhal headache, headache from excitement, in fact, headaches of all kinds are quickly and surely cured with

### DR. MILES' Pain Pills.

Also all pains such as backache, neuralgia, sciatica, rheumatic pains, monthly pains, etc.

"Dr. Miles' Pain Pills are worth their weight in gold," says Mr. W. D. Kramer, of Arkansas City, Kan. "They cured my wife of chronic headache when nothing else would."

"Dr. Miles' Pain Pills drive away pain as if by magic. I am never without a supply, and think everyone should keep them handy. One or two pills taken on approach of headache will prevent it every time."

Mrs. Judge Johnson, Chicago, Ill.

Through their use thousands of people have been enabled to attend social and religious functions, travel, enjoy amusements, etc., with comfort. As a preventive, when taken on the approach of a recurring attack, they are excellent.

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

#### 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.

#### On Carnegie's Pension List.

Robert Storey, of Irwin, Pa., has received a letter from Andrew Carnegie informing him that he had been placed on the pension list of the old railroaders who were employed on the Pennsylvania railroad under Mr. Carnegie. Mr. Storey was a freight conductor in the early '60's. Two men, unknown to him, one day boarded the tender of his train, and when Storey discovered them he ordered them off. Afterward Storey learned that one of the men was Andrew Carnegie.

#### A Little Late, but Commendable.

New York's superintendent of public buildings has asked for an additional appropriation that he may appoint twenty inspectors whose sole work shall be the looking after the safety from fire of hotels, theatres, concert halls, schools, and other buildings of that nature. His purpose is to have every one of them thoroughly examined every three months.

#### Florist to the Prince En Route.

That New York florist's young man who has just sailed across the sea in order that Prince Henry may be constantly surrounded with fresh flowers is the envy of all his kind. He is attached temporarily to the princely staff on the steamer Deutschland. He will go to Berlin on the royal train, and will do the floral act up to the last moment. He carries with him 8,000 roses, 2,000 lilies of the valley, three vah loads of rare orchids, violets and other flowers. The apartments of the prince will blossom out in new beauty every day. This lavish profusion will cost someone about \$6000.

#### Paid General Lee the \$2.

When General Fitzhugh Lee was in Cleveland the other day he was amazed by a call from a young man who gave his name as Lieutenant Ira C. Farley, and who prefaced his business by pressing a \$2 bill into the general's hand. The visitor explained that he had served under Maceo in Cuba from 1895 to 1897 and that in the latter year, being sick and out of funds, he had applied to Lee for transportation home, but would accept only \$2. This, Lieutenant Farley explained, was the first opportunity he had had of repaying the loan.

#### Kangaroo Farming.

Kangaroo farming is an important industry in Australia. The hides are valuable and the tendons extremely fine; indeed, they are the best things known to surgeons for sewing up wounds, and especially for holding broken bones together, being much finer and tougher than catgut.

The invisible power that strikes with its magic wand the heart of a tiny seed, causing it to burst into life and growth, and then nourishes it with sunshine and kisses it with rain, until it sends forth a beautiful flower, is great enough to be worshipped, omnipotent enough to be called God.

T. A. Johnson has bought the residence of Millard Coggin in North Merkel. Millard will occupy the residence as tenant.

Mrs. W. B. Kendrick, of Thornton, Texas, is visiting her aunt, Mrs. I. S. Allen, at this place.

Will Compton left Tuesday for Gatesville in response to a letter stating that Clarence was very ill. He is again the victim of rheumatism with which he was confined to his bed here for several months. The Mail hopes he will rapidly improve.

#### A Pleasant Time.

Dear Mr. Editor:—

If you will kindly give me a little space in your columns this week I will give you a short account of our little pic-nic, which I had the pleasure of enjoying Saturday. I drove to town Saturday morning least expecting to meet up with such an enjoyable occasion. Nevertheless, as I approached the home of Mrs. Christopher the little children were all out in full blast, seemingly to be enjoying themselves to the fullest extent. About 10 o'clock a nice lemonade was served and at 12 they spread as nice a dinner as anyone could wish for, and plenty of it. After dinner the children had a few games and some nice little speeches, after which cake and lemonade were again served, and then we got into a wagon and drove out to the Hamilton tank, where the little ones enjoyed chasing a rabbit and gathering green leaves. The efficient and painstaking teacher did not spare a moment in her effort to make every child enjoy itself, and all the while was so watchful over them all to see that every child acted in such a manner as would be pleasing in the sight of the most refined mother.

There is nothing in the world so venerable as the character of parents; nothing so intimate and endearing as the relation of husband and wife; nothing so tender as childhood. The love of children in man is virtue; in woman an element of nature. A home without children is like a lantern without light; a garden without flowers, a vine without grapes, a brook without water

# 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  
Yd wide brown domestic 4c  
Good qual cotton checks 3½  
Extra good qual toweling 4c  
Yard wide bleached domestic worth 7½c 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.

