# THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JULY 3, 1902.

NO. 20.

# Mid=Summer Clearance.

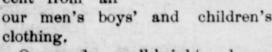
#### CLOTHING

20 per cent discount on all summer cloth-

Alpaca coats as low as 95c.

All wool well made serge coats, regular \$5.00 values, now only \$3.60.

In order to make room for fall clothing, we offer a special special discount of 10 per cent from all



Our goods are all bright and new and the prices are bound to please. Come in and look at them.

# Special Bargain Sale!

We sell Good Goods at the Low= est Possible Prices, but will meet all Legitimate Prices on New and Seasonable Goods. Courteous Treatmen and Fair Dealing is our Motto. Yours for Business,

# STAR STORE

#### SOME PRICES

Our ladies' Sensation Shoe for \$1.50 and our men's Victory Shoe for \$1.50 can not be duplicated at the price.

20 per cent reduction on all Shirt Waists and Skirts.

Cut price on all summer Dress Goods.

We are overstocked on Lace Curtains and are making very low prices. A 21/2 yard curtain only 50c. Other values in proportion.

Good Lawm.....4c All 122 c Lawns and Dimities reduced to ......10c 2 Spools King's Thread ......5c 1 Box Wire Hair Pins......5e Extra good Bleach Domestic, soft Cotton Checks per yard......31/3c

The Merkel Mercantile Company.

### The Best Liniment for Strains.

Mr. H. Wells, the merchant at Pittard.

Try reading The Mail.

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

#### Repulsive Features.

Blackheads, pimples, greasy Deer Park, Long Island, N. Y., faces and muddy complexions, savs: "I always recommend which are so common among Chamberlain's Pain Balm as the women, especially girls at a cerbest liniment for strains. I used tain age, destroying beauty, disit last winter for a severe lame- figuring and making repulsive ness in the side, resulting from a features which would otherwise strain, and was greatly pleased appear attractive and refined, with the quick relief and cure it indicate that the liver is out of affected." For sale by Rust & order. An occasional dose of Herbine will cleanse the bowels, regulate the liver and so establish a clear, healthy complexion. 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

> The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

#### The Higher Life

#### Mental Reform.

Rev. F. E. Mason, Spiritualist.

Mental reform is more essential than the government of the body. A man may use tobacco and be a man; but let a person speak ill of his neighbor, and all the manhood goes out of him.

#### State Religion.

Rabbi Philo, Hebrew.

We want no state religion in churches are free. Europe have a state religion, people. but that has not prevented anarchy from springing into existence there and doing its Rev. Hillis, Congregationalist. cruel work.

#### Forgiviness.

Rev. J. T. Stone, Presbyterian. God is infinite; we are finite. God is divine; we are human. Jesus Christ is the infinite source of forgiviness; we are Christians, when with our human natures we act in the spirit of forgive-

#### Law of Kindness.

Rev. A. S. Garver, Unitarian.

by the law of kindness. men generally, remember their dignity and beauty to all of us. own mistakes and failures, can have nothing but sympathy.

#### Common Ground.

Rev. S. L. Bryant, Methodist.

that he comes on the common moral act, a righteous act. Be- \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

ground of their being in his lief is a tremendous power in the Father's image.

#### Not a Force for God.

Bishop I. W. Joyce, Methodist. Christ and such characters are not a force for good.

#### Churches Free.

Rev. Rainsford, Episeopalian.

The church will never succeed in reaching men until all We must this country. The countries of have a free church for a free

#### Mystery of Suffering.

The doubt of some is based upon the sudden ending of many lives. But the fact that 40,000 people have died today instead of tomorrow, is one of the least of the problems. At best, for those who live, and those who die, the end can not long be delayed; happily the sentence of death, from which no hero or no martyr has eyer escaped, is sentence that will soon include each one of us. As the setting been fully revealed to man. sun comes each eventide to lend In our general relation to each a golden hue to cloud and sky, other the Christian is governed and city, so death is a universal For event that will soon lend its

#### Belief.

Rev. Meeser, Baptist.

soul of a good man. It allies us with intelligence. Science, natural and ethical, religious and divine, was, in each law and Negative character is pro- principle, first a belief. It beduced by the rejection of Jesus gan to be in some one's belief. All intelligence, all positive mental force, is originated and expressed in faith. Unbelief thinks nothing; it is the negetation of thought. Pessimism is only another name for unbelief. It annihilates God and right. It banishes hope and joy.

#### Preparation.

Rev. Jackson, Baptist.

Men are not always ready for instruction when they think they are. A certain definite preparation is needed before truth can be appreciated and properly used. Men understand the world and God and human destiny better today than they did in the second or third century. Nor has the final word in the revelation of religious truth yet been spoken. The safety and the usefulness of the church will consist in the recognition of the fact that all truth has not yet

#### Cures Sciatica.

Rev. W. L. Riley, L. L. D., Cuba, N. Y., writes: "After fifteen days of excruciating pain from sciatic rheumatism, under various treatment, I was induced to try Ballard's Snow Liniment. Belief joins us with the "force the first application giving my not ourselves which makes for first relief, and the second, entire The rich man receives God as righteousness." It is a force of relief. I can give it unqualified does the poor one, both feeling righteousness. It is a voluntary recommendation. 25c, 50c and

# BE WISE-

and place your Fire Iusurance Business with-

T. A. JOHNSON

who writes for the "Old Reliable ...." Liverpool and London and Globe Phoenix of Hartford Springfield Fire and Marine New Hampshire Fire and Philadelphia Fire Association These are the "time tried and fire tested" and your policy in case of a loss will be as good as a gold bond.

#### The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEEMAN, PUBLISHER.

Published Every Thursday.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Office. Residence

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.

#### Was He Homeless?

"Foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head."

This scripture is often quoted by persons who glory in their poverty, who love to sing, "No foot of land do I possess, no cottage in this wilderness," believing they are in that respect like Him. But may it not mean that the world was His home; that making a fire with coal oil, the Jesus was so emancipated from daughter of Mr. T. A. Gaskins, self that he claimed for Himself who lives five miles northwest of a safe, sound, conservative and teen miles from a school house; personally no abiding place? His town, was horribly burned by profitable institution, this bank forty-one miles from a church; spirit of universal brotherhood the can exploding and setting embracing all homes, and love of fire to her clothing. None of the list in the west. others overwhelming all desires men folks were in the immediate for His own individual self, sub- vicinity of the house and by the stituting universal love for per- time they arrived, the young sonal love. The true religion of lady having fled into the open universal love knows of no self. air with the wind blowing a gale, Becoming citizens of the grand she was burned almost to a crisp, universe "robs us of a country living only a few hours. At least and a home."

friends who had always felt honored by His presence under their very painfully burned. roof and no doubt had no lack of the objective accessories of home. tered fire in every direction, set-All external necessities comprising home in a worldly and material sense at His command. But own personal interest was swallowed up in His zeal for the welfare of others. He came not to Warnick, says he has hardly do His own will, but the will of ever before seen a more pitiful Him that sent Him. In what a sight than the condition of Miss heart-breaking tone He exclaim- Gaskins, she being burned from ed: "O, Jerusalem! How would head to foot and every vestige of I have gathered you as a hen clothing except a few scattering gathers her brond under her and rags were consumed. ye would not!"

palatable food, but the persons to greater extent than this sad ocbe benefitted must be partakers currence. The family has only of the same. Not even Jesus been here about a year, but dur-Christ would eat food to nourish ing that time they have greatly another. He could provide all endeared themselves to the entire that was needful and cry, "Come community, all of whom join The unto me all ye who hunger and Mail in heartfelt sympathy. thirst," but He did not compel We are not advised as to Mr. them to eat, drink and be filled. Gaskins' condition financially, It was spiritual food He had to but he has suffered a very heavy give, as well as multiplying the loss, and if aid is needed we feel water of life that He offered; as sure that the people of Merkel wine for the wedding feast. And and Taylor county will come to down to the present day are the the rescue and help him to parwords still potent: "Blessed are tially regain a foothold.

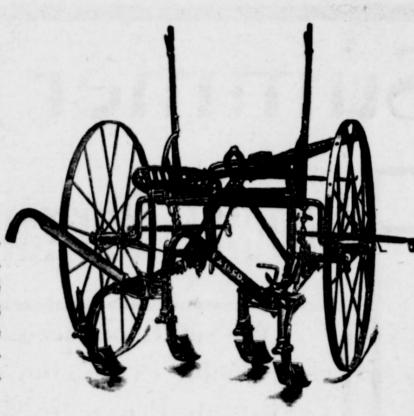
## YOU WANT THE BEST..

