

THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JULY 31, 1902.

NO. 24.

Trade at the Star Store.

Where You Get Value Received for Every Dollar Spent.

We handle Dry Goods, Notions, Furnishing Goods, Clothing, Hats and Shoes. Anything you need in our line? Come to see us before you buy.

25 per cent discount on all Ladies' Waists and Skirts
20 per cent discount on all Summer Clothing. We are not selling Clothing at cost, but our prices are the lowest, quality considered.

All prices quoted in our Mid-Summer Clearance Sale are in force as long as the goods last, and you will save money by investigating the merits of the goods and the prices we are asking for them.

The STAR STORE.

Merkel Mercantile Co., Props.

P. S. We will be well prepared to handle cotton this fall, having arranged with two of the best concerns in the South to represent them. You can always count on the Star Store to pay the highest price for cotton.

The Higher Life

Plans.

Dr. Lewis, Congregationalist.

There are but two kinds of plans, the human and the divine. If a person follows a human plan he will fall far short of the perfect, but a human plan is better than no plan at all, for a faulty plan is apt to lead to a perfect plan. Human plans never reach the region of the perfect. The divine plan originates in the mind of God. It is perfect because its author is perfect. It is co-extensive with life. There is a plan in the mind of God for every creature which comes from His hand.

Redemption.

Dr. Layman, Congregationalist.

This was meant by the word redemption—rescue—and it is something beyond law as an agent for producing it. The might, the miraculous might—the touch of the higher power, that which, when law fails, when, according to law, all life must fail, comes down out of heaven and on barren places makes flowers bloom, makes the fallen, dispirited and discouraged to live again. Redemption, the unrolling of civilization which had lost its way and lost its God.

Everlasting Doing.

Rev. M. P. Fikes, Baptist.

It is not enough to go after things; we must receive them when they come. Thousands of invitations given for people to

come to church, but their welcome is below zero when they come. We have reached an era in Christian work when we must be genuine in all that we do. Your Christian obligation is not lifted by mere saying, nor playing, but by everlasting doing.

Business.

Dr. Darlington, Episcopalian.

Business can never be an excuse for the Christian to forget to discharge his religious duties, nor can a Christian business man live in accordance with the dictates of Christ and prevent his employes discharging them. He must be a shining example to them in Christian life.

Influence.

Prof. Fagnani, Congregationalist.

The living and the true God resorts solely to influence in getting men to know and love Him. God is spirit, He works spiritually, never carnally.

Circumstances.

Rev. N. H. Lee, Methodist.

It is frequently said that "circumstances make the man." There is much truth in it in many cases. It need never be true for the Christian, for Christ came into this world to make circumstances—and unmake them—always in behalf of his people.

A Real Service.

Dr. Landrum, Baptist.

We contend that a man who carries Christly character wherever he goes; who is right in the invisible realm of reason

and conscience; who faces disappointments, reverses, losses, bereavement and death itself with sunny hope, does a real service to the community.

Vacation Rests.

Dr. Johnson, Presbyterian.

It is a failure in our Christian social economy that every one cannot have a rest. The spiritual activity of vacation time should be directed both to the personal culture of one's own spiritual life and also to the exerting influence on one's fellowmen. Beware of the subtle influence that pervades all the resting places and leads one to compromise the high standards of Christian life.

Rev. F. B. Meyer.

God graduates the trials of our life; He allows the lesser to precede the greater. He gives us the opportunity of learning to trust Him in slighter difficulties, that faith may become muscular and strong, and that we may be able to walk to Him amid the surge of the ocean.

The Religious Crisis.

Geo. C. Lorimer, Baptist.

Religion, especially evangelical religion, is today of very low vitality. The attendance at church services is shamefully small. We are attacked by secular writers. They tell us that the ministry is deteriorating, that the churches have lost their influence to the schools and that education alone can encompass all the activities of life. They say that the churches spend more for the superfluities of life than for

the gospel, and point at the ice cream suppers and other cheapening methods of obtaining money to support the gospel with scorn. They condemn us for sending missionaries abroad when our own people are spiritually starving at home. However true these accusations may be in part, they are overdrawn. Yet a thoughtful man will not ignore them. He must admit that there is a crisis in American religious life. I have no fear in saying that, at the present rate at which we are living, in fifty years we will have no Sabbath.

I like what John Wesley said to a man when their carriages met on the road. The ruffian, knowing Mr. Wesley and disliking him, did not turn out but kept in the middle of the road. Mr. Wesley cheerfully gave him all the road, himself riding into the ditch. As they passed each other the ruffian said: "I never turn out for fools," and Mr. Wesley said: "I always do. I like the reproof which a Chinaman in San Francisco gave an American. The American pushed him off the sidewalk until he fell into the mud. The Chinaman on rising began to brush off the mud, and said to the American: "You Christian; me heathen. Good-bye." A stranger entered a church in one of the cities and was allowed to stand a long while, although there was plenty of room. No one offered a seat. The stranger after a while said to one of the brethren: "What church is this?" The answer was, "Christ's church, sir." "Is

He in?" said the stranger. The officer of the church understood what was meant and gave him a seat. We want more courtesy in the churches, more courtesy in places of business, more courtesy in our homes.—Anonymous.

Ram's Horn Blasts.

Glib religious phrases are but the froth on shallow eddies.

Faith remembers His promises and so forgets its own failures.

No man can speak of God unless he has been speaking with Him.

The miracles of Christ can only be judged in the light of His mission.

He who would be great in the day of trial must be great in that of trifles.

If Christian conversation is not a means of grace it is a means of disgrace.

Riches in religion must be measured by expenditure rather than by income.

The preacher who panders to the throng will get no approval from the Throne.

Where the church is not overcoming the world the world is overcoming the church.

If a Man Lie to You,

And say some other salve, ointment, 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 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.

A PRETTY WEDDING.

Hymen's Altar a Scene of Exquisite Loveliness.

One of the prettiest church weddings ever witnessed in the town was that which took place at the Baptist church last night, the culmination of a romance in which Mr. R. T. Pence of Nevada, Mo., and Miss May Williams of this city were the principals. The wedding was scheduled for 9 o'clock and long before the hour arrived the church was comfortably filled.

The church was beautifully and artistically decorated with flowers and evergreens. In front of the altar was an arbor of leaves studded with flowers, while potted plants and palms were stationed at convenient distances, and at the rear was the organ petitioned off with lovely Swiss curtains. The entrance doors were also hung with curtains, and the floor was richly carpeted with Brussels and rugs of brilliant hue. It spoke of fairyland and was lovely beyond description.

Promptly at the hour designated the wedding party entered the vestibule of the church. Two beautiful little girls led the wedding procession, Annie T. Daniel and Winnie Warren. Their little feet kept perfect time to the low, sad strains of Lohengrin's wedding march, artistically rendered by Miss Eva Williams. They were followed by the groom and his best man, Mr. Jud Sheppard, on the right, and the bride and bridesmaid, Miss Laura Isla Herring, on the left, and meeting under the bower of evergreens they were approached by Rev. Heizer, who spoke the charming words which made the two one, "their hearts, like two dew-drops on a rosebud, having already slipped and run together." The organ then pealed forth the last joyful strains while the procession by twos passed out into the waiting carriages and were driven to the home of the parents of the bride, followed by a few select friends of the family, where a sumptuous repast was served.

The whole affair was perfect in its arrangement, charming in all its parts. Merkel never had a more delightful wedding.

The bride wore a beautiful trousseau of white muslin which clung to her in graceful folds and was exquisitely becoming; she wore a veil and carried a large bouquet of bride's roses. The bridesmaid was dressed in white organdie and carried crimson roses, while the little flower girls were costumed in white and blue. The groom and attendants were attired in conventional dress.

The bride is one of our most cultured young ladies, beautiful in face and form, and combines with these graces a lovely character, a sweet disposition and a consecrated Christian life.

The groom is unknown to the writer, but came to us highly recommended as a sober, honest and honorable young man. He is a prosperous and prominent young farmer of Nevada, Mo. He has won a rare treasure.