Best quality apron gingham for 4½c a yard.  
We have on sale the best 50c summer corset for 25c all sizes.  
All our 10c fancy lawns just the thing for your new dresses, on sale for 7½c.  
We have on the counters for this sale the best white lawn on the market for 10c a yard.

Simpson's standard ¾ percale, worth 8½c, on sale for 5c a yard.  
See our ladies' kid shoes in lace or button, worth \$1.75, now on sale for only \$1.25.  
Best ladies' common sense, low quarter \$1.50 shoe on the market, now on sale for \$1.25.  
We have many bargains.

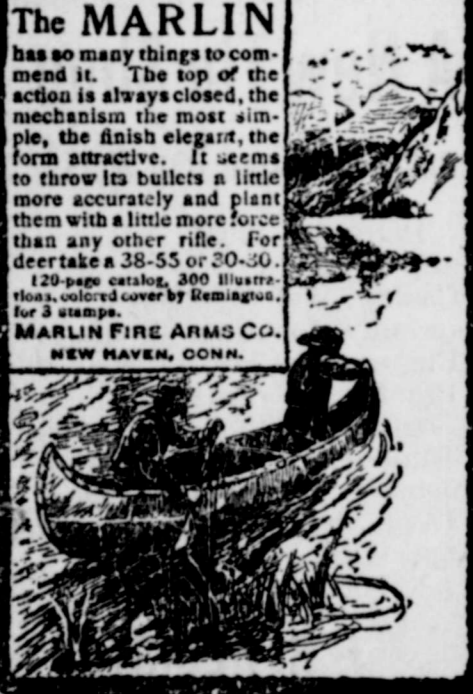
We have numerous other Bargains to offer you and would be pleased to price you through the house. We can save you money on Groceries as well as Dry Goods.

# 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 plants them with a little more force than any other rifle. For deer take a 38-55 or 20-30. 120-page catalog, 300 illustrations, colored cover by Remington, for 2 stamps.  
**MARLIN FIRE ARMS CO.**  
NEW HAVEN, CONN.



## Poorly?

"For two years I suffered terribly from dyspepsia, with great depression, and was always feeling poorly. I then tried Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and in one week I was a new man."—John McDonald, Philadelphia, Pa.

Don't forget that it's "Ayer's" Sarsaparilla that will make you strong and hopeful. Don't waste your time and money by trying some other kind. Use the old, tested, tried, and true Ayer's Sarsaparilla. \$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 we will be satisfied.  
**J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.**

running in its channel.  
Come to me, O, ye children,  
For I hear you at your play;  
And the questions that perplexed me  
Have vanished quite away.  
Ah! what would the world be to us,  
If the children were no more?  
We would dread the desert behind us  
Worse than the dark before.  
Come to me, O, ye children,  
And whisper in my ear  
What the birds are singing  
In your sunny atmosphere.  
For what are all our contrivings,  
And the wisdom of our books,  
When compared with your cares,  
And the gladness of your looks?  
Ye are better than all the ballads  
That were ever sung or said;  
For ye are living poems,  
And all the rest are dead.  
Written by one who is a friend  
to all the children.  
Jno. S. Hughes.

**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.  
Mrs. Sewell left Tuesday night for an extended visit to relatives at Luck, Missouri.

**A Valuable Medicine For Coughs and Colds in Children.**  
"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.  
It is reported that many cattle are dying in the Eskota country, some of the small stockmen having lost fully half of their herds. Complaints of this kind come from every direction.

# The Merkel Mail

ED J. LEEMAN, Editor and Prop'r.

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

**Subscription Rates:**  
One year ..... \$1.00  
Six months ..... .50  
Three months ..... .25  
Invariably in advance.

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

**SPECIAL NOTICES.**  
Communications to insure publication must bear the signature of the writer, as well as the name of the place 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.

## THE CONFEDERATE REUNION.

Thousands of the old Confederate soldiers are enjoying their annual reunion at Dallas today. It is a notable gathering, for a more glorious achievement than that accredited to the heroes of the lost cause is unknown. They were victors in defeat. These annual gatherings are dreams of former scenes and afford the one great pleasure in the lives of these old heroes. But the ranks are thinning rapidly now, the stalwart forms are growing weaker day after day, and pretty soon only a fragment of the "bare-footed army" will be left. In the history of the world their deeds of valor, their heroic self-sacrifices, their loyalty and devotion to a noble cause, and, later, their allegiance to old glory, have never been surpassed and they will shine through all the ages.

In this gathering of the old soldiers we see heroes of Gettysburg and Chickamauga linked together in brotherly love by all the ties of comradeship, going over again the thrilling scenes of those trying times when brave men wrote the name of the South in letters of blood. This reunion will be like "getting back home after the war," for mingled with the spirit of comradeship will come memories of those bloody battlefields, and there will come visions like unto those "when the camp fires were put out and the last roll had been called, and taps sounded over the grave of their dead hope." Then came the return to the home of their young manhood to find their inheritance sown in weeds and graves. But it matters not now, for, says one, "our sun is nigh to the setting; we will take this journey no more, but will cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees with the immortals, Davis, Lee, Jackson."