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

after righteousness, for they stand, will be buried tomorrow. the result by five, add to it the shall be filled."-Selected.

#### MOST HORRIBLE DEATH

A YOUNG LADY BURNED TO DEATH WEDNESDAY.

Was Kindling Fire With Kerosene--Particulars of the Sad Affair.

five of the family were severely Jesus had many personal burned in fighting the flames, and Mr. Gaskins' hands are

The explosion of the can scatting the house on fire, which was quickly burned to the ground with all its contents. There was this was not what He sought. His no insurance and the loss falls heavily upon Mr. Gaskins.

The attending physician, Dr.

Nothing could call forth the A table may be spread with sympathy of the people to a

She was a very lovable girl and number of living sisters, multiply bore her suffering with Christian the result by ten, add the number fortitude, and her death is one of of deaths of brothers and sisters, the saddest and most heart-rend- subtract 150 from the result. The ing we have ever been called right hand figure will be the upon to chronicle.

The directors of the First National Bank had their regular semi-annual meeting yesterday and found that popular institution in a most healthy financial condition. The usual semi-an-Yesterday evening late, while declared, and Cashier Berry was miles from a neighbor; sixteen checks to the stockholders. stands towards the head of the one hundred and eighty miles

> Mrs. Ed Hudson of Chicago, is the guest of her friend, Mrs. Geo. S. Berry.

> The Representative convention held at Baird Monday instructed for W. J. Bryan for the Legislature, there being no opposition vote. The platform adopted was an imprint of the platform adopted at the Senatorial convention. which will be found elsewhere in this issue.

#### A Panacea for the Blues.

A cigarette is a little roll of paper, tobacco and drugs with a great big fool on the rear. It is never known to precede any but a fool.

A new weekly paper in Alabama is called the Hillbilly Herald, and its motto is thus announced: 'Dimmycrat in Principull; Agin the Railroads and Revenoos; A Free Ballot and a Fair Count: Wildcat Licker and Free Terbacco."

These are the days that try the soul, and set men hunting the ed by the American scenic and are black and the winds are high, and washtubs and boilers go sailing by; when the rain comes down with a mighty roar, and the hailstones fall on the crops galore; when the women fly in scanty array, and sit in the storm house and wish for day.

everybody: Take the number of the reservation open, and S. W. they which do hunger and thirst The young lady, we under- amount, add to it three, multiply make the oration.

number of deaths; the middle figure will be the number of living sisters, and the left will show the number of living brothers.

Following is the unique farewell to Dakota of a Kentucky man who had decided to return busy this morning sending out miles from a postoffice; twenty-As five miles from n railroad; fourfrom water; a quarter of a mile from hell and the same distance from a Republican. 'God bless our home.' Gone to Kentucky, which is God's country, to get a fresh start."

> "We had a delightful time last week," said the city cousin, who was describing the joys of metropolitan life. "One evening we trolleyed out to a suburban home and ping-ponged until nearly midnight, and next day we automobiled to the Country Club and golfed until dark."

"We had a purty good time little bit of fire on the front and a last week, too," ventured the country cousin, with a sarcastic smile. "One day we buggied over to Uncle Josiar's, and us boys got out in the back lot and baseballed all afternoon, and after we had dinnered we sneaked up to the loft and lit a candle and pokered until nearly midnight."

#### To Dedicate Stony Point.

The Stony Point battlefield reservation is to be formally dedicateyclone hole; when the clouds historic preservation society on July 16, the anniversary of the storming of that Hudson river post in 1779, by "Mad" Anthony Wayne. The society has built a pier to accommodate the largest river steamers, and has altogether expended \$3,500 in making the reservation attractive and accessi-Here is a puzzle that puzzles ble. Governor Odell will declare your living brothers, double the Pennypacker, of Philadelphia, will old cases which go to swell the re-

#### Last of the Snufftakers.

The venerable Senator Pettus, of Alabama, is entitled to be known as "the last of the snufftakers." On either side of the United States senate chamber is an ancient snuffbox-one for republicans and one for democrats The boxes are a survival of the old-time habit of snufftaking, which was almost universal in the eighteenth century among persons of fashion and public men. nual dividend of 6 per cent was to the blue grass country: "Four The habit persisted well throug" the first half of the nineteem. century, but during the past fifty years snuff has gone out of style. The senate boxes, however, remain, and it appears that they are kept filled. A Washington papers from a democrat; half a mile recently noted that Senator Vest, of Missouri, and Senator Harris, of Kansas, who formerly used the boxes occasionally, have broken off the habit, and that Senator Pettus is now their solitary patron. He is the last of the snufftakers in that historic body at least. "Every now and then he goes to one of the black ebony boxes . . . and, taking a pinch, snuffs it. Then an expansive smile spreads over his face, and, with a look of thorough enjoyment, he sneezes." Senator Pettus, being well over 80 years of age, came honestly by the snuff habit, since he was taught the grand manners of the old school of Southern statesmen in vogue sixty years ago.

#### The English Litigious People.

As a race the English people must be very litigious, for judicial figures given out in a recent parliamentary return show that on the average, in 189, one person in every twenty-five in England and Wales went to law during the course of the year. These are, of course, average figures, based on the fact that there were 1,310,680 civil cases begun during that year. The London Express, in explaining these figures, declares that "the cantankerously litigious person and the tradesman who is unfortunate in the number of customers who will not pay their debts bring up the average." There are some 1,357 appeals from turn for 1900.

### THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL

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

#### \$30,000 SURPLUS, -\$ 6,000

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.

YOUR PATRONAGE WILL BE HIGHLY APPRECIATED

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

> JOS. H. WARNICK, ...BANKER...

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

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

## **GIVING LUMBER AWAY?**

NOT EXACTLY

But we are making prices so low that it is the next thing to it.

Lumber, Shingles, Sash, Doors Blinds, Cement, etc.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

# A Good Hearted

or in other words, men with good sound hearts, are not very numerous. The increasing number of sudden deaths from

heart disease daily chronicled by the press, is proof of the alarming prevalence of this dangerous complaint, and as noone can foretell



just when a J. A. Kreamer. fatal collapse will occur, the danger of neglecting treatment is certainly a very risky comer. If you are short of breath, have pain in left side, smothering spells, pal-pitation, untitle to lie on side, especially the left, you should begin taking

Miles Heart Cure.

J. A. Kreamer of Arkansas City, Kans., says: "My heart was so bad it was impossible for me to sie down, and I could neither sleep not sist. My decline was rapid, and I was a I must get help

Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

#### Owns the Great Nelson's Cane.

Nelson's walking cane, which was picked up on the deck of the Victory after he was shot at Trafalgar, is now in the possession of a resident of Newport, Mont.

#### Cornmeal Cheapest Food.

The article in common use as value in proportion to cost cornmeal. The article having the son, wth lots of good songs, but greatest cost in proportion to its no one seems to have just caught food value is the oyster.

#### 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 produceand 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.

#### Looking for a Popular Song.

"This year," said a Philadelphia young man who haunts the theaters, "there doesn't seem to be any one popular song that has caught on to the exclusion of others. This condition of affairs is really remarkable, when you come to think of it. Of course, the summer is young yet, and it may stlil come, but the conditions are against it. In previous years, wherever you would go, you would be sure to hear the popular song of the day, played by bands in the various parks, whistled on the streets, sung by the colored boy quartettes and that night hideous and ground out on street food which has the greatest food pianos. We had lots of good musical comedies during the past seaon to such an extent as to be 'it.' "

#### Books That Sell by the Pound.

Thousands of families all over the country treasure old Bibles, hymn books and volumes of sermons published in the eighteenth and seventeenth centuries, fondly believing that any of these works may be sold some day, if necessary, for a sufficient sum to pay off the household mortgage. Requests like this are being received constantly by newspaper editors: "Please let me know the value of a Bible published by Smith Jones, London, in 1745. I am informed that it is worth a large sum." In almost every case the reply must be given that old religious books and Bibles are worth only as much per pound as the old paper junk man is willing to give. This seems like a reflection on public taste in book collecting, but it is true nevertheless. There still is a popular impression that age alone gives value to a book, but a wheelbarrow full of theological treatises issued previous to 1600 may be bought for a few shillings

Signs of all kinds and designs to suit the times and your dimes. "Mc." the old reliable sign writer, will be in your midst for a few days. Give him your work.