The happy couple were the recipients of numerous and costly presents. They leave tonight for a bridal tour which will include Galveston and New Orleans, after which they will be at home at Nevada, Mo.

The best wishes of a legion of friends go with them. They entered the realms of wedded life under auspicious circumstances, rich in the enjoyment of every blessing.

The Mail extends warmest congratulations and bespeaks for the happy couple a life of unblended pleasure, into which may come only the richest and choicest blessings of Heaven.

Mr. McPeak and Miss Forester of the Canyon drove into town yesterday and were married while sitting in the buggy in front of the Southside Hotel, Judge Miller officiating. It seemed to be a runaway match, and The Mail hopes they have "run into" a good thing—one that will prove a blessing to both of them. Good luck go with them.

Good showers of rain fell around the town Tuesday, but missed us. Abilene got a flood.

Mrs. Berry visited in Abilene this week.

Every business man in Merkel should put forth every effort this fall to bring all the trade possible to the town. It is going to take a strong pull to hold the trade of the surrounding country, and we must not only do this, but must win new trade. There are perhaps many ways to do this. However, the best way is through the organization and perfection of some kind of club which has for its object the promotion of the industrial interests of the town. The trade of the town must be carefully looked after, the streets must be kept up, the roads put in a passable condition, the advantages of the town as a trade center and cotton market talked up and literature descriptive of the business enterprises and bids for trade scattered broadcast over the adjacent country. There are many things coming up every day which could be turned to the advantage of the town and to the profit of the business men by an organized and systematic effort on the part of our people. The Mail would urge the banding together of the business interests of the town. We are standing in our own light as long as we defer the attempt to better our condition. We must be wide-a-woke and progressive, always doing, if we hope to keep and win trade. To that end it behooves every citizen to pull off his coat and get in the fight. Let's get together and talk over the plans. In unity there is strength. We must combine to fight the encroachments of other towns upon our trade territory, and the quicker we get to work the better it will be for us. Will you join such an organization? Will you help in the work? Will you bear your part of the burden, which will be light? Think it over.

Mr. E. R. Strickland of the Canyon called around Tuesday and subscribed for The Mail. He says he has had enough rain, but not any too much, and says he will not kick if more comes. Mr. Strickland strikes the key note when he says people make a great mistake grumbling about dry weather or kicking because of too much rain. He is eminently correct.

'Phone the news to No. 31.

...Buggies at a Bargain...

I have a large stock of Buggies on hand—too large, in fact, for the time of year—and have decided to make prices on them that will compel them to go. Parties wanting anything in the Buggy line will SAVE MONEY by buying them now, while this car lasts. I mean to SELL them and will NAME YOU PRICES that no one else will duplicate.

GEO. F. WEST.

Caring for the Large Families.

The large royal families of Siam are admirably taken care of by the state, as a glance at King Chulalongkorn's cabinet will show: The minister of war, the king's only surviving full brother; the minister of public works, the king's half brother; the minister for the interior, another half brother; the minister of foreign affairs, another half brother; the minister of finance, another half brother; the minister of local government, another half brother; director general of the privy purse, another half brother; minister of the royal household, another half brother; high commissioner for Ayuthia, another half brother; controller general of finance, the king's son; minister of justice, another son; deputy superintendent of the navy, another son, and director general of customs, the king's cousin.

"Hot Times" at Nome.

A correspondent at Nome writes a glowing account of a roof garden performance in mid-winter by the Knights of Pythias Club. He asserts that the hall was made to represent an Atlantic coast roof garden in the summer season. Scattered about the hall were palm trees, Chinese lanterns, and artificial willows. The ladies wore light frocks and the men were attired in ducks, shirt waists, and straw hats. All those present are said to have enjoyed themselves until after midnight, no doubt imagining they were eating watermelons and sipping lemonade and mint juleps. At the very moment of doing this, however, the winter outside was howling and the mercury was down in the bulb to 40 below zero. This is cheerful news, and clearly indicates that a Yankee is bound to have a "hot time" in spite of any weather conditions with which he may have to cope.

Born With the Nation.

Born with the nation on July 4, 1776, Perry Chesney died at his home on Copper ridge, in the Tennessee mountains, on July 4. He was the oldest man in the United States and was excessively proud that the Declaration of Independence was adopted, as he expressed it, "in honor of his birth."

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 affected. It never fails to tone the stomach, regulate the kidneys 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.

How \$49,500 Was Saved.

Not long ago some surprise caused by the quietness of a wedding that society had expected would be one of the swell affairs of the decade, says Tip in the New York Press. Instead of 300 guests there were thirty, and instead of \$50,000 the function cost less than \$500. It appears that the bride had in an amateurish way visited the East side slums and permitted her heart to be touched, which induced her to propose that rather than spend a fortune on the wedding the estimated cost of should be distributed among the poor. Of course, the bridegroom had to agree with her, hence the quiet ceremony. But inasmuch as the father of the bride has since refused to make good the sum a swell wedding would have cost him the poor are still waiting. He says: "I wanted to give you a splendid sendoff, daughter, and would not have kicked at \$50,000 but you wanted it quiet. Well, you had it quiet, and I am \$49,500 to the good. And I need the money."

Mails Too Slow for Him.

The mails are altogether too slow for John D. Rockefeller when he has business to transact. He always uses the telegraph wires, keeping in close touch with his New York office wherever he may be. Occasionally he resorts to the long distance telephone, but prefers to telegraph for the reason that messages transmitted in that way become matter of record and may be referred to later, which is an advantage not so easily available when using the tel

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL

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

YOUR PATRONAGE WILL BE HIGHLY APPRECIATED

CAPITAL, - \$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.

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.

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.



Uncle Sam's Mail Service

requires physical and mental ability of a high degree to withstand its hard labors. The high tension to which the nervous system is constantly subjected, has a depressing effect, and soon headache, backache, neuralgia, rheumatism, sciatica, etc., develop in severe form. Such was the case of Mail Carrier S. F. Sweinhart, of Huntsville, Ala., he says:

"An attack of pneumonia left me with muscular rheumatism, headache, and pains that seemed to be all over me. I was scarcely able to move for about a month when I decided to give

Dr. Miles' Pain Pills

and Nerve Plasters a trial. In three days I was again on my route and in two weeks I was free from pain and gaining in health and strength.

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

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.
Wm. J.
H. C.
Arby,

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.

The Same Old Story.

J. A. Kelly relates an experience similar to that which has happened in almost every neighborhood in the United States and has been told and retold by thousands of others. He says: "Last summer I had an attack of dysentery and purchased a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which I used according to directions and with entirely satisfactory results. The trouble was controlled much quicker than former attacks when I used other remedies." Mr. Kelly is a well known citizen of Henderson, N. C. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Miss Prudence Allyn returned from Cisco yesterday. She was accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Wallace.

Saves a Woman's Life.

To have given up would have meant death for Mrs. Lois Cragg, of Dorchester, Mass. For years she had endured untold misery from a severe lung trouble and obstinate cough. "Often," she writes, "I could scarcely breathe and sometimes could not speak. All doctors and remedies failed till I used Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption and was completely cured." Sufferers from coughs, colds, throat and lung troubles need this grand remedy, for it never disappoints. Cure is guaranteed by Rust & Pittard. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

The Green Rose.

Although the blue rose is extremely problematical a green rose can be raised. Mr. Mitchell, who was a well known English horticulturist, exhibited several green roses as far back as 1856. The leaf, stalk, bud and flower of the green rose resembled those of other roses, except in their being of a uniform color, and the flower was deliciously fragrant. Mrs. Bromley, in her book entitled, "A Woman's Wanderings in the Western World," mentions that she saw a green rose, which was as lovely and fragrant as any normal one. In an exhibition held at Mannheim some years ago a prize was given to this kind of rose, the petals of which resembled leaves in form as well as in color.

The Best Liniment for Strains.

Mr. H. Wells, the merchant at Deer Park, Long Island, N. Y., says: "I always recommend Chamberlain's Pain Balm as the best liniment for strains. I used it last winter for a severe lameness in the side, resulting from a strain, and was greatly pleased with the quick relief and cure it affected." For sale by Rust & Pittard.