They are blood of our blood and bone of our bone, and God bless 'em.

## SAN JACINTO DAY.

Monday was San Jacinto day, a legal holiday in Texas. Sixty-six years ago 783 Texas patriots, commanded by Sam Houston, against twice that number of Mexican soldiers, fought the battle of San Jacinto, which resulted in a complete victory for the Texans. Houston's loss was two killed and twenty-six wounded, six mortally; the Mexican loss was 630 killed, 208 wounded and 730 taken prisoners.

This battle resulted in Texas independence. The patriots who gave their lives that Texas might be free, left this memory to speak in undying tongue of the glory of the death that faded into immortality. No grander victory

was ever achieved on the battlefield. This is the day we celebrate.

If there is any time or place when men should use sober second-thought, or when they should be free of prejudice and sound of mind, retaining every faculty of perception—if there is any occasion for good judgement and common sense and patriotism—that time is when we come in touch with the ballot box. We can never attain that perfection of self-government until we learn to think right and act right. The prosperity of the entire country depends largely upon the decision of the ballot box. No man is at himself when under the influence of whiskey. It is impossible for such a man to vote intelligently. Therefore, lend your influence in an effort to purify the ballot box, which is at present a menace to our form of government. Vote against every man who tries to perjure the voter with a bottle of whiskey.

The Court of Civil Appeals has "taken back" part of its opinion or decision in the anti-trust cases, especially wherein it was held that the statutes were rendered unconstitutional by the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Illinois case. It seems from the rulings made that only that part of the statute of 1895 wherein agriculture, livestock, etc., were exempted from its operations is unconstitutional, and that the statute of 1899, "which contains no reservation nor exception from its operation of any classes which might or possibly could form combinations, pools, trusts and monopolies, but embraces all classes who could engage in the conduct denounced," is constitutional. The State will appeal the case in which the decision invalidating the act of 1895 was rendered.

The launching of the Bailey boom for the Presidency has been the cause of much favorable comment in political circles, and while his candidacy may seem impracticable at this time, it can not be denied that he is the most available man for the exalted position. The time has come when the fact of a man's Southern birth or residence is no bar to his availability as a Presidential candidate. Sectional strife is a thing of the past—we are one common people,—then let it be Bailey by all means.

The city club in New York is in quest of a plan which will take the saloon out of politics by placing the drinking places in the hands of a stock company of philanthropists. We suggest a better plan: Let the philanthropists devote themselves to the task of getting the saloon out of the country, and that will solve the political question at the same time. The saloons are a disturbing element everywhere, and purity in politics will be an unknown quantity until we get rid of them.

There is a law on the statute books of this State against betting on elections, but, like many other laws, it is not enforced. Betting is a mild form of robbery and there are few greater evils. When you see a man betting on elections gently inform him that he is violating the law, and ten to one if he bets at all it will be secretly; hence, its influence will not be so degrading. Condemn the practice and uphold the law.

# 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

The Agnostics of Chicago, those people who simply say "I don't know" to all the questions about God and religion, have subscribed a million dollars to maintain and extend the People's Church of America, an organization or band brought forward to fight orthodoxy. "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute," seems to be the slogan of the new order.

The League of Liberty, an abortion of the saloons, has sprung up in this State to try to counteract the influence of the Prohibition movement. It is pursuing a forlorn hope. Texas will be a prohibition State inside of five years. Every indication points in that direction.

The Republican party in Tennessee is soon to hold its convention for the nomination of State officers, and the newspaper forecast is that the platform will contain a prohibition plank. Surely this plank is a misnomer, for prohibition and Republicanism are diametrically opposed to each other.

Judge Smith is still reaching out after the Congressional simmon. He is a fast runner.

In the meantime Representative Bryan has not changed his attitude of rigid silence.

Lanham will not take advantage of a dead thing and has returned to Washington.

Before you run in double harness, look well to the other horse.

Texas belongs to the old soldiers this week.

## The Open-Air Post.

The Open-Air Number of The Saturday Evening Post, of Philadelphia, which will be out April 24, will be one of the most notable special numbers of the year. In the opening article, The Serene Duck Hunter, ex-President Cleveland writes about his favorite sport with genial humor and laugh-compelling frankness. William Marconi, the inventor of the most successful system of wireless telegraphy, tells, over his own signature, of the experiment which led up to the marvelous results that he has achieved. In Tales of the Diamond President James A. Hart, of the Chicagos, recalls some good stories of famous ball players, games and enthusiasts. This is the first of two papers.

Every sportsman will read with pleasure Arthur E. McFarlane's spirited story, entitled 'The Old Feller's Fishin'. Among the other strong features in this number is a new Letter from the Self-Made Merchant to His Son, the second part of Paul Latzke's intensely interesting paper on James J. Hill's School for Railroad Presidents, a new installment of Conjuror's House, and the regular biweekly Washington letter by a Congressman's Wife.