#### The World's Letter Writers.

modern languages, and of these vines. about 25 per cent, or 125,000,000 persons speak English, about 90,- 20,000 inhabitants, 1,004 miles 000,000 speak Russian, 75,000,000 from El Paso, elevation about German, 55,000,000 French, 45,-000,000 Spanish, 35,000,000 Ital- surrounding country is very rich must be a grand sight. ian and 12,000,000 Portuguese, and in a fair state of cultivation. and the balance Hungarian, much of the land being in strawan, Gaelic, Roumanian, Swedish, month in the year. They are Finnish, Danish and Norwegian. shipped to many of the principal Thus, while only one-quarter of those who employ the facilities of to Texas. If the rains fail, the the postal departments of civilized strawberry farmer waters his governments speak as their native plants from shallow wells, using tongue English, two-thirds of a contrivance that looks like a those who correspond do so in the cross between a New England English language. There are, for instance, more than 20,000 postoffices in India, the business of which in letters and papers aggregates more than 300,000,000 a year, and the business of these offices is done chiefly in English, though of India's total population which is nearly 300,000,000, fewer than 30,000 either speak or understand English.

#### Army Feuds Nothing New.

tary Root. General W. T. Sher- nays and giant cactus have quite tary Stanton before a crowd of over the humble dwellings and the civil war, which reminds one that these fueds between war secerals are nothing new under the

### Ramblings Through Mexico.

By J. L. VAUGHAN.

NUMBER TWO. May 18. Our slumbers were dis-

2:30 a. m., with the information large tree. We cross a number that we were near Irapuato and of beautiful streams which run would change cars for Guadalatrain we found ourselves surrounded by a motley crowd of men, women and children, all branch goes to Zamora and Tincarrying baskets of strawberries and shouting, "Fresas, fresas!" We were in the celebrated strawberry town. Strawberries everywhere-a basket that held about a half peck for twenty-five cents and a very large basket full for can style. fifty cents. The train was besieged by the crowd, all clamoring to sell, and many baskets were sold before the train moved

As our train did not leave until 4:30 a. m., we had a chance to study our surroundings. The Mexicans and Indians who had come to town on Saturday evening to do their shopping. All were in a good humor, and I did

strawberries made our early

breakfast.

intention of having our fill of dication of prosperity. In the world, says Bradstreet's. There plums, but they nearly made us were women and children begare substantially 500,000,000 per sick, and here we waded into ging at every station. sons speaking colliquially one or strawberries-such big luscious other of the ten or twelve chief fellows, nice and fresh from the

Irapuato is a nice city of about 5,500 feet above sea level. The cities in the Republic and some well sweep and an Egyptian "shadoof." Our course is now towards the

west through the celebrated Guadalajara country. It is still very dry and dusty, but most of the land is plowed and planted and waiting for rain. The general appearance of the country is different from any we have passed through. The mountains are higher, and occasionally we strike malpais (lava), showing When President Roosevelt and that not far away there are some General Miles met at West Point, extinct volcanoes. The fields they formally recognized each are fenced with walls of lava other, after which General Miles rock. The houses are adobe, or stood very erect, and the president built of rough stone and covered talked chiefly with the man on the with red tiles. These houses other side. It is not recorded grouped into villages surrounded whether General Miles met Secre- by fruit and shade trees, magman once publicly snubbed Secre- a foreign look. Vines clamber people in Washington soon after the most beautiful flowers bloom all around them. Oleanders as large as peach trees grow along retaries, presidents and army gen- the road. At intervals handsome residences of the wealthy contrast with the huts of the peons.

The mountain sides are covered with pine trees in many places, turbed by the Pullman porter at and the mesquite grows to be a into the Rio Lerma, which in On alighting from the turn empties into Lake Chapala, the largest lake in Mexico.

At Yurecuero the Zamora gandin, a newly opened country of surpassing richness. At La Barca we had breakfast at the railroad eating house, kept by an American, and we had fresh fish and game served in true Ameri-

The River Lerma, the longest river in Mexico, empties into Lake Chapala, here, and it is the sportsman's paradise. At the train fruits of new kinds are offered for sale-mangos, mamaes, agua cotes, zapotes, a large bean pod called "guamuche" looks waiting room was crowded with like the small pods that grow on the cat claws in Texas. The beans have a sweet, nutty flavor. The fruit of the organ cactus called "patayas," is about the not see a drunk man in the size of a large peach, very rich crowd. All around the depot red flesh, very fuil of small seed, were strawberries in baskets and but of a fine flavor. A couple of down a street leading out from blind musicians sing and play on the depot I could see stands guitars, while a woman passes lighted up by torches, with dif- around a cup for the contribuferent kinds of fruit and vegeta- tion. They play the Mexican bles, but most of all strawberries. National Hymn, "Golindrina" A neat looking boy asked if and other Mexican airs, but when we wanted some coffee and some one remarked that there bread and brought us some good were Americans on the train they coffee and rolls; these with switched off to "After the Ball."

There are but few beggars here. Nearly every one has We had started out with the something to sell, which is an in-People who speak English write fruit. At Torreon we filled up State of Zacatecas, where the two-thirds of the letters of the on figs; at Calera we tried it on drouth has been severe, there

At El Castillo a small road runs to the Falls of Juanacatlan, the Niagaria of Mexico. At this season the Falls are not very much to see, but during the rainy season, when the river is full, the water falls 100 feet and

At Ocotlan the water leaves Lake Chapala and on its way to Dutch, Polish, Flemish, Bohemi- berries that bear nearly every the Pacific is known as the "Rio Grande de Santiago." The Falls of Juanacatlan are on this river.

> This part of the valley is better watered, and immense cane fields are irrigated with water from the river. There are a number of sugar factories, and the whole country looks prosperous. We pass many fields of wheat that are a good crop and much of it is harvested. I saw considerable American machinery, such as plows, reapers and threshers. Land is higher priced than in other places, but the fertility of the soil, fine climate and good markets make it more valuable. American farmers could improve on the native methods and by using machinery to raise the water from the rivers and lakes, instead of waiting for rain, could raise one or two extra crops in the year.

At noon we arrived at Guadalajara and take up our abode at the "Sanitarium."

J. L. VAUGHAN.

J. H. Campbell says The Mail's injunction to "keep a stiff upperlip" is a hard proposition coming in the face of the dry weather. His neighborhood is suffering for rain, and it must come soon to do any good.

'Phone the news to No. 31.

## The Merkel Mail

ED J. LEEMAN, Editor and Prop'r.

Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as econd-class mail mattter.

Subscription Rates	
One year Six months Three months	00
Invariably in advance.	
ADVERTISING RATES per	month
One inch space	. \$ .50
Two inch space	1.00
Quarter column (4 1-2 indhes)	2.50
Half column (9 inches)	4.00
One column (18 inches)	7.50
Four issues constitute a month. All ad	vertise-
ments run and charged for until order	
unless limit is specified when insertion is	s made.
Special prices on time contracts.	
Local notices & cents per line each in	sertion.

#### 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 advertisingrates. Positively no deviation from this rule

The present system of primary elections is the biggest farce that the people have ever been called upon to put up with and popular indignation will force the State Democratic convention to remedy the evil by pledging uniform primaries. The way they have been held this year is a disgrace to any party countenancing them. A poor man had no earthly show for a nomination for office, the monied interests controlling the situation entirely, and as a result politics have become so corrupt that a decent man could not dabble in it and retain his selfrespect. Uniform primaries hold out the hope of a remedial effect, hence the clamor that is being made in this direction. It will come through all right enough if the people are properly represented at the State convention, but the politicians will make a hard fight to defeat the proposition. Shall the people rule the affairs of State or shall they be turned over to the politicians?

Reports come from London that insurance companies have suffered the loss of thousands of dollars through the postponement of the coronation exercises. It seems from the dispatches that the companies issued policies guaranteeing that the coronation would take place on such a date and those who had stands. tradesmen whose interests would suffer and innumerable individuals and corporations whose financial loss would be great in the event of a postponement, took out policies running into millions of dollars. The illness of the King necessitated a postponement and of course the gigantic preparations resulted in naught and the companies were called upon to "pay the freight." This form of gambling has long been in vogue in England.

The drouth in Texas was broke en by copious rains Friday which extended from Red River to the Gulf and to the eastern border of the State, and about 40 counties came in for the blessing. Generally speaking, the rain came too late to benefit the corn crop, although in some localities it is believed that a fair yield is now Cotton was greatly assured. benefitted. Only light showers fell in the west and they were very scattering.