A "Steel" Banquet to Carnegie.

The banquet given recently to Mr. Andrew Carnegie at the Carnegie laboratory of the Stevens Institute of Technology, in Hoboken, N. J., was one of the most ingenious ever prepared. The steel magnate was greeted on all sides by the metal in which he has made his millions. The great room in which the feast was held looked more like a locomotive. The decorations were of the most elaborate type, but they were also severe, for it was the students' idea to make the royal supper one of steel from start to finish. Around the long table was fixed a steel track, on which there ran a movable blast furnace, and other steel dishes. When the lights were on the table and the wall hangings caught the rays and sent out myriads of dancing sparks. The delicate china and cut-glass which usually grace the festive board were replaced by novel dishes of steel, fashioned in the oldest shapes. Cups, plates and goblets were of the finest and most highly tempered steel. The sumptuous repast was served up in beautiful steel dishes, and beside each guest's plate there was an appropriate steel souvenir.

Ramblings Through Mexico.

By J. L. VAUGHAN.

From Zapotlan there is a trail to the city of Colima which passes very close to the foot of the mountains. The road could not be made for vehicles on account of the roughness of the country, but all freight and passengers were carried on horses and pack mules or burros. The route this way is much shorter than by way of Tuxpan, but the railroad surveyors found it impracticable on account of several deep "barrancas." A barranca is a depression on the earth's surface. Two of these barrancas are each about a thousand feet deep and look like great holes left in the earth's surface when cooling, or the interior has been undermined by volcanic action and the surface sank down, leaving the sides almost perpendicular. The trails cross them by steep and narrow paths cut zig-zag down the sides. Some of these barrancas are wide enough to contain farms or cattle ranches, where grass and trees grow most luxuriantly.

The city of Colima is the capital of the State of Colima and is a town of about 25,000 inhabitants. The country around it is very rough, but exceedingly rich in mining, lumber, coffee and tropical fruits. This is the objective point of the Zapotlan branch, as by connecting with the narrow guage road that now runs from Colima to the coast, about 39 miles, a through route to Manzanillo on the Pacific, can be had. But to get to Colima is the trouble. From Tuxpan, the present terminus, to Colima is only about 59 miles, but it will take millions to build a railroad there.

One of our surveyors was in Colima on the night of Jan. 19th, 1900, when they had a big earthquake. He says that "about midnight he was awakened by a terrible noise and his bed swaying like a ship at sea." He made for the outside and found the whole town in uproar, the people rushing toward the open plaza, crying and praying, while whole streets were blocked by fallen walls. The Cathedral tower had fallen down, and so great had been the swing of the tops of the towers, a large piece of carved stone weighing over a hundred pounds was thrown to a distance of 100 feet. A few days after this he was on his way to Zapotlan and at noon rested at a "meson" (a way-side inn) in the barranca "Beltran." While taking his "siesta" he was aroused by another earthquake, which shook great quantities of rocks and earth from the sides of the barranca, and the dust hid the sun for several minutes.

The route was changed via Tuxpan, more toward the south, but volcanic and seismic disturbances may yet add to the difficulties in completing the road. When it is completed we would certainly like to take a trip thro to the Pacific, as the scenery will be among the grandest on the Continent.

May 21st. We leave Tuxpan at 3:45 a. m. The third class coach is well filled, but the first class only had a half dozen passengers. Gen. Agramonto of the "Anglo-American" was among them; he had ridden horseback from Colima to Tuxpan and had been two days making the trip. He was complaining of the fatigue of horseback riding and I asked him why he did not take a

coach. He replied: "A coach? Why, man, there isn't enough level country the whole distance for a coach to run thirty yards."

At Zapotlan it was not yet daylight and we looked eagerly to see if any fire was visible on the volcano, but it was very quiet. The full moon was setting and while we were watching it seemed to go squarely down into the mouth of the old crater, and the rays of light reflected from the sides of the crater looked like fire. Mrs. Vaughan exclaimed: "Look! Colima has swallowed the moon!" At Zapotlan for breakfast, and near Sayula the train stops for wood, and we have a chance to lay in another stock of "patayas." At Guadalajara at 9:45 a. m., where we leave for Irapuato.

Before leaving this interesting country I wish to make a few remarks about it that may interest some one. From Guadalajara to Zapotlan I like the country very much; as a farming, fruit or cattle country it is fine. There are not many large running streams, but there are numerous lakes, some large, some small; and there are many springs, with running water in the mountains. The rains begin about June 10th, and it rains nearly every day till the last of October. Most of the rains come in the evening or at night. As no frost comes to kill off vegetation in the fall, the farmer has a long season to mature his crop in. Many of the lakes are but little below the surrounding land and the water could be used to irrigate during the dry season by some simple contrivance to raise it a few feet. Fruit trees do not need any irrigation and the fruit farmer could always find a ready market at Guadalajara or cities further north. The peaches, pears, apricots and plums are all seedlings and the fruit is inferior. To graft finer fruits on this native stock would improve the fruit in quality and in value.

Farming is done in a very primitive way. Plows are made of wood; harrows are a bundle of brush; wheat is cut with sickles, and women and girls glean behind the reapers, the same as Ruth gleaned in the fields of Boaz. For threshing there are the threshing floor, not much different from the "threshing floor of Ornan." To clean the grain it is thrown up in the air and the wind does the rest. Perhaps David saw such a sight when he wrote, "The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away." Psalms 1:4.

I see fields of wheat that will average fifteen bushels to the acre, which was put in by these ancient methods. What would be the yield with the soil broken up deep with a big American plow and harvested with American machinery? This wheat sells at \$5.50 per hectolitre or about \$2.20 per bushel. What a good American farmer or fruit man could do here with improved machinery, would be something wonderful. Land is cheap and labor is cheap. I like the looks of the Indian laborers here and I think they are industrious and honest. Their wages are from 25 to 35 cents per day, the farmers paying them mostly in high-priced corn and wheat.

Try reading The Mail.

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 months50
Three months25
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 non de plume under which they write. This is required merely as a guarantee of good faith. Obituaries, Cards of Thanks, etc., are inserted at one-half the regular advertising rates. Positively no deviation from this rule.

ARE OUR COURTS IN LEAGUE WITH THE SALOONS?

The antis have secured an injunction restraining the County Judge of Hill County from declaring the result of the recent prohibition election in that county. The meat in the cocoon in this instance is found in the declaration by the contestants that the Commissioners' Court of the county has exceeded its authority in ordering such an election, which, it is claimed, should be under police regulations, and therefore the acts of the court in the premises are unconstitutional. The contention is practically a new one and has never been passed upon by the courts, but every fair-minded man and impartial judge can readily see the absurdity of the proposition. It bears on its face the stamp of outlawry.

The antis in this county have gotten up a similar protest, along with twelve others of similar import, all of which are unstable and weak, very weak. In every case the contestants only hope to stay the execution of the law for a few weeks and positively have no hope of ultimate victory. And in this connection it might be well to mention that the judges who grant the writs of injunction do not pretend to hasten the execution of the law, but set the trials for the future, in most cases three or four months off, when a month at the outside would be ample time. This is the way it has been done in Taylor County, too. The election was held eight weeks ago, and the law should have been in force within thirty days after the result was declared, the court having ten days in which to count the votes and declare the result. But to add to the uncertainty, and seemingly to help defeat the verdict of the people, the District Judge has granted an injunction on a few jumped-up charges of fraud and irregularities in holding the election, and says the case will be set for trial in the future. What a vague declaration! What a hollow mockery of justice and equity! How much of uncertainty there is in those three words, "in the future!"

Will the time ever come when justice may be done, though the heavens fall? Is might right or right might? And can we hope for that day to come when it will be impossible for even the all-powerful judges of our various courts to exceed their authority in the administration of the people's affairs? The trouble is that the saloon party has the upper hand of politics, and until this nefarious business is wiped from the face of the earth we can not hope that the will of the people will be the supreme law of the land.

For some reason or other the people of Texas seem to have stopped praying for rain.—Houston Post.