Among the shorter contributions are Mr. F. A. Warner's practical paper on Farming as a

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.

# 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.

Business, Mr. Forrest Crissey's timely sketch of Governor Van Sant, of Minnesota, an exquisite poem by Mr. Bliss Carman, and the usual popular departments.

## How to Make Your Mark.

Do you wish to make your mark in the world? Do you wish to be men? Then observe the following rules:

- Hold integrity sacred.
- Observe good manners.
- Endure trials patiently.
- Be prompt in all things.
- Yield not to discouragements.
- Dare to do right; fear to do wrong.
- Watch carefully over your passions.
- Fight life's battle bravely; manfully.
- Consider well, then decide positively.
- Sacrifice money rather than principle.
- Use all your leisure time for improvement. —Ex.

## Crushed His Hand.

One Moore, an elderly man from Mulberry Canyon, who had been stopping at the Harewell wagon yard for about two weeks, met with a very painful accident last Saturday. He was hauling water in a wagon when a sudden lurch threw him to the ground, one wheel passing over one of his hands and crushing it to a pulp. He was almost destitute and Monday the citizens made up a collection sufficient to send him to his home.—Sweetwater Review.

## A New Tin Shop

and Galvanized Iron Works.

Patronize home industry, and buy your Tinware, Well Casing, Well Buckets, Gut-tering, 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

A. Miller of this place is entitled to some distinction for his valiancy in the Civil War. Mr. Miller entered the Confederate army in 1863 at the age of 14 years, the battle of Coal Harbor being the first and only engagement in which he participated. During the progress of that battle he contracted typhoid fever and after recovering was assigned to guard duty at one of the Southern prisons. He has a store house of interesting information which we hope will be accessible in the future. There are many old heroes who fought on both sides, in this country, and The Mail would appreciate short sketches, either orally or written from them. Let them come forward with any information or happenings that will be instructive or interesting.

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

#### Residence Burned.

The three-room residence of J. R. McKelvy in North Merkel was destroyed by fire early Friday morning. The fire probably originated from a defective flue, as no other cause can be assigned. Both house and furniture were fully covered by insurance, but nothing was saved.

#### Laprobe Lost.

Liberal reward will be paid for the return of a black and red laprobe which was lost on the streets last week. Return to this office.

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

Last Thursday a telephone message was received from Abilene stating that six or seven Merkel cows were in the "pound" there and instructing the owners to come down and take them out at once. The cattle were milk cows belonging to people of the town, and it is believed that they were drove off for a purpose—possibly by some one of sinister designs. It is improbable that they drifted there, for when they were liberated they made rapid strides in this direction. Let the people watch out for "rustlers" of this stripe.

#### Missionary Rally.

The following program will be rendered at the M. E. Church South, in Merkel, Sunday night, May 4th, 1902:

Opening song—The Kingdom Coming.

Scripture lesson, 96 Psalm—Laura Herring.

Prayer by the pastor.

Quartette—Mr. and Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Shell, Ed J. Leeman.

Reasons why McKay decided to become a missionary—Alonzo Bickley.

Song—No. 14, Y. P. H.

A triumph of faith in God as seen in the sinking of the well on Aniwa—Allie Jennings.

Song—No. 34.

The responsibility of young people in the evangelization of the world—J. K. Pittard.

A brief survey of the missionary work of the M. E. Church South—H. C. Williams.

Song—From Greenland's Icy Mountains.

Collection for missions.

Benediction.

Everybody cordially invited.

R. S. Heizer, Pastor.

#### Remember.

The photo buttons and medallions that we sell are the best grades—will not turn—and at greatly reduced prices.

Leeman & West.

## THOMSON'S BIAS-GORED



"MILITANT"  
CORSET  
THE ACME OF CORSET ELEGANCE.

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

Short Hip (Paris Style.)

Ventilating

Militant (straight front.)

True Fit Girdle

Nursing

# J. T. WARREN



- |                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| 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

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.

#### Remanded to Jail.

G. R. Pettis, charged with the murder of Frank Baccus in the Canyon three weeks ago, was given a habeas corpus hearing before District Judge Lindsey at Abilene Friday and was denied bail. Very little evidence was adduced at the hearing, but perhaps half a hundred witnesses were in attendance.

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

S. W. Sheppard.

Dr. MaGee, who recently purchased the Luckett ranch southwest of town, was in the city Friday, returning home that night. He will soon move to Abilene where he will engage in the practice of his profession.

3 pound Standard Tomatoes 10c per can.

J. T. Warren.

Geo. S. Berry visited Sweet-water Friday.

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

J. M. Bryson of Dora went to Fort Worth Monday night to see his brother who is quite sick. He will take in the reunion.

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

#### 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.

C. D. Swan of Arlington shipped out five cars of cattle to Chickasha, I. T., this week. The cattle were purchased in this country, R. H. Collins selling 20 at \$20 a round, which was the top of the market, his cattle being in good shape. Mr. Swan left about \$3,000 in the neighborhood of Trent.