Mr. Morgan has now turned his attention to the consolidation of all the large coal mines of the country. It is a cold day in August when Mr. Morgan's fertile brain fails to plan some gigantic project which saps at the vitals of prosperity.

entire country.

The platform adopted by the Senatorial convention is a very conservative one and should meet the approval of both the interests above and below the line which have been antagonistic so long. It will no doubt have the effect of cementing the breach between the cowman and the nestor in so far as this end may be accomplished.

Mr. Grogan got the nomination for State Senator where the proverbial chicken got the ax-in the neck. He never showed his real character, however, until he tried to run in a dark horse. It was anything with him, no matter how low and puerile, to defeat Sebastian.

Congress has no intention of granting tariff concessions to Cuba, but will continue to rubberneck the people and add to the avoirdupois of the trusts by taxing all Cuban products.

Public office is not such a private snap as it used to be. The line of morality is being provements after sale is made. drawn closer and closer and the day is speeding when only good men will dare offer for office.

The weather clerk has seen fit to keep Abilene wet in anticipation of her future "dryness."

brick layers to work on the epi- above.) leptic asylum at Abilene, says the Albany News. This is merefrom whence came its information. It is absurd on its face, to three dollars per acre. for the saloons are still wide saloon bums.

The antis in Abilene have employed J. F. Cunningham to contest the recent local option victory in that town, and he says he will fight the case all the way to Judge takes the position that a majority for the measure must include a majority of all voters whether voting or not.-Colorado punishable by imprisonment in

the antis. There have been vaexpressed, seemingly not knowagainst a prominent prohibition- penal offense by statute. ist for "destroying a lucrative business" and as a side issue Hon. J. E. Cockrell of Dallas in threaten to enjoin the commissioners from declaring the result all primaries and conventions as of the election until after the suit the several counties may deter-Democratic harmony is the order to create a little sympathy, glad to see him elected chairman crying need of the hour, not this round-about way was hit of the state executive committee only for the party, but for the upon. O, tempora! O, mores! by the next democratic conven-O, h-1! What a travesty!

#### SEBASTIAN NOMINATED.

The Senatorial Convention a Warm Proposition—The Platform.

The Senatorial convention held at Abilene Thursday developed into a battle royal in which a "dark horse" figured very conspicuously, but Sebastian finally won out. Mr. Grogan, after seeing that he had no earthly show for the nomination, showed his true colors by running in a dark horse, H. E. Crowley of the day of the convention when Midland, to whom is due the honor(?) for the existence of the absolute lease law. He developed considerable strength, but Sebastian was nominated on first ballot. Grogan, it seems, was It is now very evident that actuated by purely a matter of venom. The main points of the platform follow:

That what is known as the absolute lease line be abolished and public lands be immediately put upon the market for sale to actual settlers only and that the present lessee be given a reasonable time in which to remove im-

That hereafter all leases of public lands be made subject to

That stringent laws be passed to suppress collusion purchases of public lands. (The Supreme Court handed down a decision Friday which makes collusion Since Taylor County voted purchases an infraction of the prohibition, it is hard to get law, which is in tune with the

That we condemn in strong and unmeasured terms the recent ly a matter of guesswork on the action of the commissioner of the part of the News or the source general land office in raising the price of public lands in the west

That if it be the policy of the open and will be for some time to state to further maintain a quarcome, and work is moving for- antine-line, then we recommend ward on the asylum. There is that the livestock sanitary complenty of time to say "prohibition mission be amended in the folhas killed Abilene" after the lowing particulars, viz: (a) That the deed has been accomplished. said quarantine line be fixed by But we have plenty of honest, the legislature (and not by the sober brick masons in Taylor quarantine commission) and be County without calling on the made to conform in location as near as practicable to the federal quarantine line. (b) That cattle be allowed to cross said line at all times of the year on proper inspection. (c) That cattle be allowed to cross said line without the supreme court of the United inspection for a period of not less States. It is understood that the than 30 or more than 60 days beginning Nov. 15, of each year. (d) That it be made an offense the county jail for any one ex-This is refreshing news, reflec- cept the sheriff, constable or ting, as it does, the sentiments of other peace officer in the execution of proper legal process to rious plans canvassed by which stop and detain cattle that have it was hoped the election might crossed said line after having be set aside. First, there was been duly inspected as required talk of an illegal election because by law, or that have crossed two sets of clerks were employed, said line at a time when inspecthe lawyers claiming that the tion is not required by law. (e) local option act of 1874 had pre- That a sufficient appropriation be cedence over the later act of '95, made to enable the quarantine both relating to the holding of commission to enforce the quarsuch elections. Then they tum- antine law and make needed exbled upon the brilliant idea that periments in the way of spraying because a few voters did not vote cattle with a view to finding out the will of the majority was not the best means of killing the tick without damaging the cattle. (f) ing that the law plainly states "a That all rules and regulations majority of all votes cast." And intended to be made penal be now they have brought suit defined by law and be made a

That we endorse the course of

That we favor the passage of penal laws prohibiting the sale and purchase of votes at primary conventions. We also favor penal laws requiring saloons to close on days on which primaries and precinct conventions are held.

On the question of the new county proposed to be formed out of parts of Callahan, Eastland, Brown, Comanche and Coleman counties, we respectfully suggest that said issue is a local one, and Eastland and Callahan counties are the only counties in this senatorial district to be effected thereby, therefore we submit that issue to the people of the counties interested.

That in the event our nominee should draw o four years' term, then that he be instructed to vote for Charley Culberson for U.S.

That the nominee of this convention be instructed to use his best endeavor to obtain the passage of laws embodying substantially the foregoing.

The goose layed a golden egg for the trusts when Teddy assumed the tutorship of the administration.

The first bale of cotton for the season of 1902 was ginned at Devine, Texas, Saturday.

The following item is going the rounds credited to the Hamilton Rustler:

"We heard a prominent prohibition lecturer tell an intelligent audience that 80 per cent of all the crime is due to liquor. Now the State of Texas steps up with her statistics and informs us that only 14 per cent of crime is chargeable to the liquor traffic. There is a serious mistake abroad somewhere and it is really simply terrible to think that our moral lecturers would missstate a proposition of facts. It is immoral to tell stories."

The only serious mistake we can see in the above is the difference between "liquor" and "liquor traffic." We have our doubts about such statistics being available, but if they are, the mistake has been made in their application. You will have to show us, Mr. Rustler man.

#### Grace Case Reversed.

Dr. J. H. Grace, who was tried and convicted in the District Court at Anson, a short time ago, for the murder of Miss Mollie Lane at Stamford, has succeeded in having his case reversed by the Appellate Court at Austin. The Dallas News sums up the case in the following

unique manner: In the case of J. H. Grace from Jones County, reversed and remanded, an interesting point was involved, in fact the record reads like a romance of the weird "yellow back" novel variety. Among the things figuring in it were the mention of an intended elopement, a ruined girl, two or three narrow escapes from pistol duels, and finally the suicide of a girl, after a previous attempt.

The girl swallowed liquid poison, which was pumped out, and on the same day she shot herself at the home of Dr. J. H. Grace, who is defendant in this case. He was arrested charged with murder in that he had, alleged, so far as he favors the holding of left the pistol where the girl satisfactorly results. The troub could get it, after she had expressed an intention of killing is decided. This, evidently, was mine on the same day throughout herself. The trial court convictthe intention all the while, but in the entire state, and we would be ed Grace, but the high court says the evidence was insufficient to N. C. For sale by Rust & F sustain the charge, that he had tard. placed or left the pistol where

the girl could get it.

### Second - Hand Store and New Tin Shop.

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, of Bell. Repairing a specialty.

Yours for Business,

Jno. B. Bell, Jr. 

## Millinery...

Latest Styles, **Newest Designs Most Stylish Effects** 

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

MRS. F. B. HOOPLE

## Cold .. Drinks ..

We have a nice Ice Cream Parlor. and invite only the best trade.

Fresh Bread kept always on hand.

Oysters every Saturday.

Meals served at all hours.

Blue Front Restaurant.

#### 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 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 position of time paid for Subscribe position. tion of time paid for. Subscribe now 

#### The Same Old Story.

J. A. Kelly relates an ex perience similar to that which has happened in almost every neighborhood in the Unite States and has been told and re told by thousands of others. He says: "Last summer I had an attack of dysentary and pur chased a bottle of Chamberlain' Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoe Remedy, which I used according to directions and with entirely was controlled much quic than former attacks when I u other remedies." Mr. Kelly is well known citizen of Henderso

Henry West came in fro Dallas Monday.