Perhaps the following incident which recently came under our observation, has some bearing on the situation: Two country boys were discussing the drouth, when one of them exclaimed: "I can't understand what for people want 'er pray for rain. Why, up at Roscoe, where they have been praying for rain, they ain't had a darn drop, while over on Elm, where they fiddle and dance to beat the band, they've had regular floods." Perhaps the Post can find a few crumbs of comfort from this declaration.

Cotton and all forage crops have grown wonderfully since the rains and now give promise of a magnificent yield. A few days of fair weather to enable cotton to take on fruit will result in a further brightening of the outlook, while the feed crop is already assured. The good part about this crop is that it is the largest ever planted here. Prospects are very bright here, and the goose hangs high.

The venerable John H. Reagan is restored to health and strength and will soon retire from public service. After sixty years of faithful service he retires with the love and respect of the people who have delighted to heap honors upon his head. What a lesson for the young politicians of the State.

The raising of the price of the school land may, after all, prove a blessing to West Texas. It will keep the actual settlers limited to a class who have money to make the necessary payments on the land and improve the property. The "squatters" will have to hunt cheaper land.

Uniform primaries are now a foregone conclusion, and the politicians will have to go "away back and sit down" two years hence. At least that "buying squadron," which is said to have infested Taylor County this year, will have to whack up with other counties.

President Roosevelt is enjoying a strenuous life at Oyster Bay, but the dispatches do not state what Grover is doing. Can it be true that these two are wiggling on the same piscatorial ground?

The half-hearted endorsement of the Kansas City platform was not a slap at Bryanism, as some seem to think, but a step in the interest of Democratic harmony. Texas Democracy is broad and liberal.

The past winter has learned many farmers a valuable lesson. It will be a cold day in August hereafter when they will depend upon the other fellow for their winter feed.

The protective tariff is a little scheme gotten up for the benefit of the "infant industries," which enables them to rob the people without fear of punishment.

Old mother earth is wet to her nether garments. It is the first time for over a year that the festive bull frog could rake up enough courage to croak.

If Congressman Smith don't send Editor Gilliland a peck of good, nice, ripe garden seed he will hear from the press gang two years hence.

The Merkel Country is reeking in anticipated prosperity.

AN ANTI LIE NAILED.

True Situation in Regard to Whisky as an Incentive to Crime.

During the late "unpleasantness" it was claimed by antis that there were more temperance men in the penitentiary than there were men addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors, and the assertion was made before an intelligent audience by one "Stump" by the name of Ashby that there were more preachers than saloon men or bartenders in the penitentiary. The pros made no attempt to refute these brazen charges, because they showed their falseness on their face and from the fact that they were making votes for prohibition. The fight is over and it is useless to broach the subject at this time, but such glaring charges should be exposed, if for no other reason than to show to what straits the saloon advocates are put to in patching up an argument.

Mr. J. J. Eubank of Abilene, who, by the way, is not only a prohibitionist, but one of the best all round men in the county, in order to satisfy his own curiosity wrote to the Chaplain of the penitentiary at Huntsville a few days ago and received the following reply, which he kindly sends to The Mail for publication:

Huntsville, Tex., July 5, 1902.
J. J. Eubank,

Abilene, Texas.
Dear Bro:—Your letter of inquiry to hand. Your are correct in your statements. AT LEAST 75 per cent of the criminals are made so by strong drink. This is the decision of many judges of Criminal Courts and is shown by the court records and by the status of our penal institutions. There is not that proportion that are confirmed drunkards, but at least that many come to the "pen" as a result of the open saloon. We have only one white preacher in the walls, but quite a number of saloonists and bartenders.
Fraternally,
S. H. MORGAN,
Chaplain.

He Is There All Right Enough.

Two white men by the names of Cocke and Lauderdale were hanged at Greenville, Miss., last week. Cocke's last words were a string of oaths and he died boasting that he would be in hell in a few minutes and damning everything and everybody. His wild threats and bursts of profanity were apparently given to conceal fear, as he continually remarked that he was the bravest man in Mississippi.

The crime for which these men paid the penalty was murder. While under the influence of whisky they boarded a train and deliberately riddled a man, and a stranger at that, with bullets. This is the fruit of the liquor traffic.

The Socialist party of Texas has nominated G. H. Royal of Lampasas for Governor and Ward H. Mills of Dallas for second place.

That acre of vacant land if planted in cane of milo maize now might save the life of more than one poor old dumb brute this winter.

Uncle Sam's definition of reciprocity, in its application to Cuba, differs considerably from the general use of the word.

It will soon be time to harvest the greatest feed crop that has ever been raised in this country.

WHY PAY \$75.00

For a Range When You Can Buy

...A MAJESTIC...

for from \$20.00 to \$30.00 less?
Ranges we sold in Abilene and Taylor County ten to twenty years ago are still in use. A better Stove for less money is WHAT WE CAN SELL YOU.

ED S. HUGHES & CO.,

Abilene, Texas

BIG SPRINGS UNDER WATER.

It Is Running Into Residences and Business Houses.

The town of Big Springs is situated between the hills in a draw which has its source about 200 miles west in New Mexico. The rains on the head of this draw last week were enormous, and the water came down in such a volume Thursday as to flood the town. The second rise reached there Friday, in regard to which the following special is taken from the Dallas News:

"Greater destruction has been wrought by the second overflow, which reached here about 2 this morning. In about three hours water spread over an immense area, causing an enormous loss to owners of property. At 9 o'clock this morning the water was one-half mile wide and was from four to twenty-two feet deep. The business portion of the town has been flooded, and the merchants have suffered great losses. Residences are under water.

"Fifty passengers are water-bound here. The track for about ten miles has been washed out, and the bridges are gone. No attempt to run trains will be made until the water goes down. Water covers the machine shops four to ten feet. The first floor of the Y. M. C. A. building is covered with water to the depth of about two feet. The depot and the cars loaded with freight are flooded. The town has been under water for two days, and it will probably be three days longer before the water will run down. The foundations of brick and stone buildings have been damaged and may collapse at any time. The damage will reach an enormous figure and as the town is under water it is impossible to estimate the loss. The merchants using warehouses along the track have suffered great losses. No lives lost."

One can almost see the grass grow and farm truck and garden sassa are not far behind.

If you havn't planted a patch don't envy your neighbor his diet of turnip greens this fall.

It is up to Mr. Bailey for a denial that he has designs upon the Vice Presidency.

Jupiter Pluvius is maintaining his belligerent attitude.

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

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 it's your local paper. It gives a class of news you can't get elsewhere. You need The News, because it gives you all the State news. The Merkel Mail and The Semi-Weekly News one year for only \$1.75, CASH IN ADVANCE. The News is promptly stopped at expiration of time paid for. Subscribe now.

Add to Phone List.

Johnson, T. A. res.
Little, Dr. J. W. office, 7
Phillips, T. W. res. 4
Watkins Meat Market 3
Williams, H. C. res.

Try reading The Mail if you don't feel better

We are able to offer the Texas Stock Journal, or the Texas Farm Journal, in connection with The Merkel Mail, at \$1.50 per year for the two papers. This is less than three cents per week 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 literature for the money. Let us hear from you with an order under this clubbing offer.

12 1-lb. bars Laundry Soap for 25c at Chenault & Hand's. tf

Dr. Gilbert, specialist of Abilene, was in Merkel on his regular weekly visit Monday. He has worked up quite a lucrative practice in his line, which is confined to diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, and he seems to be giving general satisfaction.

Jud Sheppard went to Abilene after a pair of license.

Miss Lucy Leeman entertained her young friends with a social Monday evening, which was a very pleasant affair.

R. E. Tracy and wife were in from the ranch Saturday and attended the W. O. W. supper that night.

I. S. Allen purloined the editor's hat a few nights ago and it was only with great difficulty that we convinced him that it was too large for his cranium. It is seldom that an editor can afford a better hat than a telephone magnet, but this was an exception to the general rule.

Judge J. J. Miller has been busy this week superintending the repairing of bridges, etc., which were washed away by the floods.

M. A. Marcus of the Globe was up from Abilene Saturday.

Terrell Winter says that the rains have been all he could wish for. Many farms in his neighborhood were flooded and many of his neighbors moved to higher ground. The water in the lake was higher than ever before.