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

Miss Dora Collings, of Pecos, who is attending Simmons' College at Abilene, spent a few days here last week with her aunt, Mrs. J. W. Daniel.

Call on G. M. Sharp for cane seed.

The boys who accompanied the Coggin and Provine cattle to Hall county returned Friday. Thirty or forty of the animals died en route which was a very heavy loss.

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

J. T. Warren.

#### 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.

McDonald Overalls fit like Sunday pants.

J. T. Warren.

It is a little early for mad dogs, but one was reported on the streets early Friday morning. It is thought, however, that his dogship was merely the victim of a dose of strychnine. The canine tribe is just a little bit too numerous in Merkel anyway. We could easily dispense with a thousand of them without detriment to the town.

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

The Star Store.

#### Keep This.

Give us your orders for photo buttons, medallions, color work, etc. We can also finish your kodak work. Prices cheapest.

Leeman & West.

Mr. J. L. Brian died very suddenly at his home near Trent last Friday and the remains were shipped to Bonham for interment. He had the reputation of being a good man, and leaves a wife and several children to mourn his death. The Mail extends its most sincere sympathy.

Mrs. Dickson is visiting her mother and the reunion at Dallas.

#### 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.

W. P. Thurmond received a letter last week bearing the intelligence of the destruction by fire of his father's residence in Missouri on Tuesday. Very little insurance was carried and the loss was heavy. The old home had braved the tempests for 21 years.

The country is still threatened with rain, but a threat is as bad as a miss.

Winter lingers in the lap of spring with aggravating persistency.

#### 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.

#### Painfully Injured.

R. A. Martin is confined to his bed as a result of a painful accident which befell him Saturday morning. He was leading a cow at the end of a rope when the animal lunged forward, disengaging herself from the rope and Bob was hurled backwards and fell under a horse. The fall frightened the horse and he began to kick, striking Bob on the arm breaking both bones just below the elbow.

He will be confined to his bed for several days, but is not seriously injured. We hope for his rapid recovery.

#### Dental Notice.

I will be in Merkel from April 28 to May 3, prepared to do all kinds of first-class dental work. All work guaranteed. Office at Rust & Pittard's drug store.

Dr. O. R. Houghton.

Messrs. Rawlings, Killeen, Garland and other comrades, all members of the W. W. Loring camp, U. C. V., of Roby, took the train for Dallas Monday night. They were dressed in grey uniforms and presented quite a nice appearance.

W. B. Alsobrook, Jno. T. Tucker, T. J. Walker, J. A. Wadford and J. D. Cozart are among the reunion visitors.

Dr. Leeman and family, Mr. and Mrs. Z. F. Green, J. A. Ware, S. J. Patterson, S. R. Curtis, A. A. Baker, and many more whose names we have failed to learn, are in attendance upon the Confederate reunion at Dallas this week. It is thought that perhaps fifty people from this part of the country are in attendance.

Elder L. A. Dale, evangelist of the Christian Church, is holding a protracted meeting at the Presbyterian church. His sermons are earnest and zealous and calculated to do much good to the general community. There are few better preachers, and you should not fail to hear him.

Merkel has been transported, bodily, to Dallas.

# 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....

#### NUBIA.

Mr. Editor:—

As I have not written before I feel a delicacy in so doing. I fear this will go no farther than the waste basket, but if I see it in print perhaps I shall do more to make the news more interesting.

The weather has been beautiful except for the sand.

Planting is the usual occupation.

On last Friday night the young people dressed as tacky as possible and met at Mr. Jim Toombs' home and spent a very delightful evening.

Misses Meda and May Rouns-ville were the guests of Miss Lizzie Blackburn Sunday.

On Saturday night the young people met at the home of Jim Blackburn's and had an old time apron party. Sam Toombs received the cake for sewing the best.

Rufus Davenport and Hurley Toombs made a flying trip to Dora Sunday.

Miss Rhoda Leslie was in Nubia Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. Tom Toombs is on the sick list this week.

Mrs. John Toombs smashed her foot Saturday and was unable to walk, but we hope it is not serious.

Will Cox and Tom Walden of near Merkel attended the party Saturday night.

Buggy riding was all the go Sunday evening.

Mr. Patterson and family and Mr. Freeman and family were visiting in Nubia Saturday and Sunday.

A small crowd assembled at J. V. West's Sunday afternoon and spent the evening in singing praises to God.

Mrs. Derstine and Miss May were in Nubia last week.

Misses Sallie Toombs and Edith Freeman returned from Merkel Thursday. They say they never spent two days any happier than those in Merkel.

Well, as this is not very interesting, I will close. I am quite sure this will journey to the waste basket.

Blue Eyes.

(The above letter had no name signed to it, but we will break the rule this time because of the newsy character of the letter. Glad to hear from you. Please

sign your name in the next.—Ed.)

Henry Porter of the Divide was in Nubia Sunday, and was one of our most popular young men. He sure did seem to enjoy himself very much for he was driving with Misses Sallie Toombs and Edith Freeman.