#### If a Man Lie to You,

nd say some other salve, atment, lotion, oil or alleged healer is as good as Bucklen's Arnica Salve, tell him thirty years of marvelous cures of piles, burns, boils, corns, felons, cuts, ulcers, scalds, bruises and skin eruptions prove it's the best and cheapest. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

#### The Methodist Conference.

The Methodist District Conference, which convened here on Friday and continued over Monday, was admittedly one of the most profitable meetings of the kind ever held in this district. The attendance was unusually small, not over one-fourth of the delegates of the district being in attendance, but that did not detract from the interests of the meeting. The Mail is unuable to give an outline of the work, owing to the enormous business transacted. Suffice it to say that everything was harmonious and the meeting was a genuine success.

The people of Merkel are to be congratulated upon the way the delegates are entertained, for all were loud in their praises of our hospitality. The next conference will be held at Stamford.

The Mail is very grateful to Merkel's two banks for large orders for job work the past week. As farsighted business men, the management of the banks realize that every dollar spent with The Mall is kept in circulation here and adds to its volume, while if this money is sent to foreign concerns it is lost fcrever. The most prosperous communities in the world are those which depend upon home for everything they use, and hence the volume of business is greater, the circulation is greater and the prosperity is greater.

Geo. S. Berry has added a strip of land 30x40 feet from the Johnson lots to his residence site, which gives him ample room for spreading out, and the addition of a tennis court lends to the beauty of his premises. has a lovely home indeed.

Dr. Warnick is to be congratulated upon the changes made to and around his residence. There are many little changes that can be made to our homes with little or no cost, which would not only add to their appearance, but value as well.

C. W. Simpson, formerly editor of the Colorado Spokesman, but now a retired capitalist, was in attendance upon the Methodist conference.

Trent is to have a big barbecue and Fourth of July celebration and many attractions will be provided to make the occasion a complete success. Trent people never do things by piecemeals, which is a guarantee that a good time is in store for all who are on hand.

T. J. Witt of Anson brought his mother over last week and the two visited the family of R. W. Witt.

There has been quite a change in the resident portion of town the past week. T. A. Johnson moved into the Millard Coggin residence, W. H. Dickson into the Hoople residence, A. Fitts into the Shell residence and the editor's family into the Johnson residence. A. Fitts bought the Shell residence for a consideration of \$800 and the Johnson dance was transfered to Geo. and then to the editor

.fail.

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 The Statesman

for

The Mound City for The Globe

gently here. Price and qual-

ity conform at this store.

for

\$3.00 \$2.50 \$2.00 \$1.50 You don't have to be a judge of Hats to buy intelli-FOR SALE BY

J. T. WARREN

Summer complaint is unusually prevalent among children this you know any item of news, or if Stock Journal, or the Texas season. A well developed case friends or relatives are visiting in the writer's famlly was cured you, or if you are going or have The Merkel Mail, at \$1.50 per last week by the timely use of been off on a visit, please let us Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera know. It will be a great favor. and Diarrhoea Remedy,-one of the best patent medicines manufactures and which is always kept on hand by ye scribe. This is not intended as a free puff for the company, who do not advertise with us, but to benefit little sufferers who may not be within easy access of a physician. family should be without a bottle of this medicine in the house, especially in summer-time .-Lansing, Iowa, Journal. sale by Rust & Pittard.

Mrs. T. B. Garoutte of the beautiful home, Evilo Villa, was able to be in attendance at the conference. She has been sick for some time, and The Mail was glad to note that she was able to enjoy the occasion.

Rev. C. W. Irvin was among the delegates to the conference, and was given a royal welcome by the members of his old charge. He is the same good, kind Christian gentleman.

Miss Lucy Leeman writes from Hale Center that they have Thursday from Colorado Springs, lowing unique sentence: "It to migrate. looks like a hat with the brim on top of the crown."

been visiting her parents here, and W. G. McGarr of Abilene, returned to her home at Baird were the guests of T. B. Garoutte was the guest of Miss Laura Thursday night.

The Mail's 'phore is 31. If

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

The Texas & Pacific Railway Company is now operating dining cars on trains 5 and 6 between Jefferson, Texas and St. Louis, Mo.; also on Iron Mountain train No. 4, between Arkadelphia and St. Louis. This will give north-bound passengers on train No. 6, which is the fast "Cannon Ball," the benefit of dinner and supper and those on No. 4, breakfast and dinner on the cars.

The cars are the latest pattern. Have electric lights and fans, choicest tableware and the most modern conveniences in general. The cuisine is incomparable and meals are served a la carte. This service is a great improvement over the Old Station Eat ing Houses and you are respectfully invited to give it a

Asa Sheppard came in last had a very nice time so far and Col. He does not give one a are headed for Portales, N. M. very favorable impression of that All are enjoying themselves im- country, but says it is all right if mensely. A description of the a fellow has the "dough." He Plains is summed up in the fol- didn't have it, so was compelled congratulates him

Misses Swafford and Armstrong and W. S. Swafford of Mrs. W. L. Johnson, who has Elmdale, Miss Emma McGarr and family during conference.

We are able to offer the Texas Farm Journal, in connection with year for the two papers. This is less than three cents per week legged" chickens left in the for the two. The Journal is the standard Stock and Farm publication of Texas, and with The Merkel Mail, you can not buy any more valuable iterature for the money. Let us hear from you with an order under this clubbing offer.

S. A. Walden has a good organ for sale or will trade for a good horse. See him.

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

Wood Beds and Mattings, all kinds, are going at greatly reduced prices. Call and see them.

W. P. Browning & Co.

Three candidates were examined and licensed for the ministry during the Methodist conference. Among the number was a Merkel boy, Alonze Bickley, who has grown to manhood here and has the love and respect of all our people. We are informed that he stood a very creditable examination and was generally complimented upon his efficiency. Alonzo is a young man of high attainments, studious and ambitious, and The Mail upon his progress so far. He has a bright future before him. May he reach the goal of his ambition, is the wish of his friends.

Herring during conference.

NOTICE.

Our Phote Gallery will be open for work two days (Friday and Saturday) in each week until further notice.

Barnhill & Wife.

Dr. I. E. Smith, Eye Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, of Weatherford, will be in Merkel July 4 and 5.

#### Need More Help.

Often the overtaxed organs of digestion cry out for help by dyspepsia's pains, nausea, dizziness, headaches, liver complaints, bowel disorders. Such troubles call for prompt use of Dr. King's New Life Pills. They are gentle, thorough and guaranteed to cure. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Judge Forrester. formerly of this place, but now County judge of Stonewall county, was a delegate to the conference.

The town looks just a little bit lonesome since the departure of the preachers and laymen who attended the conference. have seldom had a brainer crowd to put up with.

Miss Prudence Allyn returned last week from a visit to friends at Pilot Point.

Mrs. Bob Winship of Shreveport, La., is visiting her parents, Dr. and Mrs. G. H. Richardson.

Mrs. Sammie Kendrick of Dallas is visiting her mother, Mrs. Pete Boaz, north of town.

For Sale-Two good lots, desirable locotion, fenced, a well. Must go quick. Enquire at this office.

#### NOTICE.

No more fishing or hunting allowed in my pastures.

Parties who have had permisson, please consider cancelled. Resp't.,

J. T. Warren.

Dr. J. H. Bass of Abilene sends The Mail to his son, Henry, at Ennis.

There are very few "yaller

H. A. Tillett, S. H. Garrison and Dr. Bass of Abilene were among the lay 'delegates to the conference.

#### Long-Lived Royalty.

King Christian IX. of Denmark, who ecently completed his 82d year, was one of ten children, all but two of whom lived to be over 60. His sister, the Dowager Duches of Anhalt-Bemburg, is 91 years old, and he has two brothers living, aged 78 and 77 years respectively.

#### In Memory of Poe.

The building in which Edgar Allen Poe edited the "Southern Literary Messenger," in Richmond, Va., is still standing and it is proposed to place a suitable commemorative tablet on its

#### How Ted Understood the Text.

The golden text for a certain Sunday school was, "And the child grew and waxed strong in spirit" (Luke ii:40). Little "Ted's" hand went up like a flash when the superintendent asked: 'Can any of these bright, smiling little boys or girls repeat the golden text for today?' Ah, how glad it makes my heart to see so many little hands go up! Teddy, my boy, you may repeat it, and speak good and loud, that all Miss May Harris of Sweetwater may hear." And they all heard this: "And the child grew and waxed strong in spirit like 2:40."