A Curious Phenomena.

Some parts of the town were literally alive with "blister" bugs early Friday morning, which made a disastrous assault on the rank growth of weeds and parsley, and the way they disappeared was a caution. Along about twelve o'clock the bugs began to get restless and perched themselves on houses, preparatory to a sail for other and greener fields. Within a short time there was not a bug to be seen in the town. Where they came from and their probable destination is a mystery. Considerable uneasiness was felt for a time that they would increase in numbers and spread to the adjacent cotton fields, but happily they departed without doing any damage.

The Mail is in receipt of a letter from Prof. C. E. Evans, superintendent of the Merkel Public School, in which he says Merkel will be his home after Aug. 1. The Stamford Normal closes today. Prof. Evans is at work on the catalogue of the Merkel school which will be issued from the press of The Mail at an early date. The school this year will be a hummer and we should begin to talk for it and work for it and encourage it in every way.

The Marcus left Sunday night for his parents at San Texas.

JULY CLEAN-UP SALE

ON

WASH SKIRTS and SLIPPERS

You will be on the Safe Side of Satisfaction if you take advantage of this sale

The season is advancing, and we want to be relieved of all summer goods on hand :- :- :-

Note the Savings Offered:

WASH SKIRTS.

No. 1040.	Fancy Suiting, assorted colors, were \$1.75, now	\$1.35
No. 1014.	Duck, solid colors, were \$1.50, now	1.15
No. 1026.	Fancy Covert, nicely trimmed, were \$1.75, now	1.35
No. 1025.	Good quality Crash, elegantly trimmed, were \$2.00, now	1.60
No. 1023.	Crash, braid trimming, were \$1.50, now	1.15
No. 1036.	Linen, open work trimming, were \$2.00, now	1.60

SLIPPERS and SANDALS.

American Lady, Patent Leather, were \$2.50, now only	\$2.15
Isla, Patent Leather Sandals, were \$2.00, now only	1.50
Children's Patent Leather, 6s to 8s, were 85c, now only	70c
" " " 8s to 12s, were \$1.00, now only	80c
" " " 13s to 2s, were \$1.25, now only	95c
Try a pair of our gents Patent Leather Colt Skin Shoes, worth \$5.00 at	3.00

If you don't know shoes, you have to depend upon the reputation of the shoe. We carry Hamilton & Brown's.

J. T. Warren.

DR. E. B. GILBERT SPECIALIST

PRACTICE LIMITED TO THE EYE, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

Permanently located at Abilene; will be in Merkel at Horners' drug store every Monday.

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, the first application giving my first relief, and the second, entire relief. I can give it unqualified recommendation. 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

New Meat Market.

We have opened a meat market on the south side and will keep only the best of fresh meats. Give us a trial order. Also handle cold drinks.

J. W. & L. M. Watkins. Phone 39.

The Mail is in receipt of a letter from G. T. Beach in which he says they will leave Beckville on the 23rd for Merkel, and requests that his paper be stopped here. It will take them about three weeks to make the trip. Mr. Beach sums up the situation down there in the following few words: "Corn half crop, cotton good, fruit splendid, health fine." He intimates that he will be a fixture in the Merkel Country, and The Mail extends him the right hand of good fellowship.

C. P. Warren was up from Abilene Saturday looking after his ranch north of town.

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

The 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 Eating Houses and you are respectfully invited to give it a trial.

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

Remember us at the Sheppard old stand. Chenault & Hand.

The electric storms of last week played havoc with the telephone service, and Manager Allen has been kept busy this week straightening things out. About a dozen phones were burnt out.

Tom Mathis and wife, brother and sister of Eastland county are visiting their sister, Mrs. H. C. Burroughs.

Summer complaint is unusually prevalent among children this season. A well developed case in the writer's family was cured last week by the timely use of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera 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. No family should be without a bottle of this medicine in the house, especially in summer-time.—Lansing, Iowa, Journal. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

One of the most pleasant social functions of the year was the gathering of the Woodmen and their families Saturday evening, the event being the regular monthly entertainment of the camp. The pleasures of the evening included a lunch of ice cream and cake, speeches interspersed with music and a general run of conversation and good natured sallies. This lodge was organized three years ago with sixteen charter members, and it now has a membership of fifty. The team work of the camp is beautiful and impressive, while its social and beneficiary features are among the best. The next effort of the camp will, we understand, include an outing to the flower dells of the adjacent country, which its members are looking forward to with a great deal of pleasure.

Form a good habit by buying your drugs, paints and oils at Burroughs & Mann's.

NOTICE.

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

tf Barnhill & Wife.

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.

NOTICE.

No more fishing or hunting allowed in my pastures.

Parties who have had permission, please consider cancelled. Resp't., J. T. Warren.

Merkel Camp No. 719, W.O.W.—meets every second and fourth Saturday night in each month at the I. O. O. F. Hall.

G. E. Comegys, C. C. John Elliott, Clerk.

Elliott & Miller are selling wind mills and pumps and water supply goods at prices that make their customers smile and competitors turn pale. 4t

Cash paid for eggs at Chenault & hand's. tf

Miss Walker of Roscoe, who has been the guest of the Misses Martin, returned home Friday.

Miss Prudence Allyn is visiting her sister, Mrs. Wallace, at Cisco.

19 lbs. of sugar for \$1.00 at Chenault & Hand's, tf

Abilene and Merkel second nines played an interesting game of ball here Saturday, which resulted in a score of 8 to 4 in favor of Merkel. It was a nice, clean game of ball and abounded in good plays, but Abilene was out-classed.

Good Sorghum Molasses 35c per gallon at Chenault & Hand's. tf

R. B. Grider received a telegram Saturday bearing the sad intelligence of the death of his brother, who was injured a short time ago, mention of which was made in these columns. He lived near Kansas City, Mo.

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

W. P. Browning & Co.

P. Nobles returned Saturday from a three months' stay in South America, touching at all the principal sea ports along the route. He looks to be in the prime of health and no doubt enjoyed the trip very much. The Mail hopes to get his impression of the country for the benefit of its readers.

Prescriptions filled with the purest medicines only and by an experienced druggist, at Burroughs & Mann's.

Many of the washouts on the railroad are yet in a poor state of repair and it will perhaps take a week or two to get them in shape so there will be no interruption in the passage of trains. The floods have damaged the railroad people many thousands of dollars.

Burroughs & Mann sell smoking tobacco and the best cigars, cheroots, etc.

Mrs. Spann and children of Eastland spent the greater portion of the week here. Mr. Spann was waterbound at Big Springs and was unable to join them here as he intended.

... 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.

TOWN and NEWS

WEEKLY BUDGET OF HAPPENINGS THROUGH THE COUNTY...

ABILENE.

Another big rain fell here yesterday and most of the farmers about ready to cry enough for the present.

Mrs. Charles Matheson died here at the family residence Tuesday morning and was buried in the city cemetery in the afternoon.

The big well at Simmons College is completed and a fine flow of water was found at a depth of 16 feet. There is plenty to supply all needed for that institution some time.

C. R. Hutcheson and wife were down from Merkel the first of the week.

H. H. Johnson was in from ranch south of Trent this morning and stated that he would move his family in as soon as roads were dry enough. Their new home is about completed.

Active preparations are being made for the fair this fall. Among the attractions will be a big roping contest with premiums to the amount of \$300.

Geo. L. Paxton has decided to give a new Studebaker wagon for the best bale of cotton exhibited at the fair this fall. This is worth hustling for and farmers will do well to note this premium in their memory and begin to prepare to capture it.

The contract was let last week for the erection of another big brick business house to occupy the lot on the corner of Chesnut and South Second streets where the old hotel foundation stands. Work has already commenced and will be pushed to rapid completion. J. M. Cunningham is having it put up.

Ground was broke Monday on the new brick block on the corner of Pine and North Second streets, but the rain Tuesday stopped it temporarily.

NUBIA.

Everything looks flourishing since the rain.