J. M. Blackburn has gone to Dallas to the reunion.

Miss Myrtle Walker of Fisher county is visiting Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Walker.

Nubia is the wonderful town for enjoyments. There was a tackey party at Jim Toombs' Friday night, and a cake given to the tackest girl. Miss Lizzie Blackburn carried off the prize. Also an apron party was given at J. M. Blackburn's Saturday night, and Sam Toombs carried off the prize for doing the best sewing. Hurrah! for Sam. You can tell a bachelor by his sewing.

Misses Meda and Mae Rouns-ville of the Divide were visiting in Nubia Saturday.

Miss Rhoda Leslie of Merkel was visiting in Nubia Saturday.

T. J. Walker has gone to the reunion at Dallas.

Rose Bud.

#### DORA.

J. M. Bryson, Tom Jenkins and J. F. Friar went to Merkel Wednesday.

S. W. Hampton and J. E. Friar went to Buffalo Gap Friday.

G. W. Hawkins and J. V. Bloxom went to Sweetwater Friday.

Mrs. Sewell was up from Valley Creek Saturday.

Preaching Sunday morning and evening by Rev. Elliott

Henry Brandon came in Sunday from Fisher county.

M. L. Doby was up from the Canyon Sunday.

Misses Mattie Lowe, Kate and Mary Elliott went to Nolan Monday.

Miss Nettie Hawkins commenced a music class Monday.

Mrs. Elliott left Monday for Dallas.

J. M. Bryson and wife left Monday for Dallas to attend the reunion.

Kat Klaw.

Mr. Blackburn came in from Alabama yesterday to visit his relatives in the Canyon.

Ase Shepard went south today.

J. E. Costephens was in from the Canyon just before The Mail went to press and says the hail storm visited that section, too. The damage will be small, he thinks.

S. W. Sheppard is expecting his brother from Ala. tomorrow.

Charles N. Herreid, governor of Third Norwegian Governor.

Had Eaten His Bones.

#### Free Pasteur Treatment.

The New York board of health maintains a department of its own where the pasteur treatment can be given to those who are in danger of hydrophobia. The best methods are employed, and the treatment is free. Three children who were bitten by a dog supposed to be mad, are now receiving a regular course. The authorities in charge are preparing a pamphlet of instruction which is to be placed in the hands of the police, telling them what to do when people are bitten. In all cases, the dog is to be taken alive, if possible, and delivered to the health officers, in order that they may scientifically discover whether it was suffering from rabies.

#### A Fake "Fit Thrower."

New York has all kinds of fakirs, but the inventor of a new departure in the art of professional mendicancy came to grief the other day. The police describe him as a "fake fit thrower," and say that he boasts of having made as much as \$18 to \$20 a day in the practice of his profession. His mode of "doing business," according to those who say they have been victimized by him, is to fall to the sidewalk in front of fine private residences. Usually he would be carried inside and dosed with restoratives. After reviving, that is, to all appearances, he would tell a pitiful story about his misfortunes, and money and sympathy would be lavished upon him.

The hail storm in the Canyon last night is said to have damaged fruit considerably.

Try reading The Mail.

#### 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.

#### Brander Matthews as a Critic.

Brander Matthews received tickets for the first night, of course, says the New York Times. Did ever an author bring out a play in New York without sending tickets to Professor Matthews? Contrary to his custom, Mr. Matthews made use of his passes on this occasion. He was down town; he wanted to see the play; the house was sold; so why not? The next day his opinion was eagerly called for by one of the classes at Columbia. "Well, gentlemen," said the literary free-thinker, "the play was in four acts, and I was there as the guest of the author. After the first act the audience sat silent and I applauded. After the second act I sat quiet while the audience hissed." The professor took a long drawn and reminiscent pull at his cigarette, then held it at arm's length and flicked off the ashes. "And the third act?" "Well, gentlemen," and there was a gleam of satisfaction in the professor's eye, "after the third act I went out and bought standing room and came back and hissed, too."

#### Coached Dicky Davis.

It is related of Mr. Watrous, the journalist who died in New York the other day, that he was formerly the city editor of the Philadelphia Ledger, and that he had the job of breaking in Richard Harding Davis to the reportorial. Davis, in common with many young reporters, was unable to dissociate the newspaper style of writing from his own conception of literary composition. His copy was the bane of the city editor's life. One day Mr. Watrous said to him: "For heaven's sake, Dick, remember that you are writing for a newspaper, and not for Harper's." It wasn't long after that that the young reporter became attached to the Harper's establishment, and there the editor had occasion to remind him not to write as though he were grinding out newspaper copy.

## 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.

#### 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.

## 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.

#### 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.

Man is a being of doubts and fears these days.

**MARKEL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE**  
List of Subscribers.

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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.

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

# 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. The 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 Jula 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.

#### 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.

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

#### W. P. Browning & Co.

S. A. D. Ground says it is getting dry over about Dora. This complaint is epidemic and comes from all parts of the country.