# .. PROHIBITION DON'T PROHIBIT...

## The People From Trading at this Store.

We realize the fact that you have had a short crop year and must buy goods as cheap as possible. Knowing this to be the case, we have shaved most of the profits off of every line of merchandise. The prices are right. Come in and see us and inspect our goods. We will save you money on every purchase, large or small

## J. P. SHARP & CO.

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

#### ABILENE.

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Pon. W. J. Bryan of Abilene was nominated for representative of this district at Baird Monday. The platform adopted was the same as that on which Senator Sebastian was nominated here last week, declaring for the abolishment of the absolute lease line and modification of the quarantine line for an open season subject to inspection for 60 days, beginning Nov. 15.

Marriage license were issued the past week to T. M. Ward and Miss Hattie Adams; Joseph W. McCann and Miss Francis M. Beebe. They were married Wednesday night at the Methodist church.

A half inch of rain fell here Sunday afteronon and was accompanied by a hard blow out. The residence of E. A. Chasteen in the north part of town was completely destroyed and two of the children were injured slightly. Mrs. Payton's residence on Pine street was badly damaged by the wind as were several others on the same street. The oil mill was unroofed and the hull house demolished. The new Odd Fellows' hall on the south side was also damaged some. Several barns were overturned and many shade trees unrooted.

A board of trade has been organized here and has a membership of over 75 business men.

#### NUBIA.

Crops are needing rain very

C. G. Combs passed through Nubia Monday.

Lon Watkins and Sam Toombs are running a binder this week. Mr. Tipton and family, of near Merkel, visited Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tipton Tuesday.

Mrs. Jim and Miss Toombs went to Merkel trading Tuesday. Miss Lizzie Blackburn visited her brother Friday.

A candy breaking was given at the residence of J. M. Blackburn's Saturday night in honor of John Watkins. A very large crowd attended.

U. L. and John Blackburn went to Sterling county on a hunt for land, but they did not

Mr. and Mrs. McClue of Spring Creek was in the Canyon last

Misses Cattie and Rhoda Les- his parents.

lie were in Nubia Saturday.

Chas. Brown was in Nubia Monday.

Mrs. Ed Watkins and Miss Della Brown were in Nubia Mon-

The wind has not forgot how her. to blow yet.

Mr. Editor, you made a mistake last week. You had Lon Watkins and family visited A. W. Hunter, and it should have short. been Lee Watkins. Lon, don't get mad for Rosebud did not make the mistake, but Mr. Editor did.

(We apologise.—Ed.) Rosebud.

#### DORA.

J. W. Hawkins and sister, Miss Nettie, went to Merkel Friday to attend conference.

The Dora ball team played the Hylton team Saturday, score 17 to 13 in favor of Dora.

The young people enjoyed an ice cream supper at Mr. and Mrs. Grounds' Saturday night.

No preaching Sunday: Singing Sunday evening at Mr and Mrs. Jinkens'.

G. B. Sligers was up from Valley Creek Sunday.

S. L. McNay and wife were up from Wingate Sunday visiting J. M. Bryson and family.

Ed Rounseville was down from Nolan Sunday.

Toll Hampton came in from Hamilton county Sunday, en route to Scurry county.

Kat Klaw.

Victor Harris was severely injured this morning at Nubia, where he and Alec Harris were at work on a gin. It seems from reports that Alec was driving a bolt in a log, when the hammer slipped and glanced, striking Victor on the nose and badly crushing that member. wound is a very painful one, but it is hoped that he will soon be able to be out again.

Mr. T. M. Ward of Stith and Miss Hattie Adams of Salt Branch were married by Rev. A. J. Leach yesterday at the home of the bride's parents. They are very popular young people and have the best wishes of a large circle of friends, with whom The Mail joins in sincere congratu-

Ed Green came in yesterday from Weatherford on a visit to

Mrs. W. A. Barnhill returned yesterday from a visit to relatives at Baird.

Dr. McCauley will be here next week, at the office of Dr. Little. Teeth extracted without pain by the use of nitrous oxide gas. See them.

Miss Lillie Julian of Caps spent a few days with friends here last week, who were delighted to see

J. J. Miller returned yesterday from New Mexico. The atmosphere up there was too exuberant for him and he cut his visit

Dr. Clayton McCauley and wife went east tonight, but will return by the first of the week and spend the summer here.

Madam Rumor has been at her old tricks again and asserts that work on that long-looked for and very much needed new depot will commence next week. will be a great surprise to the natives if the rumor is correct.

Mrs. Davis' Complaint to Grant. A valuable letter was withdrawn from an auction sale of literary rarities in New York the other day. The owner took this acton when a request was made to copy the letter for publication. In the catalogue the letter appeared as No. 80 on the list; with the following description: "Letter to General Grant from Mrs. Jefferson Davis on behalf of her husband, then in prison. 'He is tormented by a series of petty tyrannies exercised over him by the man now in command.' Complains that General Miles makes a spectacle of him for his (Miles') lady friends. 'Not liking to be made a spectacle of he retired to his quarters when the females pursued him.' 'Please, General Grant, go down to Fortress Monroe and change General Miles for an older and kindlier man,' 'If he is not spared to me I shall have no hope of keeping the wolf from my children's door.' 'Little hope has lighted me through the valley of the shadow of death into which I seem to have walked."

#### Black, as Clerical Garb.

Not until Martin Luther's time did black become the distinguishing hue of clerical garb. When Luther laid aside his monk's clothes the elector of Saxany sent him a piece of black cloth, and Luther had a suit made of it according to the prevailing cut of the time. It was long after before the cut of a clergyman's coat became different from that of the

#### Unequally Balanced.

They tell in Washington a story of the Pennsylvania legislature when that body was controlled by the democrats. They elected a speaker named Patterson, who did not know anything of parliamentary law, but who posed as a second Reed. At the close of the session one of the democratic members offered a series of resolutions lauding the speaker for his services, but a republican member opposed their adoption. "I cannot," said he, at the close of a tenminute speech, during which he emphasized all the mistakes that the democrats had made, "I cannot indorse a speaker who has the at Rust & Pittard's. vaulting ambition of Napoleon and the intellect of Blind Tom."

#### "Uncle Remus" Is Now a Doctor.

Emory College, at Oxford, Ga., at its commencement Wednesday, bestowed the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature upon Joel Chandler Harris, author of "Uncle Remus." It was the first time Emory College had bestowed this degree, and it was the only honorary degree conferred by the college at this commencement.

#### Zeppelin Ruined by Airships.

Count von Zeppelin, who has the distinction of having built the largest of all airships, has been financially ruined by his aeronautical experiments. Unable to obtain means for carrying out his new projects, he is now breaking up the old framework of his airships in order to sell the aluminum of which they are composed. Zeppelin is 67 years of age. He was a military attache of the German embassy in the United States during the civil war and made several balloon ascensions from battlefields of the South in 1863 He was the leader of the famous cavalry raid in France in 1870, which marked the commencement of hostilities of the great Franco-Prussian war.

#### Spiritualistic Journalism.

One of the most uncommon efforts ever attempted in journalism has originated in Russia and is headed: "A Column from the Other World," the editor and proprietor going on to say with great naivette that they have nothing whatever to do with the statements made or the questions answered by their "invisible assistant," who presumably is a ghost that has opened a "bureau" for the benefit of those desiring to communicate with the world.

#### The Boss Worm Medicine.

H. P. Kumpe, druggist, Leigh ton, Ala., writes: "One of m., customers had a child, which was sick, and threw up all food, could retain nothing on its stomach. He bought one bottle of White's Cream Vermifuge, and it brought up 119 worms from the child. It's the boss worm medicine in the world." White's Cream Vermifuge is also the Childrens' tonic. It improves their digestion and assimilation of food, strengthens their nervous system and restores them to the health, vigor and elasticicity of spirits natural to childhood. 25c

When you talk about there being better land than there is in this township, every potato slyly winks its eye; every cabbage shakes its head; every beet goed in the face; every onion feels stronger; every grain field is shocked; every cob of corn sticks up its ear, and every foot of land kicks .- Ex.

Miss Willie Bigham entertained the young people with a social Tuesday night.

A crowd of young people chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hamm and Mr. and Mrs.) Glin Balch, left yesterday for Valley Creek to spend a few days fishing aud pienicing.