At four o'clock Sunday evening Mr. Luther Hudson and Miss Nelia Dudley were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents. Rev. J. P. Cooper officiating. Miss Nelia is one of Nubia's most highly accomplished young ladies, and Mr. Hudson is one of our most highly esteemed young men. May they live a long and happy life.

Mrs. Eaton and son and daughter, Ben and Miss Bulah, of Dallas county are visiting friends in the Canyon.

Misses Annie and Emma Bloxom of the Divide visited Miss Lizzie Blackburn Saturday and Sunday.

Mesdames Freemon and Patterson of Merkel visited Mrs. Dr. Martin Monday and Tuesday.

E. M. Blackburn and R. M. Davenport went to Merkel Friday.

Sam Toombs went to Merkel Friday.

A nice rain fell Tuesday.

Rosebud.

J. W. Warren, formerly of the Canyon, passed through on the west bound passenger Tuesday en route to Sweetwater.

J. W. Daniel will ship a couple of cars of fat cattle to market just as soon as the road is opened up for traffic. Practically all traffic is suspended over the road for the time being.

It is thought that the regular schedule of the passenger trains will be restored by the latter part of the week. For the present the cannon ball into Abilene has been suspended, and it now takes the place of the through passenger, on the same schedule as that maintained into Abilene.

An effort will be made by the towns west of Abilene to secure daylight passenger service on the road, either by an extension of the Abilene cannon ball through to Big Springs or a change of schedule of the night train. A delegation of business men is being formed to wait upon Mr. Thorne at an early date, with petitions from the various towns asking for the service, and it is confidently believed that the effort will not be in vain. The present service is very unsatisfactory, and it does seem that the people are long suffering in this respect, and that the management could be prevailed upon to make such changes as the importance of the towns interested demand.

Merit Browning left Sunday night for Hasting, Okla., to spend a few weeks visiting his brother.

W. L. Grogan, the erstwhile candidate for the State Senate, was defeated for mayor at Sweet-

water Thursday by J. W. Scott, a young man from East Texas, by a vote of 138 to 37. The other officers are Fred Price, marshal; J. R. Cox, treasurer; J. H. Cochran, Jr., attorney.

A Real Secret.

"Tell me not of your doubts and discouragements," said Goethe; "I have plenty of my own. But talk to me of your hope and faith." The tone of complaint is one which we are all too ready to accept, and which is not only injurious to ourselves, hurtful to all who come in contact with us.

In speaking of a young woman who had filled several good positions, but with no degree of success, an elder woman said: "She could have kept either position and earned a good income if she had not been so dissatisfied. She was continually finding fault, and never felt that she was appreciated." It may be safely said that this attitude of mind is one that almost predetermines failures in any kind of work. Patience under adverse circumstances will often bring about favorable results, while complaint only accentuates and fixes the cause of complaint. Avoid mention of the disagreeable things that may come into your life. If you cannot be patient, you can at least be silent. The secret of success lies not so much in knowing what to say as in what to avoid saying.—Boston Traveler.

The King as a Man.

"Every inch a king" in the person of King Edward means five feet six and one-half inches, and in weight he scales about sixteen stone, "yet," says the Tatler, "such is the dignity of his bearing and the excellence of his carriage that his majesty's appearance belies the lowness of his stature and the weightiness of his person. His courtesy and tact are proverbial, but though the king's is ever ready and most engaging, yet his clear blue eyes are quick to discern and see below the surface. Lord Randolph Churchill declared that King Edward would have made a splendid judge by unerring preception of character. His memory of faces and facts is unimpeachable and he speaks French, German, Italian and Russian as fluently as he does English, which is his favorite language, though Queen Victoria decreed German in the home life of the royal family. No man knows more of modern history than his majesty, while in everything that appertains to India and its varied people he is an expert."

Repulsive Features.

Blackheads, pimples, greasy faces and muddy complexions, which are so common among women, especially girls at a certain age, destroying beauty, disfiguring and making repulsive features which would otherwise appear attractive and refined, indicate that the liver is out of 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.

CHARGED WITH MURDER.

Clarendon Man Accused of a Crime 22 Years Old.

Special to the News.

Haskell, Tex., July 24.—Sheriff J. W. Colling returned from Clarendon last night, having B. W. Johnson under arrest charged with the murder of Arch Brogdin, alleged to have been committed in Haskell County in 1880, before there was any settlement in the county.

In January, 1880, Tobe Crawford, accompanied by Baylor Crawford, Bill Daugherty, Jess Hyatt, Watt Johnson and Arch Brogdin, camped on Paint Creek, in this county, with a herd of cattle they were taking from Palo Pinto County to locate a ranch west of here. Arch Brogdin, the cook, was shot and killed while washing dishes. Johnson disappeared and no indictment was found until 1901. Haskell County was organized in 1885. All the witnesses present at the homicide are living. Johnson says he is not the man. Upon a hearing on a writ of habeas corpus the bond was fixed at \$3,000 by agreement.

One Inhabited Moon.

The little daughter of a prominent Western senator, relates a Washington correspondent, had been attending school during the last winter, and her proud father, mother and a number of friends went there on the day of the closing of school to listen to the examination. The teacher asked the class if the moon was inhabited. The senator's daughter, who was sitting in the front row, wriggled about and raised her hand. Thinking to please the fond parent the teacher asked her. "Yes'm; one moon is," answered the child. "I don't know about the other." Well, my dear, which one is inhabited?" asked the teacher. "The honeymoon," answered the child. "It's inhabited by my aunt and my new Uncle John."

Old hunters say The MARLIN

has so many things to commend it. The top of the action is always closed, the mechanism the most simple, the finish elegant, the form attractive. It seems to throw its bullets a little more accurately and plant them with a little more force than any other rifle. For deer take a 38-55 or 30-30. 120-page catalog, 300 illustrations, colored cover by Remington. For 3 stamps. MARLIN FIRE ARMS CO. NEW HAVEN, CONN.



The Boss Worm Medicine.

H. P. Kumpe, druggist, Leighton, Ala., writes: "One of my 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 Children's tonic. It improves their digestion and assimilation of food, strengthens their nervous system and restores them to the health, vigor and elasticity of spirits natural to childhood. 25¢ at Rust & Pittard's.

How Joe Chamberlain Speaks.

On rising to speak Joseph Chamberlain, the colonial secretary, places his neatly written notes on the brass-bound box before him, and, having put the edges straight, fires away. Mr. Chamberlain speaks slowly and uses scarcely any gesture. Most dangerous when most polite, his face becomes like a piece of parchment when roused to anger. In the art of crushing an adversary by an inconvenient quotation or some personal thrust, Mr. Chamberlain is unequalled. It is a gift which makes him as formidable on the platform as he is in the house of commons. At public meetings he always seems to expect a few of his old Radical friends among the audience. But woe be to the interrupter! Led or by the orator with a seductive question, his opponent gives just the reply expected. Back like lightning comes a crushing retort, and henceforth all is smooth sailing. His perorations are invariably written out in full in his study, and frequently committed to memory. His voice is firm and clear, but not very much enunciation perfect.

The Perfect Liver Medicine.

S. M. A. Jolley, Noble, O. writes: "I have used Heraine 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 claimed for it." Malaria cannot find 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 the most efficient liver regulator. 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

From Sweetwater.

N. J. Cady, who claims to have come here from Sherman, and Rufus Stevens, who has been living in the southern part of the county, were given a trial in a special term of county court Saturday and both adjudged insane. Cady is under the impression that he is being followed and tortured by Irish demons, and has been making the nights hideous wherever he happened to be by discharging a 32 calibre pistol, to keep the demons away. He camped Friday night about seven miles south of town, and Manse Wood, who had been to Hylton, was returning home about 11 during the night and was fired upon several times as he passed the insane man, but fortunately none of the shots took effect. Cady made his way to town the following morning and was immediately placed under restraint. Stephens is the same man who was tried here a few weeks ago and found of unsound mind, but the jury thought that he did not require restraining at that time. Deputy Sheriff Cox went out to arrest Stephens, and found him on a horse. When Mr. Cox stated his business to Stephens he put spurs to his horse and ran away. The deputy secured the assistance of Constable Selman and they went in pursuit. When overtaken Stephens made fight in the scuffle which ensued and received a slight cut in one side from a pocket knife.