Fine watch repairing is the kind you want. That's the kind Ustick does. Guaranteed.

### 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.

#### Killing People by Brutal Truths.

Many people are killed by brutal truths. Some physicians are so conscientious—and so tactless,—that they think they must tell the patients the whole truth when they believe they can not recover, instead of giving them the benefit of the doubt, for every physician knows that, nearly always, there is a doubt which way the case will turn. Cheerful encouragement has saved many a life by helping it to pass a crisis favorably, when the actual truth might have killed the patient or reduced his rallying powers to the danger-point. In all the affairs of life, cruel bluntness in stating brutal facts has caused untold misery and broken many friendships. Truth itself changes from a jewel to a dangerous weapon in the hands of a tactless person. Because a thing is true is no reason it should be told, or told in a way to offend. He who would have many and strong friends must exercise tact in order not to offend even by the truth, because it is very difficult for many people to forget even a fancied injury entirely. This is especially true of offenses against taste, or speeches which reflect upon one's pride, ability, or capacity.—Orison S. Marden, in May Success.

#### Health is a Magnet.

What a sorry picture is a weak, puny, half-developed youth, starting in the race for success! Few, indeed, are his chances, compared with those of the robust youth who radiates vitality from every pore. How unfortunate it is to be thus handicapped on the threshold of active life. A healthy man is a magnet man; an unhealthy man is often repellent.

Thus health is a success-factor which cannot be overestimated.

A half-developed youth, with his puny muscle, must put forth a strong effort of will and mental energy to overcome his deficiency that he may do the things which a hardy, robust youth does easily; and it is the thing easily done, not the thing achieved by excessive effort, that attracts the most attention and gives the greatest pleasure.

An appearance of strength gives an appearance of ability to achieve things, and is of great help in securing a position. There is a strong, involuntary prejudice against weakness of any kind.

Therefore, at the beginning of the race, it pays any young man to emulate the example of Theodore Roosevelt in developing a strong physical personality, to overcome any natural or acquired handicap of weakness. We are so constituted that we shrink from abnormalities, deficiencies, and half-developments.

While we sympathize with weak people and invalids, we do not have for them the same admiration as for vigorous, energetic people, unless they are relatives or friends. Therefore, the person lacking health lacks the greatest magnet-making forces which compel success to come at his call and abide with him and his household.—O. S. Marden, in Success for May.

S. A. Chenault has purchased the Davis stock of groceries and has moved them into the Thornton building. Mr. Chenault is a successful business man and deserving of patronage.

#### Artful Woman.

A Chicago man tells a cigar story that, though perhaps a little belated in the telling, as it relates to the cigars his wife presented him on Christmas, is still new. The box in which the cigars in question came to him bore his favorite brand and he had complimented his wife upon her superiority over the woman who presents her husband with the customary "Merry Christmas" brands. The good wife modestly accepted his praise, but either in answer to the promptings of conscience or because she could not keep a good story, she told him recently that the box was obtained by abstracting one or two cigars from his case every day until the required 100 had been collected. "I call that artful," was the gentleman's remark at the conclusion of his story. No one ventured to disagree with him.

### 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.

### Laughables.

An exchange tells a horrible tale about a young lady who unthoughtedly jerked her head back to keep from being kissed and broke her neck, and didn't get kissed either. It is a terrible warning to girls not to jerk. In fact, 'twould be better to lean over a little.

The Weatherford Herald editor tells how he courted his wife: That when I first came to see her I showed a timid heart; and even when the light was low, we sat apart; but as our love grew warmer we learned the joy and bliss; we knocked out all the spaces and sat upclosekethis.

After praying forty years for a baby, a New Jersey couple placed a small want ad in a newspaper and that same night a bouncing boy was left on the doorstep. Prayer is alright if you aren't in a hurry, but for quick results use printer's ink.

In a write-up of a funeral an exchange says "the deceased lay quietly in his coffin." That was eminently decorous and a proper thing for him to do. There is nothing which mars the solemnity of a funeral more than for the corpse to get up and cavort among the mourners. It reflects on the gentility of his breeding.

W. M. Clark, of the Canyon, who returned from Dallas yesterday, says standing room is very scarce at the reunion, and that births are at a premium, many cots renting at from \$2 to \$2.50 a piece. The crowd is the largest ever assembled in Texas.

**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 acknowledgments, 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.

**DR. 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

*He started  
to our best line  
from point*

**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 Great Dismal Swamp**

Of Virginia is a breeding  
ground of malaria germs. So is  
low, wet or marshy ground every-  
where. 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 pre-  
vent 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 guar-  
antee satisfaction

**A Boy's Wonderful Nerve.**

When asked recently what was  
the most remarkable thing he had  
ever beheld, Robert Ellis Thompson,  
president of the Central high school  
in one of the big eastern cities, said:  
"The most astonishing thing I ever  
saw was when I was a boy of about  
14, and shortly after I had landed  
in America. While walking along  
the streets of New York city I be-  
held a boy of about my own age  
deliberately going up to a police-  
man, and, in the most mater-of-fact  
way, ask a question. I stopped to  
see what would be the consequence  
of such a rash act, and could hardly  
trust my eyes when I saw the officer  
point out to the lad the place to  
which he had evidently asked to be  
directed. Only a boy who had been  
raised under the police system, that  
at that time prevailed in Ireland,  
could appreciate what a miracle I  
had witnessed."