J. J. Miller left last week for Mexico to spend a few days with relatives. The Mail hopes he will have a very pleasant stay of

Mr. and Mrs. Z. F. Green returned Saturday from their trip to the Plains.

J. J. Patterson dropped in on The Mail Tuesday and scared the push into conniption fits with a silver dollar. But we like to be

Seth Hamilton is visiting at Iredell, Bosque county, this week. and recuperating.

Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Hoople left overland Tuesday for Crosby county, where they will spend the balance of the summer on Mr. Hoople's ranch.

Mrs. Jim Dennis and two children are quite sick this week, but their rapid improvement is looked for.

E. Rogers was up from his farm near Caps to-day. He re ports a fairly good rain at his place Sunday evening. A few of his neighbors were hailed out. their crops being completely de spirit stroyed, but only a sm tory was in the path o.

#### ie Perfect Liver Medicine.

rs. M. A. Jolley, Noble, O. writes: "I have used Herone for a number of years, and can cheerfully recommend it as the most perfect liver medicine, and the greatest blood purifier. It is a medicine of positive merit, and fully accomplishes all that is clained for it." Malaria cannot and a lodgement in the system while the liver is in perfect order, for one of its functions is to prevent the absorption of fever producing poisons. Heraine is a most efficient liver regulator. 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

#### DRY TOWNS.

#### One-Third of Population Living Under Prohibition.

It is estimated that fully 30,-000,000 people are living in the United States under prohibition, either by State law or by local option, says the Philadelphia Leader. This is more than a third of the entire population of the republic. The following ounties have in the various States enacted prohibition laws:

Alabama-In 50 out of 66 counties.

Arkansas-In 50 out of 75 counties.

California-In 175 cities and towns.

Colorado-In 50 cities and

towns. Connecticut-In 75 out of 125

Delaware-In fully half the state.

Florida-In 30 out of 45 towns. Georgia-The whole of the State except four cities.

Illinois-In 650 cities towns.

Iniana-In 140 towns.

Iowa-The whole of the State except 23 cities.

Kansas-Tne whole of the state.

Kentucky—In 90 out of 119 counties.

Maine-The whole of the State. Maryland-In 15 out of 24 counties.

Massachusetts-In 263 out of 353 cities and towns.

Michigan-In 400 cities and

Minnesota-In 400 cities and

Mlssissippi-In 71 out of 75 counties.

Missouri-In 84 out of 115 Junties.

Montana-In a few counties. New Hampshire—The whole of the State.

Nebraska-In 250 cities and New Jersey-In 200 cities and

New York-In 700 cities and

90 counties. North Dakota-The whole of

the State. Ohio-In 500 cities and towns. Oregon-In the great Indian reservations.

Pennsylvania-In 600 cities and towns and 20 counties.

South Carolina-The whole of the State except 10 cities.

South Dakota-The whole of value. State except a few cities.

Tennessee-In 70 out of 96 counties. \*Texas-In 120 out of 240

Vermont-The whole of the

Virginia-In 55 out of 106

ounties. Washington-In 50 towns and

# THE BEST DRAWING CARD

The Best Goods at the Lowest Prices.

**Implements** Wagons Buggies Barbed Wire Nails, Stoves Tools Etc. Etc.

We claim that we handle the best line of Hardware Imple= ments, etc., on the market. We have handled 'em long enough to know this. They are the cheapest because they last the longest. Come and take a look at our mammoth stock.

\* Hardware Queensware Glassware **Tinware** Graniteware Crockeryware Etc. Etc. 

MERKEL, TEXAS.

# W. H. DICKSON.

counties.

Wisconsin-In 300 cities and

\*Several counties have since voted prohibition.

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

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M. Carter, Don H. Larmon, J. H. Maxwell, G. W. Smith, Wm. J. Taylor, H. C. Prof. Overby,

#### Javal's Theory of a Sixth Sense.

my of Medicine, who is sightless, ography, written by his sister, denies that nature compensates blindness by increased sensibility of touch and hearing, but contends that when a person is blind an extra development takes place be generally known that the last in a sixth sense, which is latent in all persons. This sense, which has been called the sense of obstacles, acts by the perception of certain warmth and indefinite vibrations. The seat of the sense is believed to be placed in the forehead.

#### Sultan Doesn't Read Much.

The Sultan of Turkey never reads anything but state papers and very few laudatory articles upon himself, which his deligent secretary now and then unearths in some foreign journal.

#### A \$25,000 Pair of Opera Glasses.

One of the most costly pairs of North Carolina-In 60 out of opera glasses in the world is owned by Queen Alexandra, for whom they were specially made in Vienna. The barrels are of platinum and set with diamonds, sapphires and rubies. Various estimates have been made as to its probable worth. An expert in such matters fixes the value of the Rhode Island-In 20 cities and forgnette at \$25,000. It will, however, never come into the market -if it did it would certainly fetch far more than its mere intrinsic

#### The Pope Likes His Present.

The Pope was highly delighted with President Roosevelt's gift of a complete set of the latter's work, and has issued orders with mosaics of St. Peter's and the Vatican be transmitted to the president, with his thanks. These mosaics are magnificent specimens of this branch of art and are made groups of army corps in the event West Virginia-In 40 out of 54 at the Vatican workshops.

#### President Kneaded the Bread.

President Loubet of France made a flying visit to his mother at her farm near Daupheny reare getting too old for that work. Sit down here and talk to me." He then took off his coat, rolled up when a messenger arrived from completely cured." Paris with some important paofficial matter.

#### "Buffalo Bills" Royal Ancestry.

Colonel Cody, in presenting to Dr. Javal, of the French Acade- an acquaintance a copy of his biwrote this on the fly-leaf: "True to Friend and Foe; with the compliments of the subject; W. F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill." It may not of the great scouts is a lineal descendant of Milesius, King of Spain, the famous monarch whose three sons, Heber, Heremon and Ir, founded the first dynasty in Ireland. The Cody family comes through the line of Heremon. The colonel has proof of his Spanish-Irish ancestry in the form of crest. It is said that the Wild West may remain in Europe for five years.

#### Italy's Jewish Cabinet Minister.

King Victor Emmanuel has given evidence of his courage and freedom from prejudice by appointing General Ottelenghi minister of war, in the place of General Ponza di San Martino. General Ottolenghi is not only of Hebrew birth, but also of Jewish creed. So far as known this is the first time a member of this particlar faith has been appointed by a great power of Europe to one of the leading cabinet offices. The members of the Hebrew race who have held cabinet offices in Europe have been like the late Lord Beaconsfield in England and Baron Sonino in Italy, converts to Christianity. The new Italian minister of war is one of the most distinguished field officers of the Italian army, and has commanded the military district of Turin, the military district of Genoa and that of Palermo, besides having been recently designated by the king to command one of the

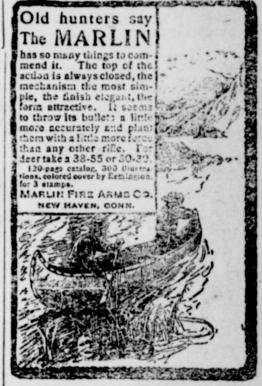
#### Saves a Woman's Life.

To have given up would have meant death for Mrs. Lois Cragg, of Dorchester, Mass. For years cently and found the old lady she had endured untold misery kneading dough for the family from a severe lung trouble and baking. "Mother," said he, "you obstinate cough. "Often," she writes, "I could scarcely breathe and sometimes could not speak. All doctors and remedies failed his sleeves and undertook the job till I used Dr. King's New Dishimself. He was still busy at it covery for Consumpton and was from coughs, colds, throat and pers. The dandified Parisian was lung troubles need this grand more than astonished at the sight, remedy, for it never disappoints. but the president finished his Cure is guaranteed by Rust & kneading before attending to the Pittard. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

#### About F. Marion Crawford.

An English writer has the following to say of a popular American novelist: "I was surprised when I met Marion Crawford today down at Sarah Bernhardt's the rehearsals of 'Francesca da Rimini,' and was very happy with the enthusiasm of Sarah for the work. As we drove back together the brilliant author told me that he could count on his fingers the days that he had been in England during the last twenty years. Southern Italy was to him a paradise. Marion Crawford is a burly man, almost horse guards blue in his gait, but I should imagine of very delicate temperament. Although the day was mild and a jacket was sufficient for the ordinary man, he buttoned up his overcoat to the cheek bones and then seemed chilly."