G. W. Wilson was in from the Becker country Tuesday. Mr. Wilson sold his place a few months ago and has purchased property in Taylor county. He will remain on his present place until his crop is gathered.

We extend congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pettus upon the arrival of a girl at their home Wednesday evening at 9 o'clock.

A petition asking for a county local option election is being circulated. Two hundred and fifty signers will be required to get the election.—Sweetwater Reporter.

Effort will be made here to organize a board of trade or commercial club. It is a good thing; push it along.

Bees Put Birds to Flight.

An English writer says: "Some of the smaller birds are deliberately turned out of their nests at times by bees. I remember watching for the completion of a hedge sparrow's nest a few years ago, but before the birds had laid any eggs the nest was usurped by a small species of bumble bee and the rightful owners deserted. A friend of mine had two wrens' nest in his garden taken possession of by bees in a similar manner, and I once knew of a tawny owl being turned out of her nest-hole in a hollow tree by a swarm of honey bees which took

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Etc. Etc.

MERKEL,
TEXAS.

W. H. DICKSON.

Condition of Cotton.

The average condition of the growing crop on May 26 was 95.1, as compared with 85.1 on May 20 of last year, 82.5 on June 1, 1900, 85.7 on June 1, 1899, and a ten year average of 87. Only twice within a period of twenty-one years, namely, in 1887 and 1897, has the average condition on June 1 been as high as the condition now reported. In the former year it was 96.9 and in the latter 97.2.

The condition by States is as follows:

North Carolina	91,
Louisiana	96,
Touh Carolina	97,
Texas	95,
Georgia	94,
Arkansas	100,
Florida	100,
Tennessee	100,
Alabama	92,
Oklahoma	96,
Mississippi	94,
Indian Territory	99.
Abstract from Government Report for June, 1902.	

A Big Premium.

Thirty-five shares of First National Bank stock sold here Tuesday for \$135 per share, which is a premium of \$35 on the hundred. The purchase was made by a Merkel party from a foreign stock-holder. The bank is a highly prosperous institution, and this sale but shows the rapidity with which stock is gobbled up when it is known to be on the market.

Problem Novels Not Wanted.

A few weeks ago a well known writer submitted to a publisher a manuscript novel dealing in a dignified and serious way with the sex problem. He received back the manuscript with this note: "We are sorry to refuse the work of a man of your standing and skill. From the point of view of workmanship we have no fault to find with this story. But, in spite of our keen desire to have your name on our list, we cannot reverse our policy never to publish a book dealing with a painful, or what many of our readers would call an objectionable theme." Since that time the writer has offered the manuscript to two other publishers, both of whom have refused it for the reasons that caused its refusal in the first instance. He has since discussed the manuscript with other publishers, frankly stating his experiences and they have all told him that they would entertain the same objections.

A Genius at Close Range.

When George Eliot was still Miss Evans, says Harper's Weekly, and before she had begun to write novels, she used to frequent an old book shop on the Strand, where she left a very unfavorable impression on one young man who was at that time an assistant in John Chapman's shop. His description of her is that of a remarkably ugly young woman of universal knowledge, whose delight it was to use the Socratic method in conversation, but without the Socratic benevolence of intention. The result was that the young men at the dining table (the shop had a boarding house for its employes and guests) who heedlessly hazarded an opinion were very soon made to feel not only that they knew nothing of the subject under discussion, but that they knew very little indeed of anything. Now a young man does not relish being badgered and made a fool of by a pretty woman, but it is intolerable to be sat upon by an ugly one, at least such was the feeling of our informant, and the consequence of this treatment was that, in after years, when Miss Evans had become George Eliot, one man could never persuade himself to read "Adam Bede," or to admit that the author was other than a very intolerant person and an intolerable intellectual prig.

Drinks at the Coronation.

Beer or soft drinks is one of the innumerable questions which Edward VII. must decide before he is crowned. The temperance people in England have been lashing themselves to a fury over the proposal to serve beer at the king's dinners in London, when 500,000 needy subjects are to be fed at his majesty's expense. They would have tea, coffee, lemonade and mineral waters, but no beer.

Go Early to Bed in Vienna.

In Vienna every man's home is his dungeon from 10 p. m. to 6 a. m. Vienna is a city of flats, and at 10 p. m. the common entrance door of each block is closed and bolted. Thereafter persons passing in or out must pay a fine of 4 cents to the concierge until midnight and 8 cents from that hour to 6 a. m. To go out to post a letter casts 4 cents, and the same amount to return. To prolong a visit to a friend after 10 p. m. means 4 cents more to get out of his house and 4 cents more to enter your own. A natural result of this tax is that of all capital cities Vienna is earliest to bed.

Big Prices for Horses.

High prices and big sales are the rules at the paddock sales of various race tracks this summer. William C. Whitney, who is a heavy buyer, is securing in his own name, or through agents, the choicest horses at these sales, for his American stables. Mr. Whitney is paying high prices and securing the best. At a yearling thoroughbred sale last week, Mr. Whitney paid \$16,500 for two colts, one of which was a brother to Kinley Mack, the only horse that ever won both the Brooklyn and the Suburban handicaps. For two other horses at the same sale he paid \$7,700. Fifty-two head of yearlings sold at this sale brought \$102,350, an average of \$1,968. The Fasig-Tipton Company, conducting the sale, consider the very satisfactory; they also say that the prices on horses is steadily increasing.

How He Won Fame.

"The Boston Journal tells a story of an actor who was accustomed to spend his summers in Wilton, Me. There he noted when, as the custom was, a farmer "killed a critter," the liver, sweetbreads, kidneys, etc., were thrown away. He offered to purchase these delicacies, but, though he got the goods, the "sturdy farmer scorned his proffered gold." Not long after he observed as he walked through the village that he was the cynosure of all eyes and was followed by a wondering, if not admiring, crowd, chiefly of the young. "Aha," thought he, "I cannot escape my fame; my glory as an actor has followed me even to this obscure hamlet." And he was mightily puffed up till he overheard one yokel shout to another: "Bill, there goes the feller that eats innerds!"

The Oldest Bank President.

David Crosby Foster, president of the Pouchkeepsie, N. Y., Savings Bank, is believed to be the oldest active bank president in the country. He has just passed his 93rd birthday, but is at his desk every morning unless the weather is very bad, remaining until the bank closes at 3 o'clock. He was first elected a director in 1856 and became president July 1, 1877.

Teachers Must Have Physiques.

The city of Chicago has determined to compel all applicants for positions as school teachers in the public schools to pass a physical as well as educational examination before they are licensed.

Shaw as a Rice Grower.

Secretary Shaw was one of the pioneers in the development of the rice-growing industry in Western Louisiana and Eastern Texas. The governor and his associates purchased large tracts of land in the vicinity of Beaumont (where he still owns a half interest in a rice plantation of 3,000 acres), and when the oil boom came, a year ago, the land values increased by leaps and bounds. It is said that the boom has already brought Governor Shaw a fortune of more than \$800,000.

Count Tolstoi's Opinion.

Count Tolstoi declares that there are two professions inconsistent with true Christianity—the military and the priestly.

A "Tip" for a Duke.

When I said I never gave a tip, writes Robert Barr, in the Saturday Evening Post, I ought perhaps to add that once upon a time I offered one, which, to my surprise, was not accepted. I engaged to write for an American paper some articles on the London parks and I asked a friend how I could get accurate information regarding them.

"Nothing simpler," said the Englishman. Drop a line to the ranger of Hyde Park, and he will set you right.

I wrote a courteous note to the ranger, and told him I did not mind parting with a dollar or two if he would put me in the way of writing an interesting article. My communication was ignored, so, fearing I had not offered enough, I again consulted my English friend and told him the amount proffered.

"That was very generous of you," he said sarcastically, "and I am amazed your munificence has not met a readier response, for the ranger of Hyde Park is his royal highness, the Duke of Cambridge, uncle to the queen, and I am sure his expenses must be large!"

A Chiropodist of Birds.