**A Philadelphia Example.**

"Piney's potato patches are not  
the only instances of their kind in  
this country," said a Quaker City  
man the other day. "In Phila-  
delphia there are 632 gardens, oper-  
ating on what were formerly vacant  
lots, by people who used to be un-  
able to earn their own living. Five  
years ago the Philadelphia Vacant  
Lot Association was organized. Twenty-seven acres, all together,  
were secured and 100 gardens  
started. The officers of the society  
found a big demand for the lots by  
the poor people and they have grad-  
ually increased their holdings until  
now over 600 gardens are in opera-  
tion. The first year products to the  
value of \$6,000 were raised. Last  
year the value of the products  
amounted to over \$30,000. It is an  
excellent movement and one which  
I believe should be adopted in other  
cities."

**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 wit-  
ness stand to testify. He came for-  
ward and went straight up the steps  
leading to the bench, instead of  
turning off and going into the wit-  
ness box. One of the court offi-  
cials 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 char-  
acter in the play, though His pres-  
ence is several times indicated. The  
performance of the professionals is  
said to have been careful, dignified  
and in the main impressive.

**Old Abolitionist Dead.**

Ezekiel Hunn, who died in Phil-  
adelphia a few days ago, at the age  
of 91, was one of the veteran man-  
agers of the underground railroad,  
following the example of his father,  
who, like himself, was a Quaker.  
In fact, the Hunn family of Dela-  
ware was and is identified with the  
society of Friends. His uncle was  
indicted in the United States cir-  
cuit court for feeding fugitive  
slaves passing through Delaware  
on their way north; he pleaded  
guilty before Judge Taney, author  
of the Dred Scott decision, holding  
court at Dover, and paid a fine of  
\$3500. The present governor of  
Delaware is a son of the man men-  
tioned and a nephew of the just de-  
ceased Ezekiel.

**A Dog's Valuable Leg.**

The English courts have decided  
a somewhat odd case in regard to  
the damages that could be collected  
for injury to a dog. A prize fox-  
terrier was shipped to India for  
sale, and during the trip his leg was  
injured so that on arrival at Bom-  
bay the dog was only able to limp  
on three legs. The owner had  
taken out an insurance policy of  
\$750 against all risks, and under  
this he claimed the full face of the  
policy. The insurance broker  
claimed that as long as the dog was  
able to walk on landing, his com-  
pany was not liable, and no loss  
could be collected. The judge be-  
fore whom the case was tried gave  
it as his opinion that a dog travel-  
ing on three legs was hobbling, not  
walking—for he took walking to  
mean locomotion in the usual way,  
upon four legs. On this finding he  
gave a verdict of \$500 to the owner  
as the measure of his loss, thus set-  
tling, as far as the English courts  
were concerned, the value of a  
three-legged dog in comparison  
with a four-legged one.

**The Fellow Deserved the Licking.**

Chairman Cooper, of the house  
committee in insular affairs, is a  
lawyer. He is frequently called  
upon by the constituents to defend  
them in court when at home in Wis-  
consin, says a Washington writer.  
A voter came to him last summer  
and asked him to go to court for  
him in an assault case. The other  
man was badly beaten. The com-  
plaint explained that the defendant  
had beaten him. He exhibited his  
bruises and contusions. "What  
did you beat this man so unmercifully  
for?" asked the judge. "Your  
honor, I'll tell you," explained the  
defendant. "He and I were play-  
ing seven-up. I was six and he  
was two. I dealt, and he begged.  
I gave him a point. I played the  
three spot for low; he played the  
two. I played the king for high,  
and he took it with an ace. Then  
he came back at me with the queen  
and caught my jack. Right there  
friendship ceased." "I'll dismiss  
this case," declared the judge, "for  
the reason that any man who would  
beg with such a hand is not honest  
and should be licked."

**Philadelphia's Glass Hospital.**

The glass-hospital for consump-  
tives, which is to be erected in  
Philadelphia, will be modeled in its  
general plan after the one in Lon-  
don, which has satisfactorily dem-  
onstrated the effectiveness of sun-  
shine in the treatment of that fell  
disease. Each patient occupies a  
small room of glass, into which air  
having an excess of oxygen is  
pumped. This gives actual relief  
to the sufferer, and rapid improve-  
ment is made by selected cases.

**Rhodes Getting Well.**

Cecil Rhodes, ex-premier of Cape  
Colony, who has been ill for some  
time, is improving. A few days ago  
the report of Mr. Rhodes' death ob-  
tained currency in England and the  
United States.

**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**