Duke Is Dead. Colonel Cody's celebrated horse Duke was kicked on the knee by a was in Harrisburg, and veterinawould never heal the colonel very sadly gave orders that his favorite a horse better known to the young America than all others put together. Duke and "Buffalo Bill" seemed to be in perfect harmony. Ine rider's costume and the color-nature's concealing color, show last week, and inquired after one horse, the brown fellow, nor a Dad.



#### Don't Fail to Try This.

Whenever an honest trial is given to Electric Bitters for any trouble it is recommended! for a permanent cure will surely be theater. He had been supervising affected. It never fails to tone the stomach, regulate the kidnevs and bowels, stimulate the liver, invigorate the nerves and purify the blood. It's a wonderful tonic for run-down systems. Electric Bitters positively cures kidney and liver troubles, stomach disorders, nervousness, sleeplessness, rheumatism, neuralgia, and expels malaria. Satisfaction guaranteed by Rust & Pittard. Only 50c.

#### She Knew Her Strong Points.

The fact that stage struck girls

are not all recruited from the ranks of fashionable society is shown by the following letter, which, according to the Philadelphia Record, was received the other day by the manager of a local theater: "Dear Sir i am just crazy to go on the stage and it would four-dollar "plug" while the shew just be a great favor for you to give me a position i can kick 6 rians agreeing that the wound foot or higher do anything in the bending line or anything else everybody knows i am a fine lookbe shot. Thus ends the career of ing girl, you will say the same i would send you my photo only i people—and old ones as well—of have none but what is inlarged, so pleas send me word this week because if you dont i will not be home any longer, send me the money to come on, i have money horse's coat were of nearly one but i can not get it til i am of age; you will find out i am no fake i an autumn tan. Children noticed mean just what i say, meet me at the absence of Duke from the Broad Street Station i have brown hair eyes very large, awtul light him. Colonel Cody now has but complexion Red rosie cheeks, nice shape age 17 five foot 2 inch just Prince, that he bought in Kansas the right size, midlen small, rite last year. Prince is a beautiful as soon as received nice figer in equine specimen, but not a Duke tights." The letter is dated Coatesville.

### EASON & HILL,

#### 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.

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Also fire insurance agent. Will write deeds, take acknowledgements, pay taxes on land, furnish abstracts of title and transadt all other business entrusted to him.

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No. 355 meets every Fliday Visiting brethren cornight. dially invited to attend.

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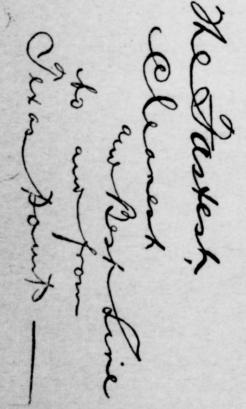
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'Phone the news to No. 31.

#### Why Disraeli Didn't Attend.

Apropos of vacant seats at the coronation, the interesting fact is recalled that when Queen Victoria was crowned Benjamin Disraeli wrote:

coronation, as all the members of parliament must be in court dresses or uniforms, and I can't afford to buy any. I console myself with the conviction that to get up at 7 o'clock; to sit dressed like a flunky in Westminster Abbey for seven or eight hours, and to listen to a sermon by the bish-Justice Peace and Notary Public op of London are treats which can be missed with fortitude."

> This was when Disrael was a Radical member of the parliament, and before he became the Earl of Beaconsfield and chief of the Tories.

#### A Monument to Oglethorpe.

After many years of effort a monument is at last assured to General James Oglethorpe, the founder of the state of Georgia. The memorial is to be placed on St. Simon's island near Brunswick, where Oglethorpe repelled a Spanish invasion from Florida in 1742.

#### The Populations of Hawaii.

Out of the population of 160,-000 in Hawaii nearly 90,000 are Asiatic, 60,000 being Japanese and 30,000 Chinese. There are also several thousand Porto Ricans.

#### Longest Part Ever Written.

It is claimed that in "Du Barry" Mrs. Leslie Carter has the longest part ever written.

#### Significance of the "Bluff."

Pettus, of Alabama, the oldest man in the senate, was sitting in a poker game at his own home a few nights ago with some friends, one of whom was a young and rather exuberant person. The game was for small stakes, but was lively. Once Senator Pettus and the young man were in a pot together. There were a good many raises. Finally the venerable senator laid down his hand. The young man laughed and placed his cards on the table, face up. He had nothing. The senator had been bluffed out. Senator Pettus looked at the ceiling. "The most alarming and discouraging sign of the total degeneracy of the times," he said, "is the lack of respect the younger generation shows to the older."

#### Pierpont Morgan's New Cigars.

J. Pierpont Morgan smokes large cigars as a rule, but since his visit to Jekyl island he has added to his possession a style of cigar that is at once a novelty and a wonder. It bears his initials and is eight inches long.

#### Edward Draws the Lords.

Because King Edward now opens parliament in person the peers of the realm are taking a keener interest in legislation. The attendance in the upper house this session, both of peers and of pecresses, whenever there is prospect of a debate or even of "conversation," is noticeably larger than usual.

#### Wendell Phillips' Quick Repartee.

A Washington man tells a story about Wendell Phillips. He says that in 1856 Phillips made one of his strongest abolition addresses in Boston. There were several Southern men in the audience. Just after a period of particularly bitter invective against the slave holders of the South one of these Southerners arose and shouted: "If you said that in the South we would cut off your ears." "Then," responded Phillips, quick as a flash, "I could only say: 'Them that have cars, let them hear.'

#### Machine-Grown Carnations.

"Do you know why carnations have fallen about 40 per cent in price in the last year or so?" asks a florist quoted by the Philadelphia Record. "It isn't because "I must give up going to the they are less popular-they are more popular than they ever were -but it is all on account of a little wire machine, recently invented, that costs about 3 1-2 cents. This machine may be described as an automatic tree box of steel wire. It is a couple of feet high, and stands upon three legs. As soon as a carnation begins to grow it is slopped within the machine and thereafter it remains upright, for there is a series of rings that take hold of it and guide it in its growth. Before the invention of this device the majority of carnations spoiled because when they became tall they fell over and the flowers rotted in the dust. Now none of them spoil, and hence their present cheapness."

#### Opening Mail at Breakfast.

"Never open your morning mail at the breakfast table," said a Philadelphia physician. "That is an evil habit, and one that is sometimes responsible for disease. Letters, you must know, are tremendous germ-carriers. licking of the flap of the envelope and of the stamp often entails the presence of thousands of germs. These, when letters are laid upon the table, may get into the food, for they are nearly all food bacteria; you may swallow them, and thus lay yourself open to many kinds of trouble. Open your mail, therefore, anywhere but in the dining room."

#### High Rents on Broadway.

The wonder is, how can a man do business in Broadway and expect to make a profit, considering the extraordinary rents that are exacted, says the New York Press. The profits in cigars must be stupendous, for tobacconists pay more rent than liquor dealers. A cigar company has leased a lot thirty-one feet front on Broadway for \$40,000 a year for twentyone years. Not a stone's throw from the city hall is a corner shop hardly big enough to take a long breath in, for which the annual rental is \$11,000. For the basement beneath it, used as a restaurant, \$7,000 is paid.

#### Museum Collection of Old Bonnets.

A collection of curious old bonnets, covering a period of eighty years, has just been teceived at the museum in Philadelphia Memorial hall. Some of these wonderful creations of milliners in the last century are marvels of invention and construction. One of the old bandboxes in the collection is about twice the size of an ordinary washtub, and is covered with quaint, gaudily-patterned wall paper. From the present viewpoint many of the old-time fashions for headgear appear most ludicrous.

#### Comparisons Really Are "Odious."

"Comparisons are odious," said John Fortescue, an ancient English worthy, writing in the fifteenth century. In "Much Ado About Nothing" Shakespeare caused one of the ridiculous characters to say: "Comparisons are odorous." In recent years the question has been raised whether the quotation "Comparisons are odious," was correctly used, because Shakespeare's character employed the word "odorous." . It appears that the former usage is

Advertising is the secret of success in every business.



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 lessened 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?

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Groceries Vegetables Fruits Country Produce and Fresh Meats, etc.

We sell almost everything afforded by the market, and sell at reasonable prices. Come to us for your groceries.....

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....

#### ELLIOTT & MILLER

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

We keep in stock the Star steel mill, direct stroke and back gear; Eclipse wood mill, Dandy and Aermotor steel mills; a full assortment of pumps, piping from ¼ 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.

"New Rival" "Leader" Repeater"

F you are looking for reliable shotgun ammunition, 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