"Of all the peculiar ways of making a living in Washington," said Representative Ruppert, "there is one man here who is unique. He is an old German, and he says that he is a 'chiropodist to canary birds.' The old fellow goes about cutting the talons or claws of canary birds. Birds in captivity are unable to keep their talons to the proper length and they curl up, causing the bird great pain. If they are not properly cut the bird is likely to die, and this old man goes from house to house trimming talons."

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take acknowledgments, pay taxes on land, fur-
nish abstracts of title and transact all other
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dially invited to attend.

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Cough. **NO CURE, NO PAY.**
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Phone the news to No. 31.

Abolishing Bull Fighting.

A forward step in the civilization
of Mexico has been taken in the Pa-
cific coast state of Jalisco, where
the congress has abolished the cus-
tom of bullfighting and cockfight-
ing. This step is directly due to
the urgent labors of General Luis
C. Curiel, the governor of the state,
but he is backed by the principal
citizens. Jalisco is one of the most
prosperous states of the republic.
Guadalajara is the capital, and it
has a million inhabitants. The bull
fight, a legacy from Spain, has been
growing in disfavor for years, and
now it is forbidden by the people
themselves, who, without the tutel-
age of a superior race, are develop-
ing their own civilization in their
own way.

He Wouldn't Report Sherman.

While General Sherman lived in
New York he occupied one night
each week the proscenium box on
the south side of the stage of
Daly's theater. It was called
"Sherman's box." The gentle Ger-
man who played the bass violin
whispered to his fellow musicians
that the general's tobacco juice was
destroying his fiddle. The old sol-
dier spat in a sort of spray that
sprinkled things in the neighbor-
hood of the big fiddle. "Why
don't you complain to Mr. Daly?"
asked the leader of the orchestra.
"Complain of General Sherman?
Never! He was my commander in
the war and I would not complain
if he spid efery nide in my face!"
was the reply.

Items of Interest.

A child is born every three
minutes and a death is recorded
every five minutes in London.

The island of Cuba was known
by that name by the Lucyanian
Indians, who were with Colum-
bus when he discovered it.

Two hundred and fifty notice
boards are to be erected in the
streets of Edingburgh, requesting
citizens not to spit on the pave-
ment.

In 1901 there were completed
in Tokyo, Japan, buildings cost-
ing \$50,000 to be used as a uni-
versity exclusively for women.
Japan has made as great, if not
greater, strides forward during
the past few years as any nation.

In all but 11 out of the 52
states and territories the male
outnumber the female popula-
tion. These 11 states are along
the Atlantic seaboard. Califor-
nia contains the greatest excess
of men, the recorded number
being 159,009; Minnesota comes
second, with 113,586; Texas
third, with 109,000, and Penn-
sylvania fourth, with 206,007.

Japan has an avenue of trees
50 miles in length. The trees
are the cryptomera, and every
one is a perfect specimen, quite
straight, from 130 to 150 feet in
height and 12 to 15 feet in cir-
cumference.

In France persons contem-
plating matrimony must have their
names posted at least three
weeks beforehand, and, as a re-
sult, bigamy is practically un-
known and desertion immedi-
ately after marriage is reduced to a
minimum.

Cranks Drive Burke From Home.

Cranks have bothered John Mas-
terson Burke, the man who gave
\$4,000,000 to charity last week, to
such an extent that the aged ben-
efactor has been compelled to leave
his home in Fourty-seventh street
and move to Nantucket, Mass. Be-
fore he left it became necessary to
ask Captain Titus to detail detec-
tives to guard the house. Among
those asking his assistance were a
man who decided to borrow \$25,-
000 and a woman who wanted \$10,-
000. Mr. Burke is nearly 90 years
old, so rest is imperative.

Press Pleasantries.

The new obituary editor of an
exchange thus shows his fitness
for the place: "Just about day-
light the Pale Horse came for
him, with the saddle and bridle
of righteousness, and he strad-
dled it and rode Home."

† †

It was told of a farmer living
near Guthrie that he was given
an invitation while in town the
other day to listen to a phono-
graph. He was shown how to
adjust the ear pieces and the
machine started. Suddenly he
dropped the whole thing and
started for the street, exclaim-
ing: "Gosh! There comes a
brass band up the street, and I
left the mules untied!"

† †

A certain man in Farber thinks
it is all wrong for the people
down at Beaumont to pump the
oil out of the earth. He says it
was put there by the Lord to
grease the axis of the earth. He
also says that earthquakes and
volcanos are caused by hot box-
es. Another man tells how the
recent volcano happened. He
says the devil was cleaning out
his grate, getting ready to put in
oil burners.

† †

A preacher says that a witness
answering as to whether he knew
of any desecrations of the Sab-
bath or not replied: "Yes, I
know of 16,000 men in this State,
employes of the railroads, who
are required to work seven days
out of the week." But the fore-
man of the jury said: "With
that we have nothing to do. The
railroads are protected by statu-
tory provisions; what we want to
know is do you know of any boys
chasing rabbits on Sunday?"

A Married Man's Musings.

Few men who take a better
half prepare for the worst.

A pretty good example of super-
erogation is teaching a girl
baby to talk.

A fellow who's intoxicated with
love doesn't take long to sober
up after marriage.

May is one of the unlucky
months in which to get married.
There are 11 others.

When a fellow begins to forget
the date he was married he won-
ders if it wasn't April 1.

One never knows that any other
creature than man wears a
wig until he gets married.

Science says kissing causes
disease. It has been known to
cause palpitation of the heart.

It's after he's married that a
fellow begins to devote special
attention to his explanation de-
partment.

It's always a question with the
originators of fashions with women
whether to make the sleeves too
tight or too loose.

A Kansas man saved a widow
from drowning and was married
to her inside of three months.
One can't be too careful.

The kindest-hearted father
would hardly refuse an offer to
exchange a baby for a well-bred
fox terrier during teething time.

When a fellow's wife kisses
him nowadays he can't be sure
whether it is to show her love or
to find out what he's been taking.

Every wife should have a dic-
tionary of synonyms; a fellow
gets so tired hearing the same
old words after coming home late
from sitting up with a sick friend.

Probably Adam would never
have married if he had had to
stand up in church before 1,000
people, with a frock coat on, and
go through a ten-minute cere-
mony that seemed like ten hours.

S. W. SHEPPARD

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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...

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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.

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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.
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A Russian Heart Breaker.

Female society is all broken up
over the untimely end of Prince
Lordkipinidse, the gayest dancer
and most reckless heartbraker in
St. Petersburg's winter season for
many years. His highness died in
Tiflis at the hands of the czar's ex-
ecutioner, who deftly strangled him
with the aid of a silken chord be-
tween the head and shoulders, for,
when not making love in the cap-
ital, the prince followed the trade
of the lamented Jesse James, he
was sentenced to death for holding
up thirty-seven coaches in the Cau-
casus and shooting a dozen or more
of his victims, all men. "To the
ladies he was lovely," says the re-
ports of his trial. Many women
testified that he treated them to
to candy, tea and fruit after taking
their valuables. "And he was as
gallantly dressed as Fra Diavolo in
the opera," said another enthusi-
astic witness, "and shot dead in my
presence one of his band who had
frightened my children for fun."

Forgot the Lighthouse Keepers

The lighthouse keepers on Percy
island off the coast of Queensland,
in 1900, were "forgotten" for
months by the government authori-
ties. The food supply of Percy Isl-
and is supposed to be delivered on-
a quarter, but no food arrived at the
island after the first week in June
until a British sloop chanced to pass
in October. The islanders, twenty
in number, were delirious from lac-
of food, managed to hail the vesse,
which left behind an ample supply
of provisions and reminded the
Queensland government of the
lighthouse men whose existence it
had forgotten.

Aping King Edward in New York.

Since it became known that
King Edward VII. has been in the
habit of taking a pint of cham-
pagne at breakfast some of the
younger swells of New York have
tried it, too. Before that, though,
many of these young men were ac-
customed to sip a pint of sauterne
at breakfast. They considered that
a mild "hair." Champagne
of a "horse hair."

Advertising is the secret of
success in every